

Minutes



Ottawa Regional Women's Committee

Thursday, June 22, 2017

Light dinner at 5:00 pm 5:30 – 7:30 pm
1620 Scott Street, (11 Holland Ave)
Pat McGrath boardroom

Jennifer Keays, Chair

Vacant, Alternate Chair

Christina Lamothe, Secretary

Anne-Marie Grondin, PSAC Regional Representative: grondia@psac-afpc.com

MINUTES

Attendees:

Christina Lamothe

Zelma Buckley

Louise Sicard

Linda Koenders

Rhea Sandy

Grace Morgan

Behiye Cinkilic

Welcome – Jennifer Keays is absent so Christina Lamothe chaired

Changes, additions, and adoption of the agenda

Changes, additions, and adoption of the previous minutes – previous minutes to be reviewed and resubmitted for next meeting

Vacancy on committee

- ♀ Louise Blouin has resigned as alternate chair, so ORWC needs a volunteer to act as alternative chair until November's AGM
- ♀ Zelma Buckley and Grace Morgan volunteered; Zelma withdrew and nominated Grace, seconded by Louise Sicard, Grace acclaimed

Regional Convention debrief

What went well?

- ♀ A male ally was elected REVP and women were elected Alternate REVP and Treasurer
- ♀ Good strong candidates including strong sisters, good campaigns

Points for discussion

- ♀ Some observers felt they were treated as second class members compared to delegates; although observers can't have voice or vote, they should receive equal swag
- ♀ There is an opportunity for succession planning that ensures mentorship for future transitions, such as REVP mentoring A/REVP
- ♀ Leadership training for sisters would help us build on strengths and achieve shared objectives
- ♀ We could benefit from formalized Leadership Training, such as 'living in strength' by Gallup or OMFG initiative to increase female participation at all levels of leadership, women at work, CLC summer school; etc.
- ♀ Louise will raise this with the Education Committee

Report on child care

- ♀ In late 2016, PSAC put out a call for women living in Ontario who were interested in participating in consultations on child care. Government of Ontario released their report (see http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/eycc_action_plan.html). The policy addresses many of our concerns. Highlights include 45,000 new spaces to be created over the next 5 years, 100,000 new spaces created by 2022, \$1.6 B to be invested, and more than \$200 M earmarked for 2017

Terms of Reference

- ♀ Some have raised concerns that ORWC is not inclusive as it excludes males. Discussion of need to maintain this safe space for women, and of need to clarify Terms of Reference. Consensus is that there is a need to review and update ToRs; Anne-Marie will send out an email call for volunteers

Health Care Coverage (Contraceptives)

- ♀ Current Public Service Health Care Plan only covers oral contraceptives (the pill). Discussion that the policy is dated and discriminatory as it adversely affects women who may have medical or personal reasons for choosing other forms of contraception. ORWC would like to submit a resolution to PSAC to advocate for non-oral contraceptives to be included in the PSHCP
- ♀ Final resolution due to OAC by August 1, should be prepared by mid-July
- ♀ Cherie offered to draft resolution, will need a volunteer to present at OAC

Summer meetings

- ♀ With convention season, consensus is to suspend summer meetings. The first scheduled fall meeting conflicts with 'Take Back the Night'. Consensus was to schedule the next meeting of ORWC for Tuesday, September 14
- ♀ Anne-Marie to confirm that the date is available and, if so, book the boardroom and update the website

Round table

- ♀ Labour day parade and picnic, could be opportunities to recruit and to advocate for our resolution
- ♀ Pride meeting in August

- ♀ Young Workers Committee movie night
- ♀ Looking for PSAC members who would speak with CBC on camera – contact Anne-Marie with suggestions
- ♀ Greg to be briefed by Behiye and Linda

Next meeting – Thursday, September 14, 2017

Adjournment

Action Items

- ♀ Strike a committee to review Terms of Reference
- ♀ Prepare health care/contraception resolution by August 1 for OAC consideration

Committee updates and information posted here:

<http://psac-ncr.com/our-organization/committees/ottawa-regional-women>