



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL RETIREES
Vancouver Island North Branch 06
Annual General Meeting – March 14, 2012

Cecile called the meeting to order and called on Margaret Crites to lead us in the singing of O Canada.

She welcomed all of those who are in attendance in spite of the weather. She thanked Barb and Laurie for their preparations for the meeting, John MacLean for coming to the Island on such a windy day and the finance review committee for their help.

Bill pointed out an error in the December general minutes where it should read “if dues are not paid by the end of April, then membership is cancelled”. It was moved by Paddy and seconded by Deborah that the minutes be accepted amended. Carried.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Kathi explained that at the end of each fiscal year we call upon a Financial Review Committee to go over our finances. The Committee, consisting of John Renaud and Dave Shewchuk, met with her in February to review the numbers for last year. She then called on John Renaud to present their findings. John came forward and said that all went well. He affirmed that everything is in good order. Kathi then moved that the Audited Financial statements for the year ending 2011, copies of which are on each table, be accepted by the membership, seconded by Bill Turnbull. The motion carried. She also moved that the year-to-date financial report be accepted, seconded by Ian. The motion carried. In reply to a question from the floor, she said that we have four bank accounts and no carrying charges.

Membership: Steve was away but Kathi reported that we have a membership of 2122 members and spouses.

Newsletter: Kevin was away but Cecile pointed out that on the second page of every newsletter there is a full list of the Board members, their duties, their telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. Should a member need help or information, please refer to that list.

Benefits: As reported in the On Guard, the Supreme Court of Canada reserved its decision in the pension surplus case which started in 1999. The Court will decide if this was a matter of bookkeeping principles or an expropriation of billions of dollars. Bill also said that the National Health Benefits position is vacant again. He mentioned the article in On Guard regarding the argument put forward by the C.D. Howe Institute that the pension fund is underfunded and that the FSNA does not agree with their position. It is felt that they used controversial methodology to come to their conclusion. Bill suggested that we should all read that article to get a better understanding.

Programs: Barb said she was pleased to see so many present. She also said that 160 had booked but that 129 were in attendance – the brave ones. She also reminded everyone that our guest speaker in June is Nick Neslind from Access BC speaking on Seniors Driver Licensing.

Media: John said that the album of pictures was on a table at the door. If anyone wanted copies of them, please list them and they will be ready for the June meeting.

Welfare: Halle said that she had sent out 10 sympathy cards, 3 thinking-of-you cards and 2 get-well cards. She thanked those members who have given her cards as some of these special ones are hard to find.

Telephone: Paddy thanked the phoners, saying that they call over 1000 people for each meeting. She said that some changes had been made to the list. They went over the records for the last three years and the new lists contain the names of those who have attended at least once in that period.

History: Frank said that he had nothing to report.

Old Business:

One of our biggest expenses is mailing out the Newsletter. It was again requested that those with e-mail come forward and let us send their copy that way in order to cut down on postal costs. It was also suggested that this was a good way to get important information to the membership.

If dues for 2011 were paid after the end of April in 2011, National Office had already cancelled the membership. They reinstated the membership for 2012 using the late cheque so some are paying twice if they sent dues in again for 2012. If you are not sure if you are paying automatically by Dues Deducted at Source, please call to get that information.

New Business:

The FSNA Annual General Meeting is being held in Edmonton this year – June 27 & 28, 2012.

Tickets for the Christmas meeting will be available for sale at the June and September general meetings. We are limited to 200 members so remember to get your tickets early.

Due to a change in the National by-laws, our next election of officers will take place at the March meeting in 2013.

Al Heinrich of Parksville is the new British Columbia representative on the National Board. John Finn resigned.

There are some Medoc and Affinity program brochures available today.

Cecile introduced our speaker for today. Tom MacLean of Collette Travel, a member of the Affinity program, told us of the types of trips they offer and an outline of the world wide destinations made available to the travelling membership. It was very interesting and he interjected a lot of humor as well. He responded to questions at the end of his presentation and had lots of brochures available for those interested. Cecile thanked him for his lively presentation and thanked Louise of Square I Travel who helped him with his power point presentation.

The first draw was two tickets donated by Bill and Cecile Turnbull from the Camera Club which were won by Teresa Foster and Joan Webber.

The gift certificate donated by Smittys was won by Stan Bass.

The Pot of Gold winners were Clint Halfkenny, Don Ayotte and Paul Lapointe.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dorothy Lind – Secretary

Cecile Turnbull - President