

**Minutes of the Board of Directors  
Canadian Association of Journalists  
June 17-18, 2006  
(APPROVED)**

Present:

Saleem Khan  
Paul Schneidereit  
Robert Frank  
Hugo Rodrigues  
Kerry Diotte  
Robert Cribb

Kerry Diotte  
James Risdon  
Mary Agnes Welch  
Rachel Boomer  
Jennifer Fowler

Regrets: Michelle MacAfee, Murray Brewster

Additions: None.

Meeting commenced 9:00 a.m.

**Approval of Past Minutes:** Moved: H. Rodrigues Seconded: R. Boomer PASSED

**Election - Election of executive:**

Paul Schneidereit for President: Moved: M. Welch, Seconded: R. Frank -Passed  
Jennifer Fowler for Vice President Moved: P. Schneidereit, Seconded: M. Welch -Passed  
Saleem Khan for Chair: Moved: P. Schneidereit, Seconded: R. Frank - Passed  
Charles.Bury for Vice-Chair: Moved: P. Schneidereit, Seconded: H. Rodrigues - Passed  
Kerry Diotte for Treasurer/Secretary: Moved: P. Schneidereit, Seconded: M. Welch -  
Passed  
Communications Coordinator: Hugo Rodrigues: P.Schneidereit, Seconded: R. Boomer -  
Passed

**Committee Assignments**

**Awards:** M. MacAfee has appointed H.Rodrigues as an addition to the committee.  
K.Diotte

**Advocacy:** R. Cribb and M. A.Welch

**Membership Committee:** J. Risdon, S. Khan, J. Fowler, M. MacAfee, H. Rodrigues

**Communication Committee:** H.Rodrigues, J.Risdon, S. Khan, P.Schneidereit,  
R. Frank, Jen Fowler, Wendy Cumming

**Ethics Committee:** Stephen Ward, Sharon Burnside, Brian Gavriloff, Julian Sher, Kirk Lapointe, Ken Regan, Kim Kierans, Scott White, Sadia Zaman, Ethan Faber, Linden MacIntyre, Ellen Van Wageningen, Pierre Vennat, Marc-Francois Bernier, Bert Bruser

### **President's Report** - P. Schneidereit

The formation of the standing ethics advisory committee was completed and announced. The chair, Stephen Ward, spoke at the Halifax conference. He plans to have the committee ready for business by September.

The Halifax conference was, in my obviously biased view, a smashing success, from David Asper's remarkable opening keynote to the CPAC-filmed closing media panel on Sunday morning. We'll cover more on the conference later in the agenda. But organizing efforts consumed a fair amount of my time since January.

A notice went out to all members late last month, explaining the policy paper initiative I first outlined last June. M.A. Welch is overseeing the project and will talk more about where we're at when we discuss advocacy.

Perhaps the most significant accomplishment was the notification from CRA that the Canadian Association of Journalists Educational Foundation received charitable status. This is something the CAJ has been directly working on for several years, and a realization of a goal the organization has attempted, on and off, for literally decades. The implications, and possibilities, are profound. I look forward to discussing the CAJEF and what it means during Sunday's session.

Overall, the CAJ has made progress on a number of fronts, the above noted and several others, over the last few months, which will be evident as we hear the various committee reports during this weekend's meeting.

We've taken on a lot of new challenges over the last number of years; we're now seeing a lot of that hard work pay off. Looking ahead, I believe the coming year will be one in which we'll focus on ensuring that all these new initiatives, which taken together have the capacity to positively transform the CAJ, stay firmly on track

### **Executive Director's Report**

J. Dickins would like board members to acknowledge e-mails as it gives the office a sense of who is around and when, especially if an issue comes up and a board member needs to be contacted. P. Schneidereit asked J. Dickins, back in the winter, to create an E.D.'s guidebook to help future Executive Directors quickly adjust and know what to expect. This is in progress and is expected to be completed in July or August.  
Acceptance of report: Moved: P. Schneidereit Seconded: C. Bury PASSED

### **Finance Report**

Administration – Met our fundraising target from the conference. (P. Schneidereit suggested putting percentages in the financial statements). Admin expenses always exceed Admin revenues. Loss is offset by conference and symposium surpluses. The CAJ closed the Halifax conference with a surplus of \$15,000. We saved on travel, printing and tight control of food and beverage. P. Schneidereit said attendance was down in comparison to 2000 in Halifax, but above estimate for this year. J. Dickins suggested we still have expenses to pay. We are projecting \$8800 surplus for the fall National Writers' Symposium.

Award expenses - \$1209 surplus. Lower than usual, however bigger groups won awards and therefore more plaques were required at \$30 apiece. R. Boomer said we should increase the fees for group award winners. P. Schneidereit agreed to task award committee to look at that.

P. Schneidereit wanted to know about the monthly cash flow. As a result J. Dickins took the actual cash at month's end and put it into a spread sheet so the board can see which months are tight financially. This was done for this year, to date and also for 2005. Summer is the tightest because it's also the lowest in terms of membership renewals and some expenses may have to be pre-paid before reimbursement comes back to the CAJ. P. Schneidereit said the operational expenses continue but the revenue stops temporarily, resulting in the fluctuation of cash flow. H. Rodrigues would like to end the year with a larger surplus as a safety net. J. Dickins suggested this is always the goal.

In further discussion P. Schneidereit suggested looking at when other organizations are having their conferences so we can maximize our delegate numbers at our conferences. P. Schneidereit said that J. Dickins approached the U.S. Embassy about funding and they covered travel costs for two speakers from anywhere in the U.S. to come up for Halifax conference, which represented some cost saving. J. Dickins will approach various consulates to fund their country's speakers for the Global Investigative Journalism Conference.

Acceptance of report: Moved: P. Schneidereit Seconded: K. Diotte PASSED

5 min. break

### **Writers' Symposium**

Edmonton - National Writer's Symposium. K. Diotte looking for input on speakers and keynote's who may be of interest to a large audience. Names to be sent to K. Diotte. The NWS is booked for October 28-29 at the Coast Hotel in Edmonton. This is a downtown hotel location and we have secured rooms at a rate of \$99 per night.

### **CAJ/IRE Workshop 2006** - J. Fowler

J. Dickins said we have done a few CAJ/IRE workshops designed to bring investigative journalists from the U.S. and Canada to get together and attend workshops on issues of importance to both sets of journalists. There have been low numbers from the U.S. We would not be able to get IRE on board for 2006 due to the short time frame. Perhaps we could look at it in 2007. P. Schneidereit said we need a mutually beneficial location

along the border. C. Bury said perhaps we do not need to be locked in to a yearly workshop.

### **Global Investigative Journalism Conference**

J. Dickins said we got a contribution from CBC of \$50,000. A priority right now is on fundraising during the summer and early fall and seeing what types of grants are available through CIDA to bring in speakers and some delegates from other areas of the world. This the first time this event has been held outside of Europe. On a question of how many languages would be translated J. Dickins responded that there is a general consensus that most journalists in Europe speak English and we would not want to have too many interpreters, only key languages. M.A. Welch asked if there might be any problems with work visas from middle-eastern countries. J. Risdon said should there be concern about added security pending the terrorism situation lately.

### **Location of 2007, 2008 NWS, Spring Conference 2009**

J. Risdon said chapter in New Brunswick would be very enthusiastic to host the fall 2007 NWS. Moncton or Fredericton would be a good location. R. Boomer said perhaps Prince Edward Island would work. J. Risdon said that the travel is the objection for not going.

NWS 2007 in Moncton Moved: J. Risdon Seconded: P. Schneidereit. PASSED

Spring Conference 2008 to be held in Edmonton – K. Diotte said Edmonton has more journalists than Calgary which was an argument for holding it in Edmonton.

Moved: R. Frank, Seconded: C. Bury PASSED

NWS – Fall 2008 – St. John's

Spring conference 2009 – Vancouver. P. Schneidereit said there is no chapter in British Columbia at present.

M. Welch said there are many young journalists in Yellowknife. P. Schneidereit stated perhaps we could arrange another conference in that location. R. Frank suggested that perhaps we could have a tour arranged for small locations- traveling road show. J. Dickins said it would increase our memberships. J. Dickins to check with IRE on their 'travelling roadshows.'

Motion to accept conference report, Moved: H. Rodrigues, Seconded: P. Schneidereit. PASSED

### **Communications Committee Report – Presented by H. Rodrigues**

Amend Francophone to French speaking in Communications policy final draft. Section (3f) should be amended because it is too impractical. K. Diotte suggested amending section (3f) to read: *The national president or his/her designate should/where appropriate consult with a local chapter prior to issuing a news release concerning a*

*local issue*. After some discussion it was decided to send back to the Communications Committee.

Lunch 12:15 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 2:30 p.m.  
Robert Cribb joined meeting.

### **Advocacy**

R. Cribb - Recommendation: That the CAJ formalize a Canadian Journalism Portal committee with a chair and three members. Moved: R. Cribb, Seconded C. Bury  
UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

R. Cribb offered to chair the committee. Committee to include: M. Welch, R. Frank and R. Boomer.

### **Web Portal**

The website will be bilingual. R. Frank said perhaps source francophone journalists so that it does not become one-sided. R. Cribb said we have to have five questions to start the column. Each person would be responsible to find a question and find a professional journalist to answer the question. R. Cribb said this should happen twice a month at the start.

### **Press Release**

R. Cribb said we should issue a press release on the ongoing difficulties between the media and the federal government, particularly the PMO. R. Cribb said he would start working on it.

Publication ban on preliminary hearing in the case of the 17 ‘terrorism suspects’ involved in court case in Toronto. P. Schneiderei said the CAJ needs to issue a statement about the publication ban. R. Boomer said Canadians need to know why it is important. R. Cribb said this is a precedent-setting case and we will not know anything about what is happening. J. Risdon said it is reasonable to keep this publication specific to this case so that it does not apply to all cases opposing publication bans. J. Risdon said we should issue a press release Sunday afternoon.

Resolution made in Sunday session of board meeting:

It is resolved that CAJ issue a press release raising concerns about the publication bans in the case of the 17 suspects charged under the *Anti-terrorism Act*. UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

### **Policy Paper Initiatives**

M. Welch said separated into three committees R. Boomer doing Advertorial, M. Welch doing FOI and P. Schneiderei doing Editorial Interference from owners/publishers.

Motion to accept Advocacy report Moved: P. Schneiderei Seconded: K. Diotte PASSED

## **Other Business**

### **Ethics Committee**

P. Schneidereit said Ethics Committee is going well and there has been some discussion already.

### **Awards Committee**

J. Dickins said someone brought up an issue saying, “do you allow people to enter the same story in different categories?” Discussion ensued on how the CAJ Awards Entry forms should be reworded. Motion: CAJ Awards entry forms to be reworded to reflect that a broadcast story may only be entered in one broadcast category, radio or TV less than 5 minutes or more than 5 minutes, but not both when it is based on the same body of research and the same reporters and producers were involved in the piece.

Motion moved: K. Diotte Seconded R. Cribb UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

Friendly amendment included in main motion allowing entries in CAR and a broadcast category: Moved: P. Schneidereit. Seconded: J. Risdon UNANIMOUS PASSED

K. Diotte said should there be an online award. Consensus was that not at this time because it would be pretty much for CBC and the Globe and Mail only. Definitely concern still that we would not have sufficient entries.

After discussion about the CAJ awards gala evening and some external award presented it was decided that only CAJ awards only should be presented.

Motion: Only CAJ awards will be awarded at the CAJ Awards unless there is prior approval of the board. Moved: R. Cribb Seconded: H. Rodrigues UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

### **CAJ website discussion**

After some discussion it was decided unanimously that administration of the website and redesign of it should come under the communications committee in consultation with S. Khan for technical expertise. S. Khan agreed. H. Rodrigues representing the Communications Committee agreed. P. Schneidereit said this way there will be a number of people involved to move the website forward. C. Bury stated that the storage of the archives should be put on the website. J. Dickins tasked to move the website to Magma. C. Bury said as soon as we get the move to Magma as a host then we can get the list and add the archives.

Motion: CAJ changes its website provider to Magma pending receipt of a quote to the Executive Director. Moved: P. Schneidereit Seconded: J. Risdon PASSED

New business – P. Schneidereit should online be included in the mission statement?

End of Agenda

Meeting Adjournment 4:40 p.m.

## **Sunday, June 18, 2006**

Meeting convened at 10:10 a.m.

Task List reviewed– completed

### **Membership**

J. Dickins stated that in Ottawa there will be an election in the fall. J. Fowler said P.E.I has lots of events taking place. Montreal is still quiet. J. Fowler said she is still trying to start up in Vancouver and will look at doing this in the fall. R. Cribb said perhaps something should be done about the chapter in Toronto in that they should have more high profile people at events to attract more people in Toronto. J. Risdon said we should look at chapters that do well to see how we can help others to improve. Further discussion took place about the chapters and how to make chapter events more of a draw for more senior journalists in addition to younger journalists.

J. Fowler said that in Calgary they had an event and did well for memberships. J. Fowler said we should come up with a list of things to be done in Toronto. R. Cribb asked if the CAJ could host a mayoral candidate debate. We could get a high profile television journalist to host it. R. Cribb asked whether the CAJ board would be willing to provide funds to rent a hall for a high profile event? K. Diotte said that it would be easier for the pub night. K. Diotte said here is a chance to get journalists to meet each other. K. Diotte said with a mixer you do not have speeches.

Motion to accept the membership report, Moved: K. Diotte Seconded: R. Boomer.  
PASSED

### **CAJEF Report**

There are two issues here according to P. Schneidereit. Structure for membership and then the questions for content, i.e. what we can do. P. Schneidereit said the CAJEF board of directors needs to have a mixture of CAJ members and the CAJEF board needs to set a number of directors and the majority should be CAJ members in order to keep the foundation under the control of the CAJ. P. Schneidereit said we should be directing the Provisional Directors. At least six should be from the CAJ board. P. Schneidereit stated that he has no problem to have nominal memberships.

Motion: Recommend to the provisional board of the foundation that at least 6 of the 10 members be of the current CAJ Board. Moved: P. Schneidereit Seconded: H. Rodrigues  
PASSED one opposed

### **Charitable Foundation**

Article (3) Members of the foundation: P. Schneidereit asked who we would want as members of the foundation. P. Schneidereit said we need to direct the provisional

directors to approach CRA and amend the statement of activity. M. A. Welch questioned how we should we choose the other four members. P. Schneidereit said the interim members can choose the directors. P. Schneidereit said the CAJ board will choose the other four members.

H. Rodrigues said he would be comfortable having the CAJEF interim directors choose the members for the foundation board.

Motion: Recommend to the foundation's provisional board that the membership of the foundation be entirely of CAJ members. Moved: P. Schneidereit Seconded: K. Diotte. PASSED. One opposed.

C. Bury said if we should get a couple members on the board who are from charitable foundations. H. Rodrigues asked about Governor Generals that are previous journalists as members to sit on the board. K. Diotte said the foundation board would have to come up with a good letter to attract the high profile types. K. Diotte said we should have members that have journalistic connections. J. Risdon suggested that we could build more credibility by getting foreign people on the board.

Six members were nominated for consideration by the foundation's provisional board: P. Schneidereit, R. Cribb, M. Welch, C. Bury, J. Fowler, M. MacAfee, M. Brewster, R. Boomer.

C. Bury said perhaps we could establish another group of membership called Governors for high profile support.

### **Objects**

J. Dickins said the objects as written are a broad overview of what the Foundation will undertake.

### **Statement of Activity**

J. Dickins said this is the details of what the Foundation will do, in more specific terms. M.A. Welch asked if we should have something talking about training journalists. J. Risdon asked if the NWS would qualify. J. Dickins said CAJEF could look after paying a portion of J. Dickins salary. P. Schneidereit said we would set up an internship board in relation to the web portal as one of the activities in the statement of activities. We need to formally ask CRA to reword the "mentorship program." R. Boomer asked if advertisement space be donated for a tax receipt. J. Dickins will verify. R. Cribb said the moral courage award has been tied in with the black-tie dinner. C. Bury asked if we could get the CAJ awards considered charitable to be written off. P. Schneidereit said J. Dickins should go through the activities to see which can be changed to charitable activities. C. Bury said we could arrange it that the CAJ has the meetings at the same time as the foundation meetings. R. Cribb said we could have the speaker explaining the story and the award going to the whistleblower in order to have this educationally based.

### **New Business:**

Possible alternatives for board meetings R. Cribb suggested Halifax. Other locations were suggested such as Winnipeg or Toronto. J. Dickins presented some rough cost

estimates comparing Ottawa, Toronto and Halifax. More details are needed. J. Dickins to look into it.

End of Agenda

Meeting Adjourned 1 p.m.

Next Meeting: Teleconference Monday, September 25, 2006