

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the LWWG held at 27 Maple Ave, Winnipeg Beach, on May 24, 2015

Present: Ruth Asher, Debra Dusome, Jeanne Gougeon, Richard Koreen, Pamela Larner, Marlene Ness, Tyra Masters-Heinrichs, Ann Timonin

1. Tyra proposed adoption of the agenda, seconded by Ann. Adopted
2. Richard proposed changes in the e-membership. Discussion followed.

The rationale is to reduce the benefits of e-membership to encourage people to become regular members. The proposed changes are as follows:

- a. Reduce the cost of an e-membership from \$20 to \$10
- b. Reduce e-membership benefits so that a regular membership will be more attractive. Richard argued that if e-members have all the benefits of a regular member, they will be unlikely to want to upgrade.

E-membership benefits would be limited to:

- Invitations to all general meetings and all events
- Receipt of minutes from meetings
- The right to contribute once a year to Voices, space permitting and quality to be determined by the editor. Under this provision, contest participants would also be allowed to submit one piece of work if they are not published as a contest winner.
- May to be a featured writer on the web site by invitation only.

Tyra moved, seconded by Ann, that these changes to e-membership and regular membership benefits and fees be accepted. Adopted.

Richard and Jeanne will compose a letter to be sent to all members to inform members before the next membership year.

3. Richard moved, seconded by Jeanne, that two membership categories be added -
 - a. Student membership for students attending high school at a cost of \$10 offering all the benefits of regular members.

Discussion considered the rights of university students to a similar reduction, but this was rejected on the basis of the age limits placed on contest entries, which is where most high school students first become e-members of LWWG.

Adopted.

- b. Group membership for an annual fee of \$30 that allowed each member of the group to have an e-membership provided the group submitted a list of e-mail addresses for all members and confirmed the membership list at renewal. Tyra was particularly interested in the wider liaison and access to publicity this would generate. Since these group members would each be eligible to submit a piece for publication once a year, the sales of Voices could increase as a result. As before,

the editor would have the flexibility to accept, reserve or reject submissions as space permitted.

Adopted.

Richard will edit the policies and by-laws to reflect these decisions.

4. Richard proposed, seconded by Ruth, that new duties for past presidents be introduced.
 - a. The duties of a past president would parallel those of the president and vice president:
 - Attend AGMs and executive meetings
 - Provide input and advice about the governance of the group
 - Be responsible for creating a slate of officers for the AGM

Debra suggested that executive members already spend more time on duties than on their own writing and that adding duties would be a burden, especially if the past president has stepped down because of the time required by the job. Jeanne proposed this item be tabled for the AGM.

Agreed.

5. Jeanne moved to adjourn.