



National Association
of Federal Retirees
Association nationale
des retraités fédéraux

NORTH ISLAND - JOHN FINN

National Association of Federal Retirees
North Island – John Finn Branch (BC06)
General Meeting
Westerly Hotel – 13 December 2017

The meeting was called to order at 1300 hours by President Bill Turnbull.

Margaret Crites led the singing of O Canada.

Bill welcomed everyone to the lunch and thanked them for their donations to the Food Bank.

AGENDA AND MINUTES:

The meeting agenda and minutes of the 13 September 2017 General Meeting were accepted as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Serge reported that as of 30 November 2017, the branch savings and cash accounts totaled \$56,764.22. Income for the period 01 January to 30 November 2017 was \$15,771.91 and expenses were \$6,486.47, resulting in a surplus of \$9,285.44. Serge moved that the financial statement be accepted as presented; seconded by John Renaud. Carried.

At the September meeting, the membership voted not to contribute to the National Defense of Benefits Fund until we were notified on how National Office intended to use it. A few days following the meeting, Bill received a message from National Office saying not to worry about sending money.

Membership: Steve Bunyan reported that we have a total of 2170 memberships, approximately 1/3 of them are doubles and 1/3 are singles. When going through the National Office data base he discovered a number of people he wasn't aware of.

For members who pay their dues by cash or cheque, National Office has started advising them, by e-mail or regular mail, that their memberships will expire in three months.

Benefits: Clint had to leave early, but told Bill he had nothing to report.

Newsletter: Kevin said the latest newsletter is out and he hoped everyone enjoyed it. The latest Sage magazine is also out and did contain our Branch notifications. Notices for the next Sage edition have already been submitted.

Programs: Cecile thanked the staff for the tremendous amount of work they did when the power went out earlier in the day. They managed to cook the meal using flashlights to see by, put out candles and lights to set up the dining room and were also available to help members climb the steps to the second floor. Fortunately, not much later, the lights came on and the meal was served on time. Cecile thought they had gone "above and beyond". She thanked those present for coming to the luncheon/meeting.

Communications: Bill said he would be taking some pictures and posting them on our website.

Welfare: Bill spoke for Deb who advised that we have lost 11 members since the September meeting.

Telephone: Norma Dean was pleased to see the great turnout for the luncheon and meeting. She plans to be in touch with the phoners by the end of January.

BUSINESS:

Nominations for 2018 Board of Director Elections. Bill is looking for nominations to fill the following Board of Director positions: Vice President, Treasurer, Membership, Newsletter Editor, Telephone Coordinator and two Director at Large positions. While some Board members plan to run again, Kathi Brown, our current Vice President, would like to retire.

Change of March and September General Meeting dates. It was noted there have been fewer members at the March and September meetings. Some of our members do not return from their winter travels until later in March and others take summer holidays which last until later in September. Starting next year, the March meeting has been moved to Wednesday, 28 March and the September meeting to Wednesday, 19 September.

Pension Indexing. The pension indexing for 2018 has been announced as 1.6% effective the 1st of January.

Bill C-27. It is still around; however, the Ethics Commissioner is looking into a possible conflict of interest. The federal finance minister's family has a business which could benefit from passage of the bill. Members can still go to www.federalretirees.ca and express their concerns.

Veterans' Town Hall Meeting. There were 60-65 veterans in attendance at the meeting on November 1st. Most of the complaints came from the older RCMP veterans who felt they weren't getting any support. The intent of these meetings was to gather testimonials from veterans, compile a report and try to convene a meeting to present their findings to the ministers of the affected departments. It is still a work in progress.

Bill suggested that if anyone knows any currently serving personnel, to advise them to get and keep copies of their records, especially medical records. Their personnel files could be stripped at some time in the future and important information could be lost.

Cecile thanked Ian Sibbald for suggesting we acquire a stand for the Canadian flag.

Santa arrived and handed out presents to 50 lucky members and Santa wasn't forgotten as Cecile had a special present for him.

The winner of the Food Bank draw was Paul Beaulieu.

The winner of the Door Prize gift basket and poinsettia was Maryanne Sohm.

There were three 50/50 draw winners: Terry Hluska, Kyle Jones and Sylvia Jarrett.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 1355 hours.

Edith Kelly, Secretary

Bill Turnbull, President