



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
5 February 2019 – Comox Legion

Bill called the meeting to order at 1300 hours.

Present: Bill Turnbull - President
Cecile Turnbull – Health Benefits
Steve Bunyan – Membership
Deb Yelf – Welfare
Cherie Kelley – Director
Edith Kelly – Secretary

Norma Dean – A/Vice President/Telephone Coord
Serge Gosselin – Treasurer
Paddy O’Blenis – Programs
Kathi Brown – Director
Warren Kelley - Director

Absent: Kevin Weighill - Newsletter

Nancy Bennett – Director

Agenda and Minutes:

The meeting agenda was approved with several additions. Serge moved that the minutes of the 4 December 2018 meeting be approved; seconded by Cecile. Carried.

Clint Halfkenny was notified about the meeting, but did not attend. Kathi reported that Stocky Edwards is doing well.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Serge reported that as of 31 January 2019, the branch savings and cash accounts totaled \$56,774.27. Income for the period 01 to 31 January 2019 was \$30.00 and expenses were \$159.34, resulting in a deficit of -\$129.34. A 4th quarter remittance from National Office, reported in December, was not received until January. Serge also took part recently in a webinar on year end statements and we are now doing everything by the book. Serge moved that the financial statement be accepted as presented; seconded by Cecile. Carried.

The Future Year Fees entry of -\$1,698.74 will be offset when the first remittance goes to National Office in March 2019. The \$5,000 increase to our Defense of Benefits reserve, approved at the December G.M., will be done when GIC2 is rolled over later this month.

Membership: Steve reported that his records show we have 734 double and 673 single memberships in 1407 households. From October to the end of January there are 12 members who have not renewed.

Newsletter: Kevin was absent. Steve reported that we are now mailing 430 copies of the newsletter. One member recently moved to Minnesota so, once again we have a member living outside Canada. If Kevin can get the newsletter to Steve by Monday, he can have it printed and in the mail by Friday. Bill reported that Kevin is currently having some health problems which will require surgery.

Health Benefits: Cecile reported that things are quiet as she has not received any phone calls. She will have more estate documents at the March luncheon. The Victoria branch sent their members a copy of Cecile’s article which was in our December newsletter. Their branch members wrote to say they would like to see the information printed on a regular basis.

Programs: Paddy reported everything is on track for the March luncheon.

Communications: Bill reported the website is up-to-date. The minutes of both December meetings have been posted as well as pictures taken at the Christmas luncheon and the cheque presentation to the Compassion Dog Society. Bill would like to find a volunteer to take over the Communications Director position.

Welfare: Deb reported we have lost nine more members since December, four who were still active. She will send a card from the Branch to Dave and Katherine Shewchuk. He is undergoing treatment at this time.

Telephone: Norma will be contacting her phoners to find out how many are still interested. Steve will provide her with lists of those still wishing to be called once she knows how many phoners she will have. Any names on the 'Do Not Call' list are not returned to the regular lists.

BUSINESS:

Upcoming Elections: Kathi has agreed to oversee the elections. The positions to be filled are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Communications, Health Benefits, Welfare, one Director position and a new Advocacy Director. Norma is currently the Acting Vice President and has agreed to let her name stand for Vice President and Warren was appointed Director following last year's elections. Bill, Norma, Edith, Cecile, Deb have all agreed to let their names stand.

Cecile will pass all required information to Kathi, including printed copies of the Oath for the members being installed.

Processing Non-DDS Membership Fee Payments. We no longer process renewals at our branch. Payments can be accepted, but the cheques have to be mailed to National Office for processing and this takes time. There is a 90 day 'grace' period members should not panic if they receive a membership cancellation letter.

Steve warned members who make changes through their personal membership page to also let him or Bill know as National Office does not pass the information to the branch. The branch needs to keep contact information up-to-date.

2018 Donation to VICD. A cheque for \$440 was presented to Barb Ashmead of the Vancouver Island Compassion Dog Society. The money was raised through the 50/50 draws held at the luncheons. The year-end financial report for 2018 and an application for the 2019 license have been submitted to the B.C. Lottery Commission.

Tri-Reginal Conference in Chilliwack. Will take place 23-25 May 2019 at the RCMP Training Centre in Chilliwack. The Branch Service Coordinators and two directors are presently working on an agenda. They have specifically asked that Branch Treasurers and Advocacy persons attend, along with the Presidents, as a lot of the training information will relate to the upcoming Federal election. The Branch Service Coordinator's budget will cover the costs for three delegates and one vehicle. Additional attendee costs will be the responsibility of their Branch. Cecile will be our contact for making accommodation and other arrangements. She has all the information should additional people decide to attend. National President Jean-Guy Soulière, Director of Advocacy Sayward Montague and Provincial Advocacy Officer Leslie Gaudet will be attending. Serge, Cecile and Bill have agreed to represent our Branch.

Christmas Party Date / Complaint. Paddy received a few complaints because some couples each won a prize; however, it was felt that it was just the luck of the draw. Paddy was complimented on her gift choices and the terrific food. The double line serving system worked very well. Cherie suggested moving the Christmas luncheon to the last week of November as some members are away in December. This year there were 150 tickets sold and it was felt that the hotel probably couldn't handle a larger group.

The hotel has advised Paddy that they would like to know the number of members attending the luncheon seven days in advance and to be paid on the day of the luncheon by credit card. Paddy will contact Julie and discuss the fact that we have operated the same way for the last 30 years; that our organization does not have a credit card; that we pay by cheque within days of the event and that we never know if there will be some members who just show up without prior notification. This year's luncheon contracts have all been finalized and signed, except for the Christmas luncheon cost.

Advocacy Officer. Cecile suggests it is important for our branch to have a separate director for Advocacy. Leslie Gaudet has sent out a notice regarding the Federal election, advocacy training in Chilliwack, budget consultations and MP meetings, materials for advocacy work, seniors advocate, upcoming events and advocacy contacts. Cecile has printed out the regulations for advocacy and the value of it for the Association. It was suggested that at the March AGM a brief outline of the position requirements and its importance should be circulated and maybe someone will volunteer to fill it.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1400 hours.

Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, 5 March 2019.

Edith Kelly, Secretary

Bill Turnbull, President