



National Association of Federal Retirees
North Island – John Finn Branch (BC06)
Executive Meeting
10 January 2018 – Comox Legion

NORTH ISLAND - JOHN FINN

Bill called the meeting to order at 1300 hours.

Present:

Bill Turnbull - President
Kathi Brown - Vice President
Serge Gosselin - Treasurer
Deb Yelf - Welfare
Edith Kelly – Secretary

Cecile Turnbull - Programs
Kevin Weighill - Newsletter
Steve Bunyan - Membership
Nancy Bennett – Director
Charles McMurdo - Guest

Absent: Clint Halfkenny – Benefits
Norma Dean - Telephone Coordinator

Dave Bell - Director

Bill had posted the minutes of the 7 November 2017 meeting on the website. The agenda and minutes were approved as published.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Serge reported that as of 31 December 2017, the branch savings and cash accounts totaled \$53,677.74. Income for the period 01 January to 31 December 2017 was \$17,005.44 and expenses were \$10,806.48, resulting in a surplus of \$6,198.96. Serge moved that the financial statement be accepted as presented; seconded by Cecile. Carried.

Serge will contact John Renaud and Dave Shewchuk and arrange to have the audit done.

Membership: Steve reported we have 714 active double memberships and 663 active single memberships, plus 37 lost single and 30 lost double memberships for a total of 2,188 in 1377 households. Steve is still trying to determine why there is a 13 member difference between CRM's total count and ours.

Steve is trying to find out why the memberships for Louise Enstan, Douglas Reese and Margaret Elson, paid through DDS, are no longer being paid by the Pension Office. Kathi knows Margaret and will check with her.

Newsletter: The Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 28 March 2018 is also be an election meeting. Kevin will include election information in the next newsletter. Deadline for newsletter inputs is 01 March 2018.

Benefits: Clint was absent.

Kathi reported that Stocky Edwards had a nasty fall, breaking his hip and arm and dislocating his shoulder. She reported that they had problems with the Victoria Veteran Affairs office when trying to get the help he needed. She learned there is a local Veterans Affairs office located behind the Canex building and the problems have now been resolved. Bill will visit the office to get contact information for the newsletter and he will also pass it on to Clint.

Programs: The meeting dates for March and September have been changed. To date, Cecile hasn't been in touch with the hotel to arrange for meals. The attendance at the Christmas dinner was better than originally expected, thanks to the newsletter. She commended the hotel staff for going above and beyond the call when the power went out on the morning of the luncheon. Cecile thanked everyone that helped. James, the new sales manager, seems to be more involved in the meal preparation and service than the previous manager.

Communications: The website is up-to-date. The maintenance cost has gone up slightly, from \$13.33 to \$18.93.

Welfare: Since the November 2017 executive meeting, we have lost 5 active and 5 inactive members.

Telephone: Norma was away. She is quite concerned with having enough reliable telephoners. Bill will check with her on what she would like to have happen.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget 2018. Serge and Bill will work up a budget for 2018 and e-mail a copy to each executive member. Some proposed additions/changes for the 2018 budget are:

- \$1,200.00 – To cover costs associated with our meetings such as the door prizes for 3 meetings, Christmas gifts, a special Christmas door prize and a gift for Santa.
- \$3,000.00 – To establish a Volunteer Training reserve, available for a member to possibly attend the AMM as an observer or to go other meetings or training sessions.
- \$1,000.00 – To increase the budgeted amount of \$700 to \$1,000 for Volunteer Recognition.

Elections. The positions of Vice President, Treasurer, Membership, Newsletter Editor, Telephone Coordinator and three director positions are up for election. Serge, Steve, Kevin and Nancy have agreed to let their names stand. Kathi would like to step down as Vice President, but would be willing to stay on as a director. Kevin will include something in the next newsletter. He has already submitted the information for inclusion in the next Sage magazine.

Recruiting. Ways to recruit people for the executive were discussed. There are many well qualified members in the Association; but most do not seem to want to become involved. It was felt that probably the only way to get new people to run for an executive position is by current executive members talking them into it.

Meeting Dates. The general meeting dates in 2018 are: 28 March, 13 June, 19 September and 12 December.

Newsletter Submission Dates. The next newsletter deadline is 01 March 2018.

Telephone System. Norma was absent. Bill will contact her when she returns and discuss ways of contacting members with fewer telephoners. It was decided we should do a survey by phoning all Association members. Cecile will develop scripts, Steve will provide membership lists and the executive can telephone all members to determine their preferences. Norma will be asked for feedback on the current telephoners. Additional means of advertising the luncheons might be through an advertisement in the Record's coming events column and free advertising on Shaw TV.

Guest Speakers. Cecile asked for and received the following suggestions on possible guest speakers:

- Someone from the organization that trains Service Dogs for veterans suffering from PTSD.
- Someone from Service Canada to speak on things of interest to retired people.
- Jon Ambler on the Air Force Museum.
- Someone from the B.C. Securities Commission.

Menus. As it was quite popular last year, the June meeting will be another summer BBQ. The December meal will be turkey and Cecile will contact James, the Sales Manager, to find out what else is available and the costs.

2018 Dues. An annual double membership is now \$63.60 or \$5.30/month and a single is \$48.96 or \$4.08/month.

MSP Deductions. As of 01 January 2018, the MSP payment has been reduced to \$37.50 (2 adults) and \$17.50 (1 person).

AMM Observers. We are allowed to send the President and three observers to the AMM in Ottawa.

Announcements: The themes for the 2018 issues of the Sage magazines are:

- Spring – Veterans. Possibly might include findings from the Town Hall meetings;
- Summer – Volunteers;
- Fall – Advocacy; and
- Winter - Technology

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1420 hours.

Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, 6 February 2018.
