



NORTH ISLAND - JOHN FINN

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

Bill called the meeting to order at 1300 hours.

Present:

Bill Turnbull - President	Cecile Turnbull - Programs
Kathi Brown - Vice President	Kevin Weighill - Newsletter
Serge Gosselin - Treasurer	Steve Bunyan - Membership
Norma Dean - Telephone Coordinator	Nancy Bennett – Director
Deb Yelf - Welfare	Dave Bell – Director
Edith Kelly – Secretary	Charles McMurdo - Guest

Absent: Clint Halfkenny - Benefits

The executive approved the agenda and minutes from the 5 September 2017 meeting.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Serge reported that as of 31 October 2017, the branch savings and cash accounts totaled \$53,645.75. Income for the period 01 January to 31 October 2017 was \$12,246.66 and expenses were \$6,079.69, resulting in a surplus of \$6,166.97. Investment income totals \$249.65. Serge moved that the financial statement be accepted as presented; seconded by Deb. Carried.

Membership: Steve reported that CRM currently shows our membership stands at 2,167 while his records show 2,155. He believes CRM's number is probably correct and is checking on where the discrepancy occurs. Based on Steve's records, we have 726 double and 703 single memberships for a total of 2,155.

Steve received a notice about a month ago to renew his membership, so presumes everyone who renews their membership by cheque or credit card will now receive notification from National Office three months prior to expiry. Memberships that are paid for by cheque or credit card have to be renewed annually.

In the past, Public Works did a biennial mail out campaign which enclosed a Retirees Association application form with pay statements for anyone not on DDS; however, Treasury Board now appears reluctant to continue this practice. If we lose that capability, we will have to find new ways to recruit members.

Newsletter: Kevin reported sending the newsletter to the printer today. Steve should have it by Friday and it will in the mail by next Tuesday. Bill will e-mail copies at the same time and it will be posted on the website.

Programs: The usual Christmas turkey dinner has been arranged. Usually about 150 tickets are purchased, but so far only 75 tickets have been sold. Cecile is hopeful that more people will be picking up tickets. She will arrange to purchase and wrap the prizes.

Communications: The website is up-to-date.

Benefits: Clint was absent.

Welfare: Since the beginning of June, we have lost 14 members. Deb recently received another call from a scammer, so she warns members to be wary.

Telephone: See report under new business.

History: All the historical files are now stored at Bill's residence.

NEW BUSINESS:

December G.M. Responsibilities.

Greeter at door – Norma
50/50 – Edith

Setup – Elana and Paulette
Totes, Food Bank – Serge

Change of General Meeting Dates. The hotel has agreed to the following General Meeting date changes:

- The March meeting has been moved from March 14, 2018 to March 28, 2018.
- The June meeting will remain on June 13, 2018.
- The September meeting has been moved from September 12, 2018 to September 19, 2018.
- The December meeting will remain on December 12, 2018.

Contacting the Members in 2018. As previously reported, Terry, a Campbell River phoner, developed a questionnaire he used to determine how best to contact the members on his list. Norma will write up a questionnaire and pass it to Bill. Whatever the final decision is on how to contact the members, Steve can print the new phoner lists.

Veterans Town Hall Meeting. There were approximately 65 veterans in attendance. Bill, Cecile, Kathi, Serge and Deb were available to assist Deborah Krause from National Office. Bill felt it went fairly well. Mike Sutcliffe of Sound Advice recorded everything and Hearing Connect provided a transcription service for those with hearing problems. Some of the problems being encountered are:

- Retired RCMP members are not getting any support, not even from their own detachments.
- There seems to be a lack of support for family members living with someone suffering from PTSD.
- Not having a release medical was a problem for some members as they couldn't prove a medical issue was attributable to their service.
- Serving members should obtain copies of everything that happens to them in case their files are later stripped.

A report on the findings will be presented to the responsible Cabinet Ministers next spring. The report should also indicate where the Association should throw their support.

BCCI Workshop Report. Bill, Serge, Cecile and Steve attended a five Branch workshop in Duncan. There was a discussion about the Saskatchewan government charging a sales tax on medical insurance premiums. So far nothing has been heard about the BC government doing the same thing so the thought was to lie low for now. The BC government is also talking about reducing our MSP premiums which should also reduce the federal portion. Richard Simpson, BC Advocate, talked about each branch having an advocacy contact to help inform members on ways they can get help, on building a network, on keeping the organization successful and consistent, on health care, seniors benefits and services, budgets, Bill C-27 and defined benefits.

Duncan branch is considering a resolution for next year's AMM on a subsidy for Branch observers to attend an AMM once every four years as part of succession planning. We should also have a reserve fund set aside to allow someone to attend an AMM as part of their training.

Recruiting Kits. Bill received a message from Melanie Forget at National Office. They are putting together some recruitment kits which would include a brochure about the Association partners, a copy of Sage, and other information. National Office is also offering a table cloth which could be used at various public affairs events such as retirement seminars or newcomer's presentations.

Announcements: No meeting is scheduled for December. If something comes up that needs immediate attention, it probably can be handled by e-mail. If a reply is required, please remember to use "Reply All". Steve agreed to dig out his Santa suit again this year.

Next Executive Meeting – Wednesday, 10 January 2018.
