

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL RETIREES Vancouver Island North Branch - BC 06 Executive Meeting - 03 Dec 2013

Bill called the meeting to order.

In attendance were:

Bill Turnbull President Karen Finn Secretary
Cecile Turnbull Past President Serge Gosselin Treasurer

Steve Bunyan Membership John Challender Communications
Clint Halfkenny HBO Marjorie Arnold Director

Norma Dean Telephone Coordinator Dale Dean History

Absent were:

Deborah Yelf Welfare Kevin Weighill Newsletter
Mary Kamann Director Kathi Brown Vice President

The agenda was accepted. Steve moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting; seconded by Cecile. Carried.

Committee Reports

Serge provided financial statements for the period showing a total income of \$27,864.83 and total expenses of \$22,261.09 to 30 Nov 2013. Branch savings and cash accounts totalled \$40,655.74. Serge noted that the apparent year-to-date surplus would be reduced when the Christmas luncheon bill is paid. Marjorie moved that these statements be accepted as presented; seconded by John. Carried.

Steve stated that the Branch membership now numbers 2,209. It was mentioned that the per capita remittance form posted at fsna.com has now been updated to reflect 2014 rates.

With Kevin away, Steve informed the executive that some 932 paper copies of the Newsletter were mailed out with 435 going via e-mail. This represents a savings in printing and postage costs.

Clint reported referring an enquiry re: obtaining military medical records to Veterans' Affairs.

Bill said he had signed the contract for the Christmas luncheon and requested new menus for the March meeting. He suggested that we might want to consider returning to a hot meal for reasons to be covered later.

John reported that dealing with a health issue and plans to travel south for a few months had proven distracting to the point that he had not followed the website issue closely. Bill responded that he would deal with the matter in John's absence.

In Deborah's absence, Bill noted that an "in memoriam" section had been added to the last Newsletter but that the heading had fallen victim to a common misspelling.

Norma reported having only one caller drop off her roster. She will have a meeting of the Telephone Committee at the conclusion of our next executive meeting.

Dale as our new Historian reported having just started to review the document collection. He asked about the camera that he had inherited. Bill replied that it was intended for documenting people and events if Dale chose to do so.

Old Business:

Work on the BC and branch websites is underway. Bill asked Steve about getting his e-mail list so that it could be combined with WMS data and forwarded to the developer. He asked that the fsnacoastal site be brought up-to-date so that the developer could use that as a source for our minutes and newsletters.

Bill reported that he had investigated renting military messes for luncheon meetings and was informed that Ottawa had forbidden such use some years ago. He was told there was no point in approaching the Wing Commander.

Bill noted that totes could be obtained from the Food Bank to hold donations collected at the Christmas luncheon and that he would see about getting some.

Those who attended the COSCO BC Leadership Seminar on 13-14 Nov found it generally good but more focussed on leadership training than recruiting and retention.

New Business:

Serge will make sure that we have 50/50 tickets for the next luncheon. Marjorie will sell 50/50 tickets and Mary will look after the Food Bank. Donors will receive draw tickets with the prize being a \$50 gift certificate to the Toscano's restaurant in Comox. Norma suggested that 50/50 proceeds be donated to *Care-a-Van* which is a mobile clinic, staffed by volunteers, which provides medical care to the homeless. The Board agreed and Norma said she would investigate the procedure for making a donation.

New Volunteer – at our next meeting, we will be welcoming Vivian Lochridge to the executive.

Non-Profit Status – Bill drew attention to the article on non-profit status included with the most recent *Bulletin to Branches*. The article suggested that holding money in long-term investments might be interpreted as a for-profit objective. The smaller of our two GICs can be converted into something short term before 15 Mar 2014. Converting the larger GIC will presumably have to await its reaching maturity.

Bill asked whether the Board wanted to hold any elections at the Christmas meeting. There was general agreement that this could wait until the AGM in March.

Bill reported that John Finn had met with MP John Duncan on 14 Nov 2013. They discussed the issues of the PSHCP, military SDB and treatment of Veterans. John Duncan apparently expressed a wish to speak at an FSNA meeting. His staff subsequently identified the March meeting as the most feasible. Len Paisley, previously scheduled to speak at that meeting, graciously agreed to step aside but to serve as a backup in the event that Duncan is obliged to cancel. He expressed an interest in attending the meeting and so Bill invited him as a guest.

Because so many Board members will be away in January, it was decided to cancel that meeting. Marjorie said she would advise the Comox Legion.

The next executive meeting will be 4 February 2014.

The meeting adjourned at 14:30.

Karen Finn – Secretary

Bill Turnbull – President