

RPSC Board Meeting – February 21, 2021

Board	Present	Regrets	Non-Voting	Present	Regrets
Sam Chiu	X		Robin Harris (non-voting)	X	
Stéphane Cloutier	X		Stuart Keeley (non-voting)	X	
Hugo Deshaye	X		Ingo Nessel (non-voting)	X	
John Hall		X	Garfield Portch (non-voting)	X	
Steve Johnson	X		George Pepall (non-voting)	X	
Ed Kroft	X		John Sharp (non-voting)	X	
Ken Lemke	X		Lee Ann Stewart	X	
David McLaughlin	X		Charles Verge		
Robert Pinet	X				
Jane Sodero	X				
Grégoire Teyssier	X				
Joe Trauzzi	X				
Joel Weiner	X				
Mike Walsh	X				

1. Meeting was called to order at 8:02 pm (Atlantic), quorum having been met. Jane Sodero to act as secretary.
2. Presentation and Approval of Minutes of January 17, 2021 Board Meeting - Jane Sodero circulated these draft minutes.

Motion: To adopt the minutes from the January 17, 2021 board meeting. Moved by Ken Lemke; seconded by Robert Pinet. Motion passed.

3. Update from National Office - Lee Ann Stewart

Lee Ann Stewart reported that she is able to complete her regular duties while working from home as all calls are forwarded. She has been working on banking changes. She noted that there have been five new member applications in the past two weeks but that some people have said they aren't renewing due to journal changes. She is getting positive feedback on the stamp talks.

4. Royal 2021 - Virtual Event and 2021 AGM - Ed Kroft

An AGM will be held virtually in June in conjunction with several stamp talks. In terms of virtual exhibiting, Calgary and CANPEX have gone very well so the possibility of holding a virtual Royal in September for the exhibiting component was raised. North Toronto has expressed interest in working with The RPSC to accomplish this, which is much appreciated. The CANPEX organizers are also interested in holding another iteration of their show on a larger scale. Trajan is still looking at an in-person show but may be limited in space due to restrictions so that including exhibits may not be an option. There was a request to be careful of dates so there is no overlap between shows and so the deadline for CAPEX entries, which is November 30, 2021, is taken into account.

The major cost to The RPSC is for the physical medals but if we don't give out medals that eliminates that cost. Sam suggested that old medals which have been written off could be used for virtual exhibiting.

Ed Kroft asked for volunteers for a subcommittee for the exhibiting portion of the Royal - Robert Pinet, David McLaughlin and Joel Weiner stepped up.

One of the concerns of the North Toronto club was that it is a regional show and they felt regional judges should be on the jury to ensure that regional level judges were getting judging experiences.

Motion: To hold the AGM and talks on June 14th at 5pm Eastern. Moved by Ken Lemke; seconded by Joe Trauzzi. Motion passed.

John Sharpe and Jane Sodero will present two short talks after the AGM. The AGM and talks will be advertised in the March/April TCP and Lee Ann will put a note in the email which she sends out to advertise the AGM.

The timing for a Fellows meeting was raised - this is a question for Charles Verge

5. a) Philaprint and TCP - Ingo Nessel, Garfield Portch

Ingo Nessel gave a brief overview of the origins and role of the Greene Foundation and Philaprint. Grants have been provided by Heritage Canada to help with publication, printing and mailing costs but the structure of the Heritage Canada grants has changed and going forward only editorial costs can be covered by the grant. The grant applies to hard copies only and not digital publications. Trajan is subcontracted to create and deliver the finished TCP.

While Philaprint is set up as a for-profit entity, it does not make a profit.

Board members asked why and how much did advertising rates go down for the digital issues of TCP as well as who made this decision. A decision had to be made quickly and there were indications that advertisers wouldn't pay as much for advertising in an e-journal so the rates were reduced by 40%. Several board members are concerned that this change was made without consulting the board.

John Sharpe noted that the current arrangement for advertising revenue is advantageous to The RPSC since Trajan is the one who chases for payments. The RPSC is paid for advertisements immediately even if Trajan hasn't been paid. The advertising revenue belongs to The RPSC.

Action Item: Looking for advertising rates for TCP. Change in the costs due to the change to two digital issues per year.

Upon quick calculation during the meeting, it is estimated that the editorial cost per page of TCP is \$56 a page

Trajan has kept flat rate per issue the same since 2013, resulting in less profit for Trajan but not affecting The RPSC.

The changes in the delivery of TCP have not been reflected in the budget with the exception of mailing costs. This information will be updated so the budget can be adjusted.

b) Financial Update and Budget 2021 - John Sharp

To be deferred to March with updated information about TCP and sponsorship agreements.

John Sharpe asked board members to consider two items before the next meeting:

- Currently, The RPSC works with a two signature per cheque system – he suggests moving to one signature, which will allow for The RPSC to take advantage of more e-banking services; and
- He also asked if there was a need for an American \$ account. In the past this has been for convenience but with changes in banking and more e-payments instead of cheques, it may now be an unnecessary cost.

Ed Kroft shared that RPSC member Jim Dixon gave some suggestions of possible grant applications. He suggested that Jim Dixon liaise with John Sharp on these applications.

6. Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee - George Pepall, Ken Lemke

George Pepall shared that, given his responsibilities with the Stamp Talks and Stamp Chats, Joe Trauzzi will be stepping down from committee. There are two new members: Darin Cherniwchan and Phil Visser.

If approved an email will be sent this week to the western Canadian Chapters including a flyer of member benefits and an application form. As an incentive, Chapter Presidents who aren't already RPSC members will be offered ½ off regular or e-membership fees for one year.

Motion – To offer the Presidents of RPSC Chapters half-price regular or e-membership fees for one year if they are not already RPSC members. Moved by Ken Lemke; seconded Joe Trauzzi. Motion passed.

7. Update on TCP/Hockey Issue - Robin Harris

The May/June TCP will be the joint issue with the American Philatelist on the theme of hockey. The deadline for articles was January 31. A total of 12 articles were submitted and they will be divided between the two journals.

8. Virtual Meetings for RPSC/Stamp Talks - Joe Trauzzi

Joe Trauzzi reported that there has been positive feedback about both the talks and the panels. He is working with Charles Verge to start offering talks in French starting in April. So far, they are looking at seven presentations.

An offer of sponsorship came from Sparks Auctions. Board member Stephane Cloutier stepped out of the meeting due to a conflict of interest. Joe outlined the terms of the agreement which covers the talks and panels for 2021. It includes an exclusivity clause as well as a right of first refusal for 2022

Board members asked how the agreement affects talks that have been or will be given at other venues. In addition, members felt it should be clear that presenters retain ownership of their talks. This needs to be addressed with Sparks.

It was noted that donations have been made which cover the costs of the panels for both this year and next year.

Motion – To enter into a sponsorship agreement with Sparks Auctions pending clarification of ownership of content as well as speaking at other venues. Moved by: Ken Lemke; seconded by David McLaughlin. Motion passed. Joe Trauzzi abstained.

9. Improvements to RPSC Presence in Quebec- Grégoire Tessyier

Tabled to next meeting

10. Report from the Social Media Committee - Jane Sodero

Jane Sodero reported that a volunteer is available to help with social media posting to Twitter and Instagram as well as with French translation of posts. It is hoped that these platforms will reach a different group of people.

Motion: To further the reach of The RPSC, Twitter and Instagram accounts shall be created. These accounts will be linked with the Facebook account so that posts are shared across all three platforms. In addition, content will be available in both French and English as much as possible. Moved by Jane Sodero; seconded Ken Lemke. Motion passed.

Ed Kroft brought the board's attention to an upcoming meeting on digital philately with BNAPS as well as a proposal for a Joint RPSC-BNAPS Digital Philately Study Group.

11. Update on CAPEX 22 and FIP matters - David McLaughlin

Tabled

12. Newsletter update - Mike Walsh

Newsletter will be going out on March 15. The deadline for submissions is the end of the week.

13. Judging - Joel Weiner

Tabled

14. Support for Canadian Stamp to commemorate Jarrett catalogue - Ed Kroft

Tabled

15. CSDA relationship and other dealer issues - Hugo Deshayé and Mike Walsh

Tabled

16. Report from VGG - David McLaughlin and Ingo Nessel

Tabled

17. Volunteers Programme - Ed Kroft

Tabled

18. Committees Update and update of corporate constitution - Ed Kroft

Tabled

19. Other Business

Next meeting: TBA