



National Association of Federal Retirees  
Vancouver Island North - Branch 06  
Executive Meeting  
07 October 2014 - Comox Legion

Bill called the meeting to order at 1300 hours.

**Present:**

Bill Turnbull – President  
Kathi Brown – Vice President  
Serge Gosselin – Treasurer  
Edith Kelly – Secretary  
Cecile Turnbull – Past President & RSO

Steve Bunyan – Membership  
Clint Halfkenny – HBO  
Kevin Weighill – Newsletter  
Marjorie Arnold – Director

**Absent:**

Deb Yelf – Welfare  
Norma Dean – Telephone Coordinator  
Dale Dean – History

Mary Kamann – Director  
Karen Finn – Director

The meeting agenda was accepted. Kevin observed that Aji Fliss' name had been misspelled in the 2 September minutes. Clint moved that the minutes of the meeting be approved as amended; seconded by Cecile. Carried.

**Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer:** Serge reported that as of 30 September 2014, the branch savings and cash accounts totalled \$44,933.73. Income for the period 01 January to 30 September 2014 was \$23,348.64 and expenses were \$17,030.40, resulting in a surplus of \$6,318.24. Serge moved that the financial statements be accepted as presented; seconded by Kevin. Carried.

**Membership:** Steve reported that there are 679 Single Memberships and 748 Double Memberships for a total of 2,175 members, down 12 from our last meeting. Steve advised he should be receiving the membership cards for those who paid their dues by cash in the near future.

We anticipate a membership drive this year which should bring in some new members. Marjorie suggested looking into having information tables at REXPO and EXPO. REXPO is at the Base, usually in September. EXPO this year is being held at the Comox Rec Centre on 26 October from 1100 to 1600 hours.

Bill raised the issue of membership categories being changed from double to single on the death of a spouse. Can we do it or does it have to be done at National Office? Steve felt that it could possibly be done here but, if the member is on DDS, he usually asks National Office to make the change. Steve is checking into a few recent cases where the category has not been changed.

**Newsletter:** To hopefully increase Christmas Luncheon ticket sales, it was felt that the newsletter should be released earlier. That means advancing the deadline for inputs to Kevin to 4 November, allowing the newsletter to be sent to members by 15 November. Deb will be asked to provide the names of all those who have passed away this year. Bill will again send out an e-mail notification.

**Benefits:** Clint advised that he had provided a lady with the forms she needed to claim her costs for an eye test. Bill had a call from the Pension office in Shediak concerning a widow who was having a hard time with the forms they had sent her. Although her husband was not a member of FSNA, Bill was able to help her. He thought it interesting that the pension office had turned to us.

**Programs:** The head count discrepancy at the last GM was due mainly to the fact that the number of telephoners planning to attend had not been included in the total. In future, the hotel wants a week's notice of the count. This means making the telephone calls a little earlier.

**Communications:** Bill and Kathi will be doing a SCAN presentation tomorrow at the Base and will hand out information packages. This presentation is addressing future military retirees. There will be one for civilians in March 2015.

Before the last GM, Bill sent out 621 e-mail notifications. Just over 200 recipients actually opened their messages, so even e-mails have their limitations. Some people did think it was a great way to stay in touch as they do a lot of travelling.

**Welfare:** Deb reported via Bill that four members had passed away since the last meeting. A thank you card was received from the LeFort family who recently lost their son.

**Telephone:** New telephone lists need to be made up. Cecile has some input to help revise the lists. She has also been recruiting some new, younger phoners. She suggested that they have another meeting with the phoners early in the new year. It may be that some of them may have not been passing on all the information they should or may have not been getting the necessary information to pass on.

**History:** Dale is away.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Karen Finn / Signing Authority.** Karen Finn has resigned from the executive which leaves another vacancy. Bill proposed that Edith replace Karen as a signing authority. Kevin moved that Bill, Kathi, Serge and Edith have signing authority; seconded by Steve. Carried.

**Terms of Office.** Bill passed out a list of the Executive members showing that nine positions will come up for election at the AGM in March 2015, including those of President, Secretary, Communications, HBO and Welfare. Cecile has volunteered to act as Nominations Chair for the elections.

Cecile will look into obtaining a Certificate of Appreciation or pin for Mary Kamann to recognize her many years of service on the executive. The Association is going to start recognizing volunteers with a pin showing their number of years of service.

**BC Regional Meeting in Chilliwack.** Bill and Steve will represent the Branch at the meeting. Cecile will attend as RSO.

**Christmas Luncheon.** To date only 100 tickets have been sold. The approved 2014 budget allocated \$500 for gifts and prizes. Anyone bringing a donation for the Food Bank will receive a ticket for a gift certificate draw.

**Sage Magazine.** Kevin is annoyed that the information he sent in for the latest edition did not get printed. He will send in submissions for the December issue to include announcements, nominations and deaths. Kevin will contact Deb for a list of names for the Memoriam Notices section.

**Remembrance Day Wreaths.** Marjorie will order a wreath for Comox, Serge or Edith for Courtenay and Cumberland and Kevin for Campbell River. Each wreath will cost around \$45.00.

**Branch By-Law Template.** The proposed by-law template was reviewed and there was no serious objection to most of the template wording. We need to add our Area of Jurisdiction and specify the rules governing our Executive meetings. Those directors present preferred being referred to as the Executive vice Board. No one saw a need to limit years of service as the template suggests.

**March 11<sup>th</sup> General Meeting.** The guest speaker will be Len Paisley, a financial advisor, who will talk about wills and estate planning in light of fairly recent changes to BC legislation.

**Announcements:** Next Executive Meeting – 4 November 2014

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 1410 hours.

*Edith Kelly, Secretary*

*Bill Turnbull, President*