

Meeting Minutes – Wed, May 13th, 2020 – 2pm by zoom

Present – Rose Dyson, Lynn McDonald, Donna Curry, Carolyn Edgar, Janet Michaelis, Candy Campbell, Meenakshi Sivanandam, Anne Clark, Charlene Harrington

Chair - Lynn

Note taker - Carolyn

Zoom provided by Candy and an audio of the meeting.

Lynn initiated the meeting and subject that we were celebrating Nightingale 2020 and Nursing Week and all would be giving reports and following the agenda.

Nursing Week discussions

Candy started off by saying that she was called upon to do several Miss Nightingale video presentations that were very successful.

Janet continued and added - Fund Flo's Whistle and the 2 online Nightingale parties that were held on Tues May 12 which included also included Donna - party hats and all -both very successful and promoted Nightingale as a true advocate.

A rep from the Florence Nightingale Museum in London was present at both .Donations were also accepted to a link in the chat room under Go Fund me (though amount collected not known).

Candy dropped in (via zoom) for the 2 sessions and presented in her role as Nightingale herself - inspiring performance.

Carolyn was asked to give an update on Nursing week activities and was able to introduce the success of the web- Nightingale 2020.ca so successful it crashed a few times. Anne continued as Carolyn lost her sound.

Anne commented on posters that had been developed and posted in the community with a picture of Nightingale and relevant data .As well Anne was interviewed by a Toronto Star reporter with a feature article on Nightingale.

Lynn asked Meena new to our group and a young student from Texas if she was involved in any Nursing Week activities and she commented no but was reading and do writings on Nightingale and appreciated her.

Lynn further commented on the British Library Panel discussion held May 12 by zoom about the life and legacy of Nightingale.

The BBC gave coverage -present were Sir David Spiegelhalter, leading Statistician ; Anne Rafferty , President of the Royal College of Nursing and including Lynn McDonald, Editor of the Collected Works of Florence Nightingale. It was hosted by Mark Bostridge, writer and critic - very informative.

Further discussion followed by Lynn on capturing Nightingale in curriculums and presenting a lasting legacy of Nightingale. Janet though did consider that Ohio did recognize Nightingale in the universities. Candy expressed that Nightingale was included in California at her university esp on

Theory, Leadership and Epidemiology and she always gave links to appropriate web sites. Donna as well commented that in Ohio Nightingale was covered in the History of Nursing, Nursing Theory with Nightingale as a model and Research. Lynn commented that in England Nightingale was absent in the universities and at the U of T In Toronto Nightingale was not part of the curriculum as well as in New Zealand.

It is proposed by Lynn in follow up that universities in Toronto area be identified and sought out to include Nightingale in the curriculum.

Racism in Nursing slanted against Nightingale -A discussion proceeded about how Nightingale has been projected as a racist which is far from the truth -this seems to discredit her and is quite a backlash (heated in the UK) -Lynn reported an article from New Zealand Nurses Organization commented that we should not celebrate Nightingale during Nursing Week and were hostile to Nightingale I their writings. Lynn commented that when referring to Nightingale, Seacole is to be referred to as an equal nurse.

Post Nursing Week

Candy due to Covid-19 and the restrictions discussed is producing brief 15/30 second videos describing Nightingale and slogans through her production company and distributing.

Anne continued the discussion and held up a poster celebrating Nightingale during Nursing week. This poster and poster card(smaller version) are to be highlighted in hospitals, LTC and community boards till the end of the year(post Nursing week will be changed to 2020 International Year of the Nurse and Midwife).

Janet reported on Flo's Whistle Platform and the redesign - actually launched yesterday. It includes any frontline nurse and reports on shortages and testing status and is broken down by Congressional district.

It reports in real time however none of the large organizations have picked it up yet. It is just new. Anne asked if the availability of PPE was captured on the reports – yes it does capture that. Janet commented that now we can own our own data.

Rose reported on her commitment with an Anti-Child Exploitation group - She is a member along with 6 others and is very committed to it. There has been an uptake of exploitation during Covid-19.

Donna has recently written an article to the Journal of Pediatric Nursing On Nightingale and Pediatrics .She will also be will be a presenter at a Pediatric Pharmacology Conference the last week of Aug - Donna suggested that she will be using humor in her presentation as the subject can be quite dry-not sure if it will be by zoom or in person.

Most students will be on zoom for the next university year. It was commented how do you teach nursing on line? Good question.

Other Events

- Bruce Weber is holding a Quo Vadis Alumni luncheon in Toronto deferred from June 13 to Sept 12 .Lynn will be speaking on Nightingale .Quo Vadis was a nursing school in the late 60's and early 70's

which accepted only mature students (30 years and up). Through Bruce's commitment Quo Vadis continues as an alumni.

- Nightingale Gala held in Ottawa deferred from May to Oct 1-will be hopeful.
- Candy has events planned i.e. Infusion Nurses group activity is still planned for Las Vegas in Aug.
- Rose commented on how great Candy's performance of Nightingale was.

Nightingale Society

There is a need for a new headquarters to be located in the UK – as is it is in Toronto right now but most of the activities are in the UK .The timing of the move is to be determined -Lynn is quite happy to continue to track and write responses, do articles and expand the membership -will try to make certain joining the Society is clear and the steps visible. Lynn continues to advocate for Nightingale and addresses inaccuracies about Nightingale. A monthly update is sent by the Society.

Next meeting

It was suggested that we meet in Sept most likely by zoom. Carolyn will forward dates and organize the minutes and an agenda.