

## RPSC Board Meeting – November 1, 2020

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				
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 September 13, 2020 Board Meeting – Jane Sodero circulated.

**Motion: To adopt the minutes from the September 13, 2020 board meeting with minor amendments. Moved by David McLaughlin; seconded by John Hall. Motion Passed.**

3. 2020 AGM and related preparation (Zoom meeting notices, publication of financial statements, reports) - December 9 - Ed Kroft

Lee Ann Stewart has requested reports from committee chairs. Financial statements were in the July/August issue of TCP (p. 252-254). The Zoom link for the meeting has been circulated by email as well as the newsletter sent by Mike Walsh. Lee Ann Stewart will upload last year's minutes as well as the reports to the website and will send them out by email. A draft agenda has been prepared.

Lee Ann Stewart has set a deadline of November 11<sup>th</sup> for reports.

*Action Item: Committee Chairs are asked to submit their reports to Lee Ann Stewart by November 11<sup>th</sup>*

4. Update on TCP and the Website - Reports from Robin Harris  
The latest issue of TCP has gone to the printer and will be mailed this week.
5. Financial Update and Philaprint Grant status - Stuart Keeley and Mike Walsh  
Due to COVID shutdowns, there are no financial updates since last meeting.

The Committee struck at the last board meeting has met and is recommending that a hard copy of TCP be published 4 times with 48 pages with the option of adding 2 e-journal issues per year. The reduction from 6 issues to 4 issues and from 64 pages to 48 pages will

significantly reduce production and mailing costs. The committee has not recommended moving to solely an e-journal since this format hasn't appealed to either current or new members. The report of the committee was circulated.

The Treasurer pointed out that the financial strain is mainly caused by the loss of 600 members in the past 12 years.

The Board wishes to thank John Sharp and the committee for their work on this matter.

It was clarified that Life members have to pay \$35 a year to get a hard copy of TCP. Honourary Life Members (of which there are fewer than 30) still get the journal for free.

A lengthy discussion about the options of e-journals and hard copy journals in addition to the page count of the journal ensued.

Board members were concerned that a smaller journal will discourage members, that they will see a loss in value for money. It was pointed out that some of the information (such as a list of chapters) which traditionally is in every issue could be eliminated since it can be found on the website. It was noted that prior to 2000, when the membership was approximately 50% higher than it is today, the TCP consisted of 48 pages.

Discussion about an e-journal vs a hard copy included decreased revenue since memberships would all be at the digital rate and whether the Board has asked members to convert to a digital membership. Lee Ann Stewart reported that 10% to 15% of members haven't provided an email address to the Society. Mike Walsh clarified that if half of the members request e-journals, the production costs are not reduced by 50% but by less than 25%.

Mike Walsh reported on a positive note that after having pulled their advertising earlier this year, Canada Post has switched to a new ad agency which seems more amenable to advertising in TCP. There will be three Canada Post ads in the next issue of TCP. He is not sure if that will continue but it is a start. He also reported that the Aid to Publishers funding will go ahead for next year.

Ed Kroft has asked if consideration had been made to reducing advertising costs. Mike Walsh reported they were waiting to for a decision to be made on the number of issues. Ken Lemke asked for list of former advertisers and that perhaps some might reconsider.

**Action Item:** *Provide list of former TCP advertisers to Ken Lemke.*

Sam Chiu asked if is it too late with respect dues payment to change how many issues we get in a year? Robin Harris reported that membership renewals go out shortly and we need to let members know if we are going to change the publication schedule for next year.

There was some discussion about the Philaprint grant and how this change might affect BNAPS and PHSC. Ken Lemke felt BNAPS wouldn't be hurt be a loss in the grant. The situation of the PHSC is unknown.

A discussion of advertising rates for hard copy vs e-journals followed. The opinion of advertisers on the Board was that it is the number of eyes on the journal which mattered not the format of the journal.

Robin Harris feels the journal is the primary reason for membership in the RPSC.

**Motion: To change the publication of The Canadian Philatelist from six 64-page issues per year to 4 48-page issues and 2 48-page e-journals per year. Moved by Steve**

**Johnson; seconded by Robert Pinet. Motion Passed with the abstention of Mike Walsh.**

*Action Item: Change website and membership renewal forms; Lee Ann Stewart, Robin Harris and Ed Kroft to prepare for member's comments.*

*Action Item: Minutes regarding this discussion to go out immediately – Jane Sodero*

It was noted that the Board of the RPSC sincerely regrets that it has had to make this decision but in the current financial situation it is in the best interests of the RPSC. The change will help with deficit situation by reducing the projected deficit for 2021 to about \$4,000.

Robin Harris suggested that an email notice be sent to all members when TPC is posted to the website. Currently, it only goes to members in the e-membership category. It was asked whether people could request hard copies of the issues of TCP which come out as e-journals - the answer was no.

Lee Ann Stewart again noted that some members have not provided an email. She and Robin Harris will include a request for one in the annual membership renewal process. Robin Harris noted that the RPSC will have to promote this change immediately. Suggested wording for the change was “In the Membership year 2021 – the RPSC will shift to 4 issues of the TCP as well as 2 e-journals.”

Due to time constraints the Board did not discuss the further recommendations from the committee that the long-term solution to financial stability requires input and action from other RPSC committees for additional income and expense control. Ken Lemke noted that the board should also be looking at opportunities for savings in our administration budget.

6. Update from National Office - Lee Ann Stewart

Lee Ann Stewart reported that things are running smoothly at the office. There have been 15 new members added since September meeting.

The procedure for Chapter insurance renewal has changed – 50% of chapters have renewed so far so it is going well. Some Chapters who haven't been meeting have asked if they can prorate the insurance due to the pandemic. Clubs with these requests will be told to discuss this with Garfield Portch.

**Motion: To strongly recommend that Chapters keep the insurance in place even when not meeting regularly. Moved by Ken Lemke; seconded David McLaughlin. Motion Passed.**

Lee Ann Stewart noted that 50-year members have been notified and medallions and certificates have been sent as have volunteer awards. Mike Walsh requested photos of members with their awards.

*Action Item: Mike Walsh would like photos of 50-year members,*

7. Report from the Social Media Committee - Jane Sodero

No written report. The committee continues to work on Facebook posting assignments.

8. Virtual Stamp Exhibition in Canada - David McLaughlin

The Committee is looking at holding a one-frame show from April 2 - 30, 2021 in conjunction with CANPEX. The next step will be to go to the judging committee to ask for

approval and judges. The show will not qualify as a WSP show as there are issues with CANEJ and virtual exhibiting which have not been resolved yet. Exhibitors who achieve a Vermeil award or better will qualify for CAPEX 2022.

**Motion: To hold a National Competitive One Frame Virtual Show operated under the banner of CANPEX from April 2th until 30<sup>th</sup> 2021, subject to approval of the National Exhibition and Judging Committee of the RPSC. Moved by David McLaughlin; seconded by Stephane Cloutier. Motion Passed.**

The Board wishes to thank the committee for the work they have done.

9. Virtual Meetings for RPSC - Joe Trauzzi

Joe Trauzzi has found sponsors for the series so there will be no cost to the RPSC. In the initial schedule, he had left the summer open but there is interest in continuing through the summer months. The schedule is planned for talks at 7:00pm Eastern on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. The limit is 100 participants.

10. Update on CAPEX 22 - David McLaughlin

Report were circulated and are attached.

11. Update on Royal 2021 - Ed Kroft

It is possible, due to Covid, that Royal 2021 Royale may not go ahead. The show committee will make a decision early in December 2020.

12. Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee - George Pepall

The committee is looking for consensus in promoting the benefits circulated prior to the meeting. The Board noted the flyers should be in both English and French, include the contact information for the Quebec insurance company and proofread prior to distribution.

**Motion: To approve the membership benefits list with the number of TCP issues adjusted to reflect the decision of the Board from earlier tonight. Moved by Ken Lemke; seconded Joe Trauzzi. Motion Passed.**

**Motion: To start circulating and promoting the benefits of RPSC membership with changes as noted in the minutes. Moved by Ken Lemke; seconded by Steve Johnson. Motion Passed.**

The Board wishes to thank the committee for their good work.

13. Newsletter update - Mike Walsh

Another newsletter went out at the end of October.

14. Judging - Joel Weiner

Nothing to report

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

Tabled

16. Report from VGG - David McLaughlin

Nothing to report.

17. APS Partnership on TCP and AP - Hockey Issue - Ed Kroft

Robin Harris will be the guest editor for an issue of the American Philatelist with a focus on hockey. The issue is in progress and going well.

18. Relationship with Other Philatelic Societies - Ed Kroft, David McLaughlin

There has been a meeting of the Philatelic Foundation including discussion of the possibility of grants from Foundation for various activities.

19. Committee to update corporate constitution - Ed Kroft

Tabled

20. Other business

Tabled

Next meeting will be the AGM.