



National Association of Federal Retirees
North Island – John Finn Branch (BC06)
Executive Meeting
01 September 2015 - Comox Legion

Bill called the meeting to order at 1300 hours.

Present:

Bill Turnbull - President	Steve Bunyan - Membership
Kathi Brown - Vice President	Dale Dean - History
Serge Gosselin - Treasurer	Kevin Weighill - Newsletter
Edith Kelly - Secretary	Clint Halfkenny – HBO
Cecile Turnbull – Programs	Norma Dean – Telephone Coordinator
Marjorie Arnold – Director	

Absent: Deb Yelf - Welfare

M/S the amended meeting agenda and minutes of the 2 June 2015 meeting be approved. Carried.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Serge reported that as of 31 August 2015, the branch savings and cash accounts totalled \$48,300.93. Income for the period 01 January to 31 August 2015 was \$17,345.62 and expenses were \$11,892.04, resulting in a surplus of \$5,453.58. Serge moved that the financial statements be accepted as presented; seconded by Cecile. Carried.

Membership: Steve reported that our membership count stands at 687 single and 745 double memberships for a total of 2177. He hopes to have an updated total for the meeting on the 9th. With the new CRM system, we are now able to transfer people from our branch to another. Cecile suggested notifying the gaining branch of any incoming transfers.

Newsletter: Kevin and Steve reported that the latest newsletter was mailed to 688 local members plus one in New Zealand and was e-mailed it to an additional 686 members. Three people commented that they liked the new format. It was suggested that if we are able to reduce the number of mailed copies, we might be able to afford having the newsletter printed in color. The cost is almost double. Kevin will investigate further. Kevin is also preparing the input for the winter issue of SAGE magazine.

Benefits: Things have been quiet over the summer.

Programs: Cecile signed the contract with the Westerly for the 9 September luncheon. The cost remains at \$17.00. Cecile will pick up a door prize for next week's luncheon. Christmas tickets are available at \$20.00.

Communications: Of the 686 newsletters sent by e-mail only two bounced and one failed e-mail address has already been updated. National Office is just about ready to launch a new website, www.federalretirees.ca.

Welfare: Deb was not at the meeting due to the recent passing of her father.

Telephone: Norma reported that seven telephoners are away. Steve, Bill and Cecile offered to help make calls.

History: Dale continues to work on it. Bill gave our new Charter document to Dale for safe-keeping.

NEW BUSINESS:

September General Meeting Assignments.	Kathi - Cash	Norma – Attendance
	Marjorie – 50/50	Xmas tickets – Cecile

2016 General Meetings. Kevin will forward the dates of the March and June 2016 luncheon meetings for inclusion in SAGE magazine. Moved by Kevin, seconded by Steve that the March, June and September 2016 luncheon costs remain at \$17.00. Carried.

Vulnerable Sector Checks. Even though the resolution was defeated at the AMM, Bill will send his, Kathi's, Clint's and Steve's paperwork to Ottawa.

Summer Volunteer Appreciation BBQ. There were 20 volunteers at the BBQ. They had a great time despite the weather. Cecile and Norma will look into other venues or ways of showing appreciation to the executive members and other volunteers.

Volunteer Pins. These pins are not retroactive as earlier retiring volunteers were presented with a certificate. There is a General pin for anyone with less than 5 years as a volunteer. Then there are pins showing the number of years, in five year increments, starting at five years. The telephoners will receive a General pin as many did not know how long they had been volunteering. The pins will be handed out at the September luncheon meeting.

Name Tags. The new Executive name tags will be on a white background with navy blue lettering. The executive members let Cecile know the means of attachment they desired, either a pin or a magnet.

Sitecore. Any branch can have a presence on the www.federalretirees.ca website at no cost to the branch. We can build web pages there which would give us something else to maintain but we do need to be present. Later, we will have to decide whether to keep two websites going, the national one and the Victoria one currently used. We don't know at this time if we will be able to do our mass mailings through the national site.

Summary of 27 July Meeting. The meeting was held on 27 July in Duncan, hosted by Tony Dambruskus, our RSO, and Bob Willis, our PAO, and Al Heinrich on behalf of the District Directors. Points of discussion:

- Little information has been received about the AMM, so Presidents are requesting that National Office get the information out faster. They would also like the Board to be more open in all areas and send out information in a more timely manner.
- David Stinson advised that a resolution will be submitted next year requesting that all Board policies be available to Branch Presidents. He also advised that branches are not obliged to use the CRM Branch Ledger system and most said they are staying with their present system of accounting.
- Missing from the President's Forum agenda at the AMM was information on the vulnerable screening and strategic planning proposals. As a result these were defeated at the AMM.
- BC05 membership questionnaire results were handed out and discussed. Jim Cotter gave a presentation on the simple format they have used for years at meetings with incumbents for election.
- Victoria Branch has been chosen to host one of the town hall 'All Candidates' meetings. There was going to be a town hall meeting in Nanaimo, involving North Island, Nanaimo and Duncan branches, but it has been cancelled due to the death of the organizer, Ray Lauzier.
- Communications in our district are quite good among branches and with our National Directors. With National Office and the Board, they are perhaps not so good.

Elections 2015. The National Office would like the Branches to arrange 'All Candidate' meetings. After much discussion, it was decided that our Branch will not run any town hall meetings. Bill will write a generic letter to all the candidates asking for their Party's stand on pensions, veterans and health care. Any replies will be published to our members through the website.

Announcements: None.

Next Executive Meeting – 6 October 2015

Adjournment. Moved by Kathi; seconded by Edith that the meeting adjourn at 1410 hours. Carried.

Edith Kelly, Secretary

Bill Turnbull, President