

Upper Grand Occasional Teachers' Local
Executive Meeting
Tuesday, January 16, 2007 at 4:55 P.M.
Orchard Park, Guelph, On.

Present: Marina Howlett, Donna Henderson, Ted Pritchard, John Ritchie, Ruth Tomlins, Barb Walkey,
Carol Christie, John Parkyn, Ralph Rainford, Andrew Aloe,
Regrets: Pat Klypycz

1. Call to Order and Welcome: Marina welcomed the Executive members with best wishes for a happy and prosperous 2007.

2. Additions/ Approval of the Agenda: Add- #9 (a) ETFO Union School; (b) Bus cancellations;
'Motion 1' "Move to accept the Agenda with additions-Union School and Bus cancellations."
Moved by Ralph Rainford, Seconded by Andrew Aloe CARRIED

3. Approval of minutes of the December 14, 2006 meeting:
'Motion 2' "Move the minutes of the December 14, 2006 meeting be accepted."
Moved by Donna Henderson, Seconded by Carol Christie CARRIED

4. Treasurer's Report: Balance in Chequing- \$52,268.66; in Savings- \$4319.06. There has been payment to the Board of \$35,926.13 for Presidential Release, but the Board has not cashed the cheque. We are being very fiscally responsible by looking for cost reductions in what we do. There should be \$3500 yet to come from the Board for PD. WE spend too much Presidential time realizing the cashing of cheques and payments made to the Board from the OT's or ETFO.

'Motion 3' "Move to accept the Treasurer's Report."
Moved by John Ritchie, Seconded by Barb Walkey CARRIED

5. President's Report: (a) Release Days: Total to Dec. 2006 -35.5, Jan.-8
(b) Board Pandemic Planning Committee: Another Pandemic Procedure meeting is planned for Jan. 29.
(c) PD Funding Request: We have requested our \$3500 from the Board.
(d) New Teacher Workshop, Nov.28, 2006: As twenty-five were in attendance our share of expenses is \$90.
(e) SEMS Update: We looked at a chart prepared by Marina that shows an increase in jobs. Those around the table stated that they were receiving many fewer calls and many half days seems to be the pattern. There now are 384 names on the OT list .There has been some adjustment because of LTO's. We must hold the line and not allow any more people to be added. Some people on the list are being "bumped" for the individual school emergency list. The system still has problems. SEMS is an automated system that has no thought process. Each member on the Executive was to compare the first four months of this year with the first four months of 2005-2006. as to the number of assignments to see if we really are working less and email that info to Marina...

6. Employment Insurance Update: Marina shared that 7 hours will be adjusted to 8 hours to make an insurable day to qualify for benefits. There are still difficulties when using the Code and trying to apply the return to work date.

7. Professional Development - Friday, April 27, 2007: Location to be decided. There could be workshops for new OT's in one half of the day and workshops for experienced OT's in the other half. Both could meet for lunch. There will be WHIMIS training for new teachers. Other topics could be Grade 7&8 teaching, classroom management, Open Court, Library, etc. It was decided because of the intensity of training needed for Tribes that it should be a stand alone activity workshop not part of this PD Day. Any suggestions are welcomed. If you suggest topics of interest to you, it then becomes your day.

8. ETFO Annual Meeting – August 13-16, 2007: Marina goes as one Delegate. We need two Delegates and two Alternates. Donna, Ted, Carol and Ralph all stated an interest in attending for some or all of the meeting. In our next Newsletter we will be encouraging more new members to take part.

9. Other Business: (a) ETFO Union School: One local person can attend. There is homework. Four days of Release will be paid. The person taking this course must be prepared to take leadership in the Local OT. There are 70-80 people from all over the province attending. Decision must be made by the end of Jan...

(b) Bus cancellations: The entire Executive reviewed the letter from the Board concerning absences on No Bus Days. There was a good discussion. All members will be issued a copy in the next Newsletter. Safety and System Continuance are the member's choice.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 after a delicious meal prepared by John Parkyn. Thank you John.

Next Executive Meeting will be Tues. Feb.20, 2007 at 4:45 PM at Orchard Park in Guelph. Ralph Rainford is in charge of the meal.