

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF JOURNALISTS  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Via teleconference – December 15, 2011

Present:

Dale Bass

Bill Curry

Paul Schneidereit

Mary Agnes Welch

John Dickins

Absent: Elizabeth Thompson, David Wiwchar, Hugo Rodrigues, Robert Frank

Dale called meeting to order at 8:15

MOTION:

Whereas questions have been raised about board member Robert Frank's eligibility, as outlined in the CAJ bylaws, to be considered a full CAJ member and, therefore, a member of the Montreal chapter executive and member of the CAJ national board of directors;

Whereas a background sheet detailing some of these concerns is attached to this motion;

Be it resolved that Executive Director John Dickins is directed to investigate whether Robert Frank meets the criteria as a full CAJ member, as outlined in CAJ bylaws, doing any research he considers necessary;

Be it further resolved the executive director provide members of the board with a report on his findings no later than Jan. 10, 2011;

Be it further resolved that Robert Frank be extended an opportunity to provide evidence that he meets the criteria to be considered a full CAJ member and, therefore, a member of the Montreal chapter executive and member of the CAJ national board of directors, as outlined in the CAJ bylaws.

Moved by Paul Schneidereit

Seconded by Mary Agnes Welch

Liz had concerns whether Robert qualified as a journalist according to our bylaws. Her understanding was that Robert is pretty much a public affairs officer for the military. She then wrote a statement outlining her concerns. Paul felt board should ask the CAJ's Executive Director to properly investigate these concerns, hence the motion.

Dale asked if anyone was opposed to the motion. No opposition to the motion. No abstentions. MOTION CARRIED.

Deadline is January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011 as per the motion. John Dickins to report to the board on his findings.

Next Item:

Conference. – John stated that it's looking like we will be able to secure the weekend of May 14<sup>th</sup>. Two hotels are in the running right now, and seem to have really good rates. Been playing telephone tag with the hotels and hotel staff on leaves, but expect to hear back very shortly. Paul explained that Toronto will be the super-conference in 2012 which is why Ottawa will have it for 2011.

Committee to be formed to work on the Ottawa conference. So far Dale, Mary Agnes, Paul have indicated a desire to help, as has Bill Curry. Liz Thompson will also seem keen on it according to Bill .

Should be a panel on the Wiki Leaks. Also David McKie will also be doing something for the Ottawa chapter, but could do it for the National Conference. Will also have to decide on the length of the conference. Friday and Saturday or Saturday and Sunday. This will have to be discussed. Keynote will also have to be looked at. Dale has emails of people who are willing to be keynotes. Dale to circulate this list of email addresses.

Given that the NNA's will be happening that weekend, it may be easier for us to get delegates for our conference, and possibly also session presenters.

In the meantime Mary Agnes will try and get a few people she knows in Ottawa to get involved.

The rest of the discussion to take place via email.

J. Dickins outlined that he was in Toronto and met with Marketwire and CNW. The relationship with Marketwire seems to be at an end. CNWGroup are keen on continuing the relationship and will probably contribute more funds, especially related to awards.

Re: the IRE conference in Toronto. Nothing to date has been heard.

Any additional items:

Bill curious about whether or not the Ottawa numbers went up after the fall event.  
John responded he'll have to check it out.

No further items – Meeting adjourned.