

## Minutes Annual Meeting Sept 21, 2023, via Zoom

**Board members Attending:** Mike McGovern, Adriana de la Fuente, Tunji Funsho, Jhinsup JJ Jhung, Knut Johnsen, Margie Kersey, Seiji Kita, Toni McAndrew, Tim Moore, Leila Ristelli, George Sundararaj, Juan Pedro Torroba, Nicolas Zalles, Paul Muczynski, Antonio Hallage, Kalcho Hinov, Bryn Styles

**Absent:** Tim Schuler, Jacques di Costanzo, Binod Khaitan, Frank Wargo

**Attendees:** 102

### Votes:

- PASSED 2023-24 Budget Approved. Margie Kersey moved, Juan Pedro Torroba seconded.
- PASSED Nominating Committee consisting of Knut Johnsen, Adriana de la Fuente, Leila Ristelli. Toni McAndrew, chair (non-voting) Margie Kersey moved, Bryn Styles seconded.
- PASSED Officers elected to serve from 2023-26: Margie Kersey, Toni McAndrew moved. Antonio Hallage seconded.
- PASSED Board members elected to serve from 2023-2026 Jacques de Costanzo of France, Kalcho Hinov of Bulgaria, Margie Kersey of USA Mike McGovern moved Bryn Styles seconded
- PASSED Board members elected to serve from 2023-2026 , Ton McAndrew of USA, Paul Muczynski of USA, Tim Schuler of USA, Frank Wargo of USA Mike MCGovern moved, JJ Jhung seconded
- PASSED To elect Leila Ristelli as First Vice President and George Sundararaj as Second Vice President Toni McAndrew moved, Margie Kersey seconded
- PASSED To elect Paul Muczynski to the position of Executive Director and Mary Ellen Bentler as Treasurer, both to be effective 2024 Toni McAndrew moved, Margie Kersey seconded
- PASSED to elect Antonio Hallage of Brazil to Chair effective 2024 Toni McAndrew moved, Juan Pedro Torroba seconded

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 Eastern time by Chair Mike McGovern followed by a review of the agenda for this meeting.

Announcements were made by Executive Director, Knut Johnsen. He noted that RLI has expanded and grown over the past year and that most Divisions are becoming more active. He also thanked the Divisions that submitted performance reports and said the information would be in the newsletter.

Treasurer Paul Muczynski briefly reviewed the financial statements and reminded everyone that they are available on the website for a detailed review. He made a special request that when sending wires to pay for dues, please include the Division name or District number so the money is properly accredited.

- There are 390 Districts in RLI
- 83 Districts have paid dues so far (correction submitted next day. 247 paid last year.)
- We have \$66,000 in checking as of today

A vote was called to approve the budget and passed.

Curriculum Chair, Margie Kersey reported that Parts 1 and 2 of the new curriculum are available on [rlifiles.com](http://rlifiles.com) in English only. Part 3 will be posted by mid-October. She also noted that translation teams are currently working on several languages which will be posted as they are completed. She also noted that no one had volunteered to translate into French other than French Canadian at this time.

Margie thanked her team of over 30 people (list attached), singling out Wade Patrick and Robert Morrow for working on 100% of the modules. She also made these announcements:

- Feedback on the new curriculum is still welcome
- Volunteers are still welcome, particularly translation help
- She would like copies of curriculum developed at the Division level
- The teams will begin work on the Grad classes soon
- Please send your grad class requests to her

VP Adriana de la Fuente reported on the International Convention in Melbourne and shares slides of the event and venue. She thanked both Frank Wargo and Paul Muczynski for manning

the RLI booth in the House of Friendship for the majority of the time. She also announced this year's award recipients (can be seen on [rlifiles.com](http://rlifiles.com)):

- David Linett Distinguished Service                      Juan Pedro Torroba, Argentina
- David Linett Distinguished Service                      Margie Kersey, USA
- Michael Rabasca Outstanding Achievement              Philip Chong, Malaysia
- Michael Rabasca Outstanding Achievement              Assem Abdel Razak, Egypt

Chair Mike announced that we have applied for a booth at the 2024 International Convention in Singapore, but we may not hold a breakfast, but a social instead. The Executive Committee will meet to discuss and report back to the Board.

Toni McAndrew reported the recommendations of the Nominating Committee (see individual voting results) based on their meeting 18 September 2023. Special notice was given that Knut Johnsen and Mike McGovern have declined to be re-elected in 2024.

The Awards committee for 2024 was appointed and consists of the recipients from prior years:

- Chair Bryn Styles, Canada
- Juan Pedro Torroba, Argentina
- Margie Kersey, USA
- George Sundararaj, India

The meeting then moved to comments, questions and answers from the attendees. Several Divisions reported strong interest and performance over the past year including: India, North East America, Japan, Nigeria, Bolivia, and Kosovo. Lebanon reported a strong start and wants to make connections with other Divisions. There was also a request to add social media such as Facebook and/or Instagram for RLI news.

Chair Mike thanked everyone for attending. Special thanks to Adriana de la Fuentes and Adonis Tella-Delis for translation services. We will investigate providing simultaneous translation for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38

# Curriculum Volunteers 2023

## Team 1 – Professional Curriculum Writers

Robert Morrow

Wade Patrick

Marcy Ullom

Marlene Free

Lloyd Horodan

## Team 2 – Review

Aaron Carlson

Dian Edwards

Toni McAndrew

Bonnie Black

Nicolas Zalles

Wendy Ayestas

Sherri Muniz

Marcia Scheideman

Petr Jan Pajas

Bengt Morten Wenstøb

Tom Green

Wyn Spiller

Elizabeth Usovicz

Nural Kabir

## Team 3 – Translations

Leila Ristelli

Martin Heinrichs

Nural Kabir

JJ Jhung

Serhiy Zavadsky

Claude Laliberte

Jen-Te Chen

Wendy Ayestas

Petr Jan Pajas

Bengt Morten Wenstøb

Xueya Cheng