



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

Bill called the meeting to order at 1305 hours.

**Present:**

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

Steve Bunyan - Membership  
Dale Dean - History  
Kevin Weighill - Newsletter  
Deb Yelf - Welfare  
Norma Dean – Telephone Coordinator  
Marjorie Arnold - Director

**Absent:**

Mary Kamann – Director

**Guest:** Thomasine Lick who is considering seeking a director position.

The meeting agenda was accepted. Kevin moved that the minutes of the meeting be approved; seconded by Norma. Carried.

**Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer:** Serge reported that as of 30 November 2014, the branch savings and cash accounts totalled \$47,013.31. Income for the period 01 January to 30 November 2014 was \$26,803.81 and expenses were \$18,684.42, resulting in a surplus of \$8,119.39. Serge moved that the financial statements be accepted as presented; seconded by Deb. Carried.

**Membership:** Steve reported that there are 680 Single Memberships and 749 Double Memberships for a total of 2,178 members, down 7 from the last meeting. The new membership cards will be coming from National Office. Steve wondered about mailing out receipts. It was agreed that people who pay by cash will receive a receipt as the receipt book becomes our record. Those who write cheques can use their cancelled cheques as proof of payment.

**Newsletter:** Bill reported he had sent 800 copies electronically through the website. Of those, 130 addresses didn't work and only 220 had been opened. Steve reported that he finally got online with Canada Post and discovered that, for some reason he couldn't explain, what we pay for bulk mailing the newsletters has dropped to \$0.48 per letter.

**Benefits:** Clint had received several calls regarding PSHCP coverage and was able to provide the information requested. Clint suggested sending the Bulletin to Branches to all of our members as they often contain useful information. Bill will send future bulletins to all members for whom we have e-mail addresses.

**Programs:** To date 154 Christmas tickets have been sold. Bill will contact the hotel Acting Director of Sales to confirm that our luncheon dates for 2015 are booked and to tentatively book dates for 2016.

**Communications:** Bill noted that the communications director would be expected to put notices in local newspapers although the Record now only offers an online events calendar. Cecile suggested that the Programs Director could also handle ads, at least for the luncheons.

**Welfare:** Deb reported that we had lost six members in the past month.

**Telephone:** Norma said that, at the next telephoners' meeting, they will be doing some brainstorming on what information needs to be given to members. Marjorie noted that when the callers leave a message, they also need to leave a call back number where they can be reached, especially if they are calling from an unlisted number.

**History:** Nil report.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sun Life Webinar.** Sun Life will be conducting a webinar, primarily for HBOs, on 13 January 2015 at 10:00 a.m. PST. Norma, Deb and Kevin expressed interest and so Bill will forward the e-mail notice to them. It gives a web address where they can complete a survey indicating their interest. That is probably how they will receive instructions on how to participate.

#### **Christmas Luncheon.**

- The prizes have been bought and wrapped. Steve will hand them out. There will also be a raffle at each table.
- Norma and Deb will welcome people at the door and look after the tickets awaiting pick up.
- Food Bank donations – Serge will collect and deliver to the Food Bank.
- Everyone who donates will get a ticket on a draw for a \$50 White Spot gift certificate.
- The Branch share of all 50/50 money collected during 2014 will be donated to the Food Bank.
- Arrangements for the 2015 Christmas luncheon will be left as is. Tickets will go on sale in June. After the September luncheon, Executive members will be asked to make calls to the people who purchased tickets this year, reminding them of the Christmas luncheon. Cecile has a list of the names.

**Mary Kamann Recognition.** Mary first joined the executive in 1996 but has been unable to attend most meetings this year. She will attend the luncheon with her daughter Charlene and be presented with a framed scroll. Cecile moved that we purchase a bouquet of flowers for Mary; seconded by Dale. Carried.

**Advocacy Committee.** Nanaimo already has a committee of four people and it is possible that Victoria also has one. We have a number of members who regularly attend meetings and who are very knowledgeable and active in political affairs. They could be asked at the next General Meeting or on the website to be part of a small committee who would put their heads together and handle advocacy matters. In compliance with our by-laws, the committee would include an executive member. There are some guidelines and a promise of some help from the National office. The Ottawa branch is quite concerned with the possibility of an early election, maybe as early as March 2015. Cecile noted that to get members interested and possibly more active in the leadership of their branches, the Association suggests forming small committees from the general membership for special projects.

**By-Laws.** Bill reported that the feedback on the revised by-laws has been positive. There was a discussion regarding Article 6.7, the removal from office if an executive member misses three meetings without a reasonable explanation. It was decided to retain that provision. A Notice of Motion will be tabled at the 10 December 2014 General Meeting indicating our intent to present the revised set of by-laws at the Annual Members' Meeting in March 2015. A copy of the new by-laws will be sent out with the newsletter in advance of the meeting.

#### **Announcements:**

Cecile reminded the executive members they should have their budget items ready for the January meeting. Bill noted that the Association lawyers are looking into taking legal action over the health plan changes.

#### **Next Executive Meeting – 6 January 2015**

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 1415 hours.

*Edith Kelly, Secretary*

*Bill Turnbull, President*