

Annual Meeting, Canadian Committee on Labour History, St. Thomas University, Fredericton, 1 June 2011

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MINUTES / PROCÈS-VERBAL

Annual Meeting

Canadian Committee on Labour History

St. Thomas University, Fredericton, 1 June 2011

CALL TO ORDER

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

Present:

Donica Belisle
Alvin Finkel
Linda Kadis
Kathy Killoh
Marcia Braundy
Rhonda Hinthner
Raymond Léger
Janis Thiessen
Sean Carleton
Julia Smith
Dominique Clément
Ben Isitt
Nicole Lang
Bryan Palmer
Jim Naylor
Peter Twohig
Betsy Jamieson
Craig Heron
David Frank
Greg Kealey

Regrets:

Carolyn Podruchny
Jeff Taylor
David Camfield

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/s/C (Donica Belisle/Ben Isitt)

Be it resolved that the agenda be approved as circulated.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2010 ANNUAL MEETING AS PUBLISHED IN LABOUR/LE TRAVAIL, 66 (FALL/AUTOMNE 2010), 313-317.

M/s/C (Rhonda Hinthner/Jim Naylor)

Be it resolved that the minutes as circulated be approved.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Raymond Léger reported that translation costs for the workshop will be well below the \$7000 maximum approved last year. They will likely be between \$1000 and \$2000 with CCLH likely only having to fund half the amount.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Alvin Finkel thanked David Frank and Raymond Léger for taking the lead in organizing the annual workshop. He also thanked the members of the Forsey Prize committee for this past year (chair Jim Naylor, Donica Belisle, and Denyse Baillargeon) and asked for people to serve for next year. He introduced this year's winner, Julia Maureen Smith. Finkel commented that one of the two honourable mentions for this year's CHA Macdonald Prize was Sean Mills, *The Empire Within*, which is based on Mills's PhD thesis which was awarded the Forsey Prize in 2009. The other honourable mention also went to a labour history book, Joan Sangster's *Transforming Labour: Women and Work in Postwar Canada*.

Finkel also commented on the Ottawa Workers' Heritage Centre campaign in which CCLH joined with others in an unsuccessful attempt to persuade Ottawa City Council to maintain the house for the museum. Rhonda Hinthner noted other means are being explored for maintaining the museum and said that she will keep CCLH posted.

Other news: CCLH has incorporated. There are three new titles in the CCLH series with Athabasca University Press: Bert Whyte, *Champagne and Meatballs*, Alvin Finkel, *Working People in Alberta*, and David Frank and Nicole Lang, *Labour Landmarks in New Brunswick/Lieux historiques ouvriers en Nouveau Brunswick*.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Bryan Palmer welcomed Donica Belisle, who becomes the new book review editor on 1 July 2011. He thanked the members of the current editorial board for their work and particularly outgoing assistant editors Jim Naylor and Jeff Taylor, and outgoing review editor Alvin Finkel. He also announced that an advisory board to the editor has been created.

Palmer is currently working on the next SSHRC grant application, and it is almost in final form.

Palmer thanked the staff of Athabasca University Press for all their help and support.

LLT, he noted, is generally doing very well, with its readership, according to most indicators, is on the upswing. He continues to encourage graduate students to subscribe, noting that the journal's low subscription rate for students makes it a good buy.

Encouraging submissions, Palmer noted that the journal is constantly trying to expand its readership base with a broader range of articles, while continuing to maintain its identity as a labour studies journal. It will continue to offer a very good turnaround time for submissions.

Ben Isitt commented that open access has been of great benefit to the journal, generating interest through easy access.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Be it resolved that the treasurer's report be accepted.

Greg Kealey reported that revenues are down roughly by \$7000 while expenses are up by about \$12,000. Increases in the SSHRC grant, back copy sales, and book sales have helped offset the loss, and the overall financial situation of LLT is very healthy.

Over the past year, the publishing agreement with AU Press was renegotiated. The Publication Committee also entered into an agreement with AU Press regarding the CCLH book series. Greg Kealey and Alvin Finkel will be co-editors of the series. CCLH books supported by AU press will not require funds from CCLH if funding is available from ASPP or another source. But CCLH will retain the right to publish otherwise unfunded books within the series with AU Press if the books are successful in peer review.

REPORT ON CCLH WEBSITE

Finkel noted that the website is currently a static website that simply provides information about CCLH activities.

David Frank observed that there is a benefit to gradually placing resources on the website that could achieve wide usage. Some of our surplus funds could be used to develop this resource. Isitt and Finkel agreed to work together to explore website development.

CCLH WORKSHOP 2012

There was a discussion of possible individuals who might be persuaded to organize a workshop for Waterloo next year. Finkel will follow up on the suggestions that members made in this regard.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (SECRETARY, VICE-PRESIDENT, SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT)

Secretary:

Ben Isitt M/S/C (Dominique Clément/ David Frank)

Ben Isitt be elected as Secretary for a two-year term.

Vice-President:

Rhonda Hinther M/S/C (Raymond Léger/ Dominique Clément)

Rhonda Hinther be elected to serve for one year to finish Jennifer Anderson's term.

Second Vice-President:

Julia Smith, Vice-President M/S/C (Ben Isitt/Donica Belisle)

Julia Smith be elected as Second Vice-President for a two-year term.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rhonda Hinther announced that the Canadian Museum of Human Rights is looking for contractors on a number of issues including social justice and labour issues. Also, Hinther is working on history of labour activism and family leave with an Ottawa research team, and they are seeking to hire someone to do research. She announced her new book on Ukrainians with University of Toronto Press.

Greg Kealey noted that all CCLH books are available on-line without charge on the AU Press website.

Ben Isitt announced that Left History Press is working with unions to prepare a film project on working people in BC.

David Frank mentioned that a number of new books on New Brunswick labour subjects were available in the room.

Betsy Jamieson called for papers for the next Western Canadian Studies conference, which will be held in Calgary in June, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S/C (Janis Thiessen/Bryan Palmer)

Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned.

Finkel adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.