

Annual Meeting

Canadian Committee on Labour History Carleton University,
Ottawa, 27 May 2009

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MINUTES / PROCÈS-VERBAL

Annual Meeting
Canadian Committee on Labour History
Carleton University, Ottawa, 27 May 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Alvin Finkel, CCLH president, called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Present:

Alvin Finkel
Jeff Taylor
Jim Naylor
Myron Momryk
Craig Heron
Linda Kadis
Kathy Killoh
Bryan Palmer
David Frank
Larry Hannant
Joan Sangster
Betsy Jameson
Dominique Clément
Lara Campbell
Rhonda Hinthner
Ken Clavette
Donica Belisle,
Ian Milligan
Christine McLaughlin

Regrets: Greg Kealey, Janis Thiessen. In the absence of the secretary,
Jeff Taylor agreed to take minutes.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

m/s/c (Bryan Palmer, Dominique Clément):
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

MINUTES OF 2008 MEETING

M/S/C (Jim Naylor, Bryan Palmer)

That the minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting, as published in *Labour/LeTravail*, 62 (Fall/automne 2008), 333–7, be approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Alvin Finkel thanked Rhonda Hinther and Ken Clavette for organizing this year's Labour History Workshop. He also thanked Rhonda Hinther and David Frank for meeting with Bill Wiley of Parks Canada with respect to recognition by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of labour history and workers. He then acknowledged and thanked Craig Heron for his presentation as CHA president and acknowledged Ian McKay's receipt of the McDonald Prize and Sean Mills's receipt of the Bullen Prize.

Alvin Finkel then reported on the Proquest issue, in which CCLH has been sued by Proquest as part of a broader suit alleging the improper sale of electronic material without the consent of authors. This suit grows out of an earlier suit by Heather Robertson against the Globe and Mail. Robertson sued Proquest and Proquest, in turn, sued many of the various journals and organizations, including CCLH, with which it has contracts. CCLH is confident that it is protected from liability because of the copyright clearances it has in place. Nonetheless, it will be necessary to defend itself. CCLH is working with the Canadian Association of Learned Journals (CALJ) on this matter. Bryan Palmer added that the CCLH executive will be working on this matter during the coming year, including coordinating efforts with CALJ.

David Frank reported on the meeting Rhonda Hinther, Denyse Baillargeon, Margaret Conrad and he attended with representatives of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. The board representatives at the meeting included four or five board members in addition to professional staff. Frank and Hinther provided written documents to the meeting for discussion. The outcome of the meeting was positive in that it is clear that the board is open to nominations and that labour is a priority now that the board has paid some attention to women and First Nations. Frank and Hinther noted that there is a place on the board's website for nominations. Hinther suggested using students in public or labour history courses to work on nominations as class projects. As part of this discussion, Alvin Finkel reported that the GWG garment manufacturing site in Edmonton has been designated as a federal historic site because of its significance in Alberta labour history and Hinther reported that Ukrainian Labour Temples have been recognized as well.

EUGENE FORSEY PRIZES

Alvin Finkel reported that Sean Mills was the recipient of the graduate prize and that no prize was awarded this year in the undergraduate category.

The president circulated a sign-up sheet inviting members to serve on the committees.

Joan Sangster reported that she is working on establishing a permanent endowment for the Forsey Prize.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Bryan Palmer began his report by thanking Linda Kadis, Kathy Killoh and Athabasca University Press for their service. He noted that the transfer from Memorial to Athabasca had gone exceedingly well.

The editor reported that *Labour/Le Travail* had received its SSHRC funding for a further three years.

Journal subscriptions, Palmer noted, are holding steady. He also reported that the International Advisory Board has been reconstructed with the addition of representation from Latin America and Scandinavia, among other changes.

The editor encouraged CCLH members to submit articles for publication and to solicit colleagues and students to do so as well. In addition, he asked committee members to promote the journal at conferences they attend.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of the treasurer, Bryan Palmer noted that CCLH is in a healthy financial state.

REPORT ON CCLH WEBSITE

Jeff Taylor reported that the May Day graphic novel that was developed as part of the SSHRC-funded Research Cluster initiative is being printed. It is hoped that it will be available on the website.

Donica Belisle reported that the CCLH listserv will be moved from Memorial to Athabasca and perhaps integrated with the website in some way.

David Frank suggested that we need to find ways to increase the listserv membership, including providing an option for *Labour/Le Travail* subscribers to join the listserv.

CCLH WORKSHOP 2010

The president initiated discussion by noting that next year's Congress will be at Concordia University in Montreal. Craig Heron reported that Steven High and Barbara Lorenskowski are the Canadian Historical Association program chairs for the 2010 Congress and that they are planning a number of walking tours and other events, one or more of which CCLH may want to co-sponsor or otherwise link to in some way. The president will be in touch with High and Lorenskowski with respect to these matters.

Larry Hannant mentioned the Bethune walking tour as another possible initiative for next year.

Discussion then moved on to a general assessment of the state of labour papers and sessions in the CHA program. Heron noted that we should strive in some way to increase the number of labour sessions at the Concordia Congress and suggested that the CCLH listserv could be used to facilitate this. It was agreed that the CCLH president would act as the intermediary between CCLH and the CHA program committee as part of our efforts to increase the number of labour papers and sessions at the 2010 Congress.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The president reported that three positions are open for election this year: Treasurer, Secretary, and Second Vice-President.

Treasurer:

Greg Kealey M/S/C (David Frank/Bryan Palmer)

Kealey was declared elected as Treasurer by acclamation.

Secretary:

Dominique Clément M/S/C (Bryan Palmer/Betsy Jameson)

Clément was declared elected as Secretary by acclamation.

Second Vice-President:

Lara Campbell M/S/C (Craig Heron/Bryan Palmer)

Campbell was declared elected as Second Vice-President by acclamation.

OTHER DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rhonda Hinthier reported that the Canadian Museum for Human Rights will be visiting Ottawa in June 2009 to conduct consultations regarding the labour component of the museum's work.

Craig Heron announced that the *Moving Past: A Presentation of Archival Work Films*, assembled by David Sobel in 1993 on VHS, is now available in DVD format. The cost is \$30.00 and available by sending payment to 98 Frizzell Avenue, Toronto M4J 1E3. Information may be obtained at historydoesmatter@gmail.com.

David Frank announced the New Brunswick Labour History Project conference, which will be held on 1–2 September 2009 in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Frank also distributed a pamphlet entitled *A Guide to Day of Mourning Monuments in New Brunswick*, which is a project of the New Brunswick Labour History Project. More information on the Day of Mourning monuments and the labour history project is available at www.lhtnb.ca.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S/C (Craig Heron, Jim Naylor)

Alvin Finkel declared the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.



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