

Minutes / Procès-Verbal

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MINUTES / PROCÈS-VERBAL

Annual Meeting Canadian Committee on Labour History Concordia University, Montréal, 31 May 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Alvin Finkel, CCLH president, at 12:30 p.m.
Present:

Alvin Finkel
Nolan Reilly
Craig Heron
Greg Kealey
Donica Belisle
Ben Isitt
Linda Kadis
Sanna Guérin
Rhonda L. Hinthér
Dominique Clement
Raymond Léger
Bryan Palmer
Christine McLaughlin
Betsy Jameson
Peter Bischoff
Marc-André Gagnon
Jennifer Anderson
Cecilia Danysk
Joan Sangster
David Frank
Jeff Taylor
Sean Carleton
Myron Momryk
Jim Naylor
Larry Hannant
Nicole Lang

Arthur Carkner
Andrée Lévesque

Regrets: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/s/c (Greg Kealey/Bryan Palmer):

Be it resolved that the agenda be approved as circulated.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2009 ANNUAL MEETING AS PUBLISHED IN LABOUR/LE TRAVAIL, 64 (FALL/AUTOMNE 2009), 295–299

M/s/c (Ben Isitt / Raymond Léger):

Be it resolved that the minutes as circulated be approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Finkel thanked the Forsey prize committee and asked for people to serve for next year. The president advised that ProQuest has dropped *Labour/LeTravail* from the lawsuit. He explained how the committee is co-sponsoring a digital history project, and is following developments at the Ottawa Workers Heritage Centre.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Bryan Palmer encouraged people to submit articles and to encourage others to consider submitting to the journal. The journal takes a broad approach to labour studies and welcomes a wide range of submissions. Also, the journal is always considering thematic issues for the future. He further reported that the journal is receiving more French articles, although the journal needs a French book review editor [Raymond Léger agrees to take over for 1 year]. Palmer also discussed the move from Memorial University to Athabasca. The relationship with Athabasca University Press is excellent, and the move has resulted in a slight format change and more on-line options. Subscriptions have fallen slightly as they have for all print journals – *L/LT*'s subs are currently in a holding pattern – and he would like to encourage more graduate students to subscribe.

Isitt commented on Athabasca's professionalism and great turnaround. Palmer responded that the journal endeavours to have peer-review responses within 3 months.

OTTAWA WORKERS' HERITAGE CENTRE

Hinther spoke to the current Ottawa Workers' Heritage Centre controversy. Since last year Ken Clavette and others have been fired.

Carkner spoke about the fight to keep the Centre operational and concerns surrounding the loss of municipal funding. Staff have been fired for disloyalty and for working with volunteers. They are trying to maintain projects that the fired staff were working on when they were dismissed. For instance, a new documentary is underway. He is asking the CCLH for help to maintain museum and get the staff back.

Kealey recommended that the CCLH form a committee to look into the issue. Finkel, Hinther and Palmer agree to form the committee. The committee will offer recommendations to the president on how to proceed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Kealey summarized the report distributed at the meeting. He indicated that it was time to get out of the GIC – there's too little interest. Overall, there is good news: CCLH made a profit last year.

REPORT ON CCLH WEBSITE

Belisle noted that the listserv has 93 members. The listserv began 6 years ago. Seventy per cent of the traffic is academics. She asked someone else to replace her as the listserv moderator.

CCLH WORKSHOP 2011

M/S/C (Raymond Léger/ Christine McLaughlin): Be it resolved that the CCLH approves up to \$7000 for simultaneous translation at the 2011 CCLH Workshop in Fredericton.

Léger discussed plans for Fredericton. They will have an event on the Sunday before the Congress in Fredericton in 2011. He recommended simultaneous translation. When they do similar events in New Brunswick, it includes translation, which he estimates at a cost of \$5000 to \$7000. The Federation of Labour could be asked to apply for a provincial government grant to fund translation to help offset the costs.

Léger moved to approve funding for translation. Frank agreed that we should support this motion; the event has always been bilingual. Palmer also

supported the motion with the understanding that the workshop committee would seek other sources of funding.

PROJECT 2012 (ALBERTA LABOUR HISTORY INSTITUTE – ALBERTA FEDERATION OF LABOUR)

M/s/c (Bryan Palmer/Greg Kealey):

Be it resolved that the CCLH endorse the proposed conference and offer funding up to \$5000 on the understanding that (a) organizers in Alberta apply for additional funding and (b) the CCLH executive will consider up to \$10,000 in consultation with conference organizers only after a budget has been prepared.

Kealey recommended a motion in principle until a budget has been presented. Sangster noted that the CCLH has often provided donations in hundreds, not thousands, of dollars. CCLH should only provide a more substantial amount if the committee is a co-sponsor. Nonetheless, it is good to have a CCLH event in this region. Jameson recommended that the organizers approach the building trades unions for financial support and, at the very least, get them involved in the conference. Naylor asked how much the Alberta Federation of Labour is providing. Finkel responded that it was providing approximately \$100,000 for events and publications that it was sponsoring in conjunction with ALHI. Palmer agreed with Kealey: \$10,000 is a great deal of money, and the CCLH has never given this much before. In principle he would support up to \$5000. Finkel responded that the AFL has limited resources; it is simply too small to provide much more funding. Heron expressed concern about the precedent of providing extensive funding without having a budget to review.

M/s/c (Jeff Taylor/David Frank):

Be it resolved that the executive committee develop a donations policy.

Hannant recommended that the committee also consider strategies for securing donations. Jameson asked that the policy be approved by the CCLH.

ON-TO-OTTAWA TREK MOVIE

The committee resolved to not provide funding for this initiative.

Finkel explained the novel project and the upcoming 75th anniversary. They are asking financial support for a film project on the event. Heron expressed concern about precedents of offering funding. Hannant noted that we could help with publicity. Kealey recommended sending letter of support but no money.

CANADIAN COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S HISTORY CONFERENCE

The committee resolved to not provide funding for this initiative.

Kealey is opposed to funding a conference after the fact. It would have been different if the CCLH had been involved as a partner from the beginning. But he recommended that the president refuse the request for support in a positive manner and to emphasize that the CCLH values its good relationship with the CCWH. Sangster wished that a copy of the conference program had been attached to the agenda for consideration, and indicated that the CCLH could offer its endorsement. Finkel suggested that the committee needs a donations policy before proceeding on these types of requests.

At this point in the meeting everyone introduced themselves.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT)

President:

Alvin Finkel M/S/C (Greg Kealey/David Frank):

Alvin Finkel be elected as president.

Vice-President:

Jennifer Anderson M/S/C (Rhonda Hinthier/ Dominique Clément):

Jennifer Anderson be elected as vice-president.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S/C (Ben Isitt/Bryan Palmer):

Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned.

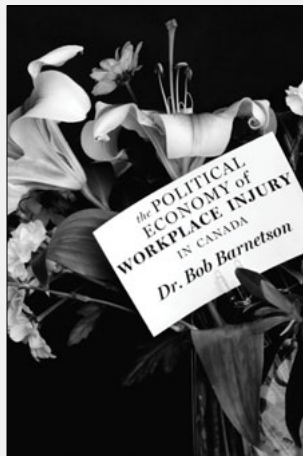
Finkel adjourned the meeting at 1:30pm.

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by Bob Barnettson

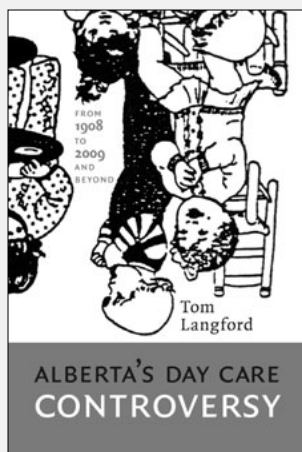
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