



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)  
Annual General Meeting  
Westerly Hotel – 28 March 2018

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

Margaret Crites led the singing of O Canada.

Bill welcomed first time attendees Cherie and Warren Kelley, Leslie Bryant, Sharon Malone and Barry Vogel.

#### **Agenda and Minutes**

The agenda was accepted as presented. As there were no errors or omissions in the 13 December 2017 General Meeting minutes, it was moved by Cecile Turnbull, seconded by Ian Sibbald, that they be accepted. Carried.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer:** Serge Gosselin presented the financial statement for the period 01 January to 28 February 2018. The income was \$1,015.16 and expenses were \$133.02, resulting in a surplus of \$882.14. The cash balance is \$55,694.11. Moved by Serge, seconded by Gerry Parry that the financial statement be accepted as presented. Carried.

**Membership:** Steve Bunyan reported that we have 742 double and 695 single memberships for a total of 2,179 members in 1437 households. He said the membership numbers are holding steady. There are 17 members who have not renewed, but that is now National Office's responsibility. Bill reported that recruitment has become harder since Public Works no longer does a biennial mail out campaign. In the past they have enclosed a Retirees Association application form with the pay statements for anyone not on DDS.

**Newsletter:** Kevin Weighill was absent. Steve Bunyan reported 475 hard copies of the newsletter were mailed which is below our contracted postal cost for 500. It might eventually come to a point where it is just as cheap to use stamps. Over 800 copies were sent via e-mail.

**Benefits:** Clint Halfkenny was absent due to family health problems. Bill reported he had included some common tax deductions in the March newsletter, but forgot to include MEDOC and the portion of their premium that is for health care. You can request a letter from MEDOC with a breakdown.

**Programs:** Cecile Turnbull thanked the staff for another excellent meal. The June and September luncheons will continue to cost \$18.00. The June luncheon will be hamburgers/chicken burgers with all the trimmings and following the meeting a tour will be conducted of the new Seniors facility at the hotel. The September's meal will be pork and the guest speaker will be a Veterans Affairs representative from 19 Wing. The December meeting will be turkey and include a visit with Santa. The tickets should be available at the June and September meetings or you can call Cecile. Unfortunately the cost has had to be increased to \$25.00/person.

**Communications:** Bill Turnbull reported 899 invitations to the luncheon were e-mailed to members with 58% being opened and 11 positive responses. The luncheon menu is included in every edition of the newsletter and, for those members not being called, it is up to them to contact Cecile or Norma, by e-mail or phone, if they wish to attend the luncheon.

**Welfare:** Deb Yelf advised that we have lost 18 members in the last three months. She reported that she had received a note of thanks from one of our members who was hit by a car, but is on the mend. She also noted how nice it was to see Stocky Edwards in attendance.

**Telephone:** Norma Dean was absent. Bill thanked the telephoners on her behalf.

Bill said that he received correspondence from the Comox Air Force Museum Association advising members from various organizations that they are prepared to conduct group tours of the museum, if requested.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**2017 Annual General Meeting Minutes.** It was moved by Kathi Brown, seconded by Deb Yelf that the minutes of the 08 March 2017 Annual General meeting be approved as presented. Carried.

### **2017 Financial Results.**

Reviewed financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2017 showing, on the income and expense side, net earnings of \$7478.07 were presented. Moved by Serge Gosselin, seconded by Joan Sykes, that the 2017 financial results be accepted. Carried.

### **Financial Review.**

John Renaud reported that he and Dave Shewchuck conducted a financial review on February 14<sup>th</sup> and the Branch finances were found to be in good order. He felt that it was due to the diligence of the treasurer and other executive members that we are kept on the right track.

### **2018 Budget.**

The proposed budget for 2018 was presented, with actual and forecast numbers. Moved by Bill Turnbull, seconded by Doug Black that the budget for 2018 be approved. Carried.

**Volunteer Development Reserve.** To help attract future volunteers, the executive proposed, and the members present approved, the setting aside of \$3,000.00 for a volunteer development reserve fund, to assist in sending them to seminars and meetings.

**Elections and Swearing in.** Bill turned the meeting over to Cecile Turnbull who requested nominations and/or volunteers for the following two-year positions:

- Vice President – no nominations or volunteers; the position will remain vacant.
- Treasurer – no nominations or volunteers; Serge Gosselin to remain as Treasurer.
- Directors – no nominations or volunteers; Steve Bunyan, Kevin Weighill and Norma Dean to remain in their present positions.
- Kathi Brown, Paddy O’Blenis and Cherie Kelley volunteered to fill the three Director at Large positions.
- There were no nominations or volunteers for the Communications Director position.

The above members, Serge Gosselin, Steve Bunyan, Kathi Brown and new volunteers Paddy O’Blenis and Cherie Kelley were duly acclaimed and will continue as Executive Officers for the next two years. The formal installation, conducted by Cecile Turnbull, then followed. Norma Dean and Kevin Weighill were absent.

**Guest Speaker.** Barb Ashmead, a Director from the Vancouver Island Compassion Dog Society (VCID), spoke on how VCID came into being. It offers an intense 52 week course for both dog and handler which ends in official service dog status. It has increased from one trainee approximately five years ago to today’s total of 19 graduates, 8 people ready to graduate in the next couple of months, 8 people at different levels of the program, 5 people coming in next month and 5 more in September. Brian, a PTSD sufferer, and his dog Trooper, followed and he explained how being part of the program has helped him. At present the program is operating entirely through donations.

Bill thanked Barb and Brian for their very informative presentations.

The winner of the door prize was Sherri Russell.

The 50/50 draw winners were Georgette Robertson and Colleen Boudreau. Both donated their prizes to the Vancouver Island Compassion Dog Society.

**Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 1420 hours.

*Edith Kelly, Secretary*

*Bill Turnbull, President*