

Women's Association of Memorial University of Newfoundland  
Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2009  
Saturday, April 25, 2009  
Junior Commons Room, R. Gushue Hall

The business meeting began at 1:55 pm.  
President Tonya Bassler chaired the meeting.

1. Welcome and approval of agenda

Tonya welcomed all members (38 members had attended the luncheon and were in attendance) and called for approval of the agenda. Kathy Simonsen moved acceptance of the agenda. Olga Broomfield-Richards seconded the motion. Passed.

2. Approval of the minutes from 26 April 2008 AGM

The minutes of the 2008 AGM were distributed to members in the *WAMUN Newsletter*, v. 36 (1), November 2008. Patricia Collins moved acceptance of the minutes as written. Mary Chalker seconded the motion. Passed.

3. Business arising

There was no business arising.

4. Reports of 2008 – 2009

a. President

Tonya read part of her report which had appeared in the April 2009 issue of the *WAMUN Newsletter*. She reiterated her thanks to the membership and to executive members and to the Nominating Committee. With sadness she mentioned longtime member Elfi Boehm's coming departure from Newfoundland and wished her well.

b. Membership Secretary

Annmari Tougui reported that there are 92 members. This is down slightly from last year. Some members had not renewed because two interest groups, the Investment Club and the International Food Group, ceased operating in the fall of 2008. Efforts to attract new faculty were not successful. Annmari urged all members to recruit new members, the younger the better. She feels that interest group activities can attract new members.

c. Treasurer

There was a copy of the Treasurer's *Interim statement from April 11, 2009* on each table. The current balance is \$3,133.23. Mary Chalker called for questions. There was discussion of moving money from the current account into the Scholarship Fund. It was decided to wait until the fall to move money.

d. Newsletter Editor

Carolyn Hodych was not at the meeting. The April 2009 issue of the *WAMUN Newsletter* had contained her farewell as editor.

e. Interest Groups

The interest group reports were distributed in the April 2009 issue of the *WAMUN Newsletter*.

f. Archive

Julia Mathieson reported that except for executive minutes she had passed on WAMUN records from 2001-2007 to the Archives and Special Collections Division of the Queen Elizabeth II Library. She plans to process the executive minutes over the summer and pass them to the Archives in the fall.

g. Scholarship Committee

There was a copy of the WAMUN Scholarship Committee's Annual Report to April 25, 2009 on each table. In Chair Linda Hensman's absence, Maire O'Dea spoke to the report. She drew members' attention to the sections of the report on the eligibility of the Marine Institute students and Sir Wilfred Grenfell College students for WAMUN scholarships.

Appendix 2 of the report commented on the status of the WAMUN endowment as a result of the reduction in market value during the 2008-09 fiscal year. There were questions regarding the change in university's "spending policy from 5% to 4% of the **restricted** book value of the fund." To support our scholarships at their current value without tapping into our unrestricted fund, we may need to seek more donations or do more fundraising.

With the support of the Executive Linda has agreed to continue chairing the Scholarship Committee for 2009.

5. Amendments to the Constitution

Notice of the proposed constitutional changes had been distributed in the April 2009 *WAMUN Newsletter*. Tonya spoke to the proposed changes.

Moved that Article II – Membership be amended to read "Membership shall be open to any woman who supports the aim of the association." (moved Margaret Michalak, seconded Ruth Noel) Margaret Dohan raised the question of whether this could be challenged on gender discrimination grounds. There was discussion, there was uncertainty, but the feeling of the meeting was women's associations are allowed. Passed.

Moved that Article V – Executive Officers and Duties 2, Newsletter Editor be amended to read "... for compiling and distributing at least two newsletters per year." (moved Olga Broomfield-Richards, seconded Annmari Tougui). Passed.

6. Presentation of Distinguished Service Award Pin

Tonya announced that Susan Murdey was the recipient of this year's Distinguished Service Award Pin. Tonya summarized Susan's longtime contributions with the Coffee Morning Group and as treasurer of WAMUN. Susan was not able to attend the AGM.

7. Election of Executive

Past-president Julia Mathieson took the chair for the election of the 2009/10 executive.

The following slate was presented:

President	Betty Wong
Vice-president	Patricia Montes
Secretary	Patricia Collins
Treasurer	Faiza Enanny
Membership	Annmari Tougui

Social Conveners Louise Dawe  
Kathy Simonsen  
Newsletter Sylvia Warkentin

There were no nominations from the floor. All positions were filled by acclamation.

Tonya resumed the chair. She offered her thanks to the past executive.

8. Thank-you to the Nominating Committee

Tonya thanked the Nominating Committee, Deborah Rehner (chair), Jean Guthrie, and Maire O'Dea.

9. Any other business

a. Spring Plant Sale

Marjorie Evans announced that a spring plant sale will be held on Saturday, May 23rd at 2A Allandale Road. This will be sale of garden plants. Members should have been contacted to contribute plants and to help with the set up and sale. A house plant sale will be held in the fall, but no date as been set yet.

b. Coordinating committee for WAMUN webpage/brochure

Outgoing Newsletter editor Carolyn Hodych has suggested WAMUN have a promotional brochure. The executive, including Carolyn, feel the brochure and the webpage should be coordinated. Tonya asked for volunteers to take this on over the summer. Volunteers should contact Betty Wong.

c. Other

Patricia Collins suggested that members wear name tags at all our functions. Annmari Tougui will have name tags at future meetings.

10. Door Prize

Elfi Boehm drew for the door prize. Mary Chalker won a \$20.00 gift certificate from Chapters. At each table the centre pieces were won by members whose chair had been stickered.

11. Announcements

There were no announcements.

12. Adjournment

Kathy Simonsen moved the meeting adjourn. Marjorie Evans seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:40.

Respectively submitted  
Karen Lippold