



National Association of Federal Retirees  
North Island – John Finn Branch (BC06)  
Executive Meeting  
7 March 2017 – Comox Legion

NORTH ISLAND – JOHN FINN

Bill called the meeting to order at 1000 hours.

**Present:**

Bill Turnbull - President  
Kathi Brown - Vice President  
Steve Bunyan - Membership  
Edith Kelly - Secretary  
Marjorie Arnold – Director

Cecile Turnbull – Programs  
Norma Dean – Telephone Coordinator  
Clint Halfkenny - Benefits  
Deb Yelf - Welfare

**Absent:**

Serge Gosselin - Treasurer  
Kevin Weighill - Newsletter

Dale Dean - Historian

The agenda was approved with two additions. Norma noted that six telephoners had quit, not four as was reported in the February minutes. It was moved by Cecile; seconded by Kathi that the amended minutes be approved. Carried.

**Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer:** Serge was absent but submitted a report that as of 7 March 2017, the branch savings and cash accounts totaled \$54,235.34. Income for the period 01 January to 7 March 2017 was \$6,837.11 and expenses were \$80.55, resulting in a surplus of \$6,756.56. Moved by Bill; seconded by Norma that the financial statement be accepted as presented. Carried.

**Membership:** Steve reported that there are 716 single and 719 double memberships for a total of 2154 members. CRM shows we have 2172 members. Steve is still trying to determine why there is a discrepancy. After three notifications, Steve will cancel 21 inactive memberships, and he has just sent out a first notification to 22 others. Steve will remind Serge about Tom Dandeno's honorary membership dues. Members who are contemplating cancelling their memberships are reminded that MEDOC would still be available to them, but at a higher cost.

**Newsletter:** There was nothing in the Spring Sage magazine about our March meeting. Kevin will send in the luncheon information for the June and September issues. As there has been some confusion about the guest speakers, he will advise members to check for this information in our newsletters which come out closer to the meeting date.

**Benefits:** Clint was contacted by a widow who hadn't received the \$5,000 SDB benefit, following her husband's death. He provided her with a telephone number to contact someone for help. Cecile noted that some people don't understand the paperwork that has to be submitted. It should also be stressed that copies should be made of everything that is sent in and a record of any phone calls should also kept.

**Programs:** A \$50 gift certificate from Avenue Bistro has been purchased for the AGM. Wendy Johnstone from Keystone Elder Solutions will be the June guest speaker, the Wing Commander for the September meeting and a representative from the RCMP at next March's meeting. Bill will write the Wing Commander and bring him up to speed on what the Federal Retirees Association is all about.

**Communications:** Bill reported that once again there were problems when sending out the newsletter electronically. He did manage to send 715 copies and know that 60% were opened. Steve mailed another 638 hard copies. There were no problems with electronically sending the luncheon invitations. There has still been no word from Ottawa on their e-mail application to use CRM.

**Welfare:** Deb reported that since February we have lost three members, another one is in hospital and one is recovering at home. Deb plans to visit members in hospital and take them a card and some flowers to cheer them up. Bill mentioned that National Office suggests persons making visitations have a Vulnerable Sector Check done by the RCMP.

**Telephone:** Norma reported that so far only 84 members have signed up to attend the luncheon, considerably fewer than last March's 118. Cecile suggested that wine and cheese parties be held twice a year, one for any new members who joined between January and June and the second for those who joined between July and December. We could emphasize the benefits of belonging and possibly pick up a few volunteers.

**History:** Dale is still undergoing treatment. He would like to know how much of the paperwork he holds is still relevant and should be saved. Bill suggested that he should definitely save any meeting minutes but saw no reason to hold paper copies of material archived online.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Regional Meeting 24 – 26 May 2017.** Kathi, Steve and Serge will attend. Their hotel, meals and ferry fare will be paid, but they can only claim for one vehicle. Bill will let Julie Spencer know the names of our attendees.

**Bill C-27.** Bill has a meeting scheduled with Rachel Blaney in her Campbell River office on 15 March to talk about Bill C-27.

#### **AGM.**

- Duty Roster for AGM:
  - Check in – Norma
  - Cash - Kathi
  - 50/50 – Marjorie
  - Financials – Serge
- Elections. Kathi will run the elections for a President, Secretary, Health Benefits Officer, Programs Director, Welfare Director, Communications Director and three Directors at Large, two of them currently vacant positions.
- By-law Revisions. Must be approved at the AGM and then forwarded to National Office for their approval.
- Financial Reports. The 2016 financial review has been done and signed by John Renaud and Dave Shewchuck. The 2015 financial report, submitted with the 9 March 2016 minutes, will be revised to include the interest received for the GICs. It must be approved and reported in the AGM minutes. The Serge will contact John Renaud and Dave Shewchuck about conducting the 2016 financial review.

**Stipend for Comox Legion:** As the Comox Legion hall has been used for our executive meetings for many years, it was moved by Marjorie, seconded by Kathi that a \$500 donation made in lieu of rent. Carried. The 2017 budget will be amended to include this amount as office rental.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Volunteers.** Bill will contact the branch in Nanaimo to try to find out their secret for recruiting volunteers.

**Gaming License.** The gaming license has been renewed for another year.

**Drivers – Luncheons.** Norma will ask at the AGM if there are any members willing to pick up members in their area that don't have a ride but would like to attend the luncheons.

#### **Next Executive Meeting – 3 April 2017**

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 1400 hours.

*Edith Kelly, Secretary*

*Bill Turnbull, President*