



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)
Executive Meeting
4 April 2017 – Comox Legion

Bill called the meeting to order at 1300 hours.

Present:

Bill Turnbull - President	Cecile Turnbull – Programs
Kathi Brown - Vice President	Norma Dean – Telephone Coordinator
Serge Gosselin - Treasurer	Clint Halfkenny - Benefits
Dale Dean - History	Deb Yelf - Welfare
Edith Kelly - Secretary	Nancy Bennett - Director

Absent:

Kevin Weighill - Newsletter	Steve Bunyan – Membership
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There were several guests: Charles McMurdo, Dave Bell and Terry and Roberta Hluska from Campbell River. Also present was Comox Legion President, Rod Bell-Irving. The guests introduced themselves and gave a brief rundown of their careers.

The Executive also introduced themselves and welcomed the visitors.

The agenda was approved and Cecile moved that the 7 March 2017 minutes be approved as read; seconded by Deb. Carried.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Serge reported that as of 31 March 2017, the branch savings and cash accounts totaled \$52,959.22. Income for the period 01 January to 31 March 2017 was \$7,018.63 and expenses were \$1,538.19, resulting in a surplus of \$5,480.44. Serge noted that we still owe National Office our 1st quarter remittance which will decrease the surplus by almost half. Serge moved that the financial statement be accepted as presented; seconded by Cecile. Carried.

Membership: Steve was absent.

Newsletter: Kevin was absent.

Benefits: Clint reported everything has been quiet.

Programs: Cecile reported that the March luncheon went very well and there were no complaints about the price increase or the food. The cost and whether or not to sell tickets for the December luncheon will be discussed under new business.

Cecile suggested having a Canada 150 birthday theme with some appropriate table decorations for the June luncheon. It will be a summer BBQ with hamburgers and chicken burgers, several types of buns, several salads and fruit for dessert. Cecile has heard from Wendy Johnstone from Keystone Elder Solutions that she will be the guest speaker.

Communications: Bill reported that our website is up-to-date. Both the March executive and AGM minutes are posted, along with photos from the AGM.

Welfare: Deb reported we have lost three active members since the last meeting. She received a 'thank you' note from Isabelle Berry on behalf of her twin sister, Iris Nobbs. Deb had taken flowers and a card to Iris when she was admitted to the hospital.

Telephone: Norma had nothing to report.

History: Dale had nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Grant to Legion. Bill presented a cheque for \$500 to Rod Bell-Irving, in lieu of rent as the Legion has for years allowed us to use their upper hall to hold our executive meetings. Rod thanked Bill and noted that both the Legion and the Federal Retirees organizations have common goals, the engagement and support of veterans.

Bill C-27. Bill met with Rachel Blaney, MP for the North Island riding and the NDP's Seniors Critic. She is tuned in to pension issues as well as other matters of concern to us. This generally falls under the umbrella of income and health care security in

retirement which affect all seniors, not just our retirees. She is on board with our Association and said she will make sure the Association is on the list of participants whenever Bill C-27 comes up for committee discussion. This could be helpful in making sure we get in the committee door to have our say. Ms Blaney is also the NDP back-up critic for defence.

Bill also sent a letter to Gord Johns, MP for the Courtenay-Alberni region, but only received an automated response. Presumably, he is letting MP Blaney carry the ball as pensions fall into her specialty area.

The March 2017 Bulletin to Branches has an update on the Bill C-27 legal battle which should go in front of a judge later this month, although a ruling probably won't be heard until much later.

2016 Financial Reporting. Copies of our 2016 financial review documents, our 2016 account data and a Representation Letter, signed by Bill and Serge, have been forwarded to the National Office in Ottawa.

2017 By-Laws. The Board altered section 9.6 of the Branch By-Laws to permit changes to allocated reserves at other than an AGM. That allowed us to reduce the size of our unallocated reserves before the end of 2016. However, it was also necessary to have the by-law amendments approved at our AGM in March and then by Ottawa. The revised by-laws have been sent to the National Board and approval is expected at their June meeting - sooner if they have a teleconference meeting before then.

NEW BUSINESS:

Weeding of Call Lists. Terry Hluska reported on the way he handles his call lists. He proposed conducting a telephone survey to identify those members who want to be called about meetings, those who will accept an e-mail invitation and those who aren't interested and don't want to be contacted at all. Cecile suggested that, at the same time, we could determine who have computers, their e-mail addresses if they do, and if they are interested in receiving electronic notifications and newsletters. Terry will provide a sample questionnaire. Norma will see how many of her telephoners are willing to help. Bill said he thought that, with the executive also pitching in, contacting the some 1500 households in the Branch should be manageable.

Christmas Tickets. The executive decided to continue selling advance tickets for the Christmas luncheon. Cecile advised that the cost of the luncheon this year has risen to \$27.00. After discussion, it was moved by Cecile and seconded by Kathi that this year the cost for the Christmas tickets will remain at \$20.00. Carried.

Guest Speakers. Wendy Johnstone is the June guest speaker and Colonel Mike Atkins, 19 Wing Commander, or his representative is lined up for the September meeting.

Advertising for Volunteers. Based on a suggestion by John Renaud, Bill proposed putting a list requesting volunteers on each table at the luncheons, in the newsletter and on the website. He will canvass the executive and write up terms of reference for each position.

Announcements.

- Joe Sanderson, a National Board Director from the Prairies, passed away in Ottawa.
- Kathi, Steve and Serge's names have been submitted to attend the Regional Meeting in Chilliwack in May.
- Bill will attend the AMM in Ottawa in June. He will summarize the resolutions for discussion at the May meeting.
- Kathi will chair the June luncheon meeting.

Next Executive Meeting – 2 May 2017

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1400 hours.

Edith Kelly, Secretary

Bill Turnbull, President