



NORTH ISLAND - JOHN FINN

National Association of Federal Retirees  
North Island – John Finn Branch (BC06)  
Special Executive Meeting  
6 August 2019 – Comox Legion

Bill called the meeting to order at 1300 hours.

**Present:** Bill Turnbull - President  
Cecile Turnbull – Health Benefits  
Paddy O’Blenis – Programs  
Kevin Weighill – Newsletter  
Deb Yelf - Welfare  
Cherie Kelley – Director  
John Renaud - Director

Norma Dean – Vice President/Telephone Coordinator  
Serge Gosselin – Treasurer  
Edith Kelly – Secretary  
Steve Bunyan – Membership  
Kathi Brown – Director  
Warren Kelley – Director

**AGENDA AND MINUTES:**

The agenda was accepted as presented. Cecile moved that the minutes of the 4 June 2019 be accepted; seconded by Kathi. Carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** Serge reported that as of 31 July 2019, the branch savings and cash accounts totaled \$58,504.71. Income for the period 01 January to 31 July 2019 was \$9,424.38 and expenses were \$7,823.28, resulting in a surplus of \$1,601.10. Serge moved that the financial statement be accepted as presented; seconded by Cherie. Carried.

Bill noted that the increased amount allotted for travel in the 2019 budget was not enough to cover the expenses and possibly should be increased in the future.

**Membership:** Steve reported that his count and that of CRM finally agree. We have 227 double and 661 single memberships for a total of 2115 members in 1386 households. The count remains pretty much constant. Currently there are five memberships that have not been renewed. Steve apologized to Norma for not getting new lists to her for the phoners before he went on holiday.

**Newsletter:** Kevin says he is almost back to normal after his surgery. The next newsletter deadline is 23 August. Paddy is working on a write up for him on the venue changes.

**Health Benefits:** Nil.

**Advocacy.** Cecile has ordered more election materials. She will set it up on a table at the luncheons and encourage people to pick them up. One item is a list of questions members who meet candidates doing door to door rounds or who attend all candidates’ meetings can ask. A couple of guidelines from National Office say we cannot invite just one candidate to a meeting - we must invite them all; or, if we are advocating, it is okay to attend an all candidates’ meeting representing federal retirees but not to a single candidate’s rally. Of course, members are free to do whatever they wish as individuals.

**Programs:** See new business.

**Communications:** See new business.

**Welfare:** Deb reported that since the 4 June meeting we have lost another eight members, 3 active and 5 inactive.

**Telephone:** Nil.

## **BUSINESS:**

**Change of Venue for our General Meetings.** Paddy and Kathi, following a meeting with Christine, the Officers Mess Manager, and Melissa from Base Foods, and the results from the questionnaire passed out at the June luncheon, the CFB Comox Officers Mess has been booked for both the September and Christmas luncheon meetings. Paddy has arranged with Cory from Prime Chophouse to cater the September luncheon and if that doesn't work, the Officers Mess has agreed to cater the Christmas luncheon. The meal cost will remain approximately the same. The venue rental cost is much less, \$20.00 an hour vs \$325.00 charged by the Westerly. There is a large parking lot behind the Mess which can be used and the Mess is wheelchair accessible. It was suggested that someone or signage should be displayed directing people to the parking area as not all members are familiar with the Base. A list of the members planning to attend each luncheon will be compiled for Christine who will pass it to the Guardhouse.

**Set Up / Take Down.** Melissa has the names of two people who can be hired to handle set up, take down and collect the dishes. We have no costs yet for this, but it should be covered by the savings on the venue rental. It is proposed having a bartender at the Christmas luncheon, but not at the one in September. Cost for 1-2 bartenders would be \$20/hr each. The tables will be set up in the lounge area for both luncheons. The tables are smaller and will only seat six people at each of them with not much room for anything else. Due to a small problem that arose at the June luncheon, the dessert table will not be available until everyone is seated and has started eating. There will be absolutely NO access to the Officers Mess dining room at the Christmas luncheon as it will have been set up for a Mess Dinner.

Paddy and Kathi have discussed all the requirements for the luncheon with Christine. Paddy has also talked to Camille, the new Westerly Manager, about a few outstanding problems there. Bill has checked out the audio/video set up at the Mess and found it first class. He will bring a computer.

**Newsletter Content regarding meeting.** Paddy will give Kevin a write-up of the venue changes and directions on how to get to CFB Comox and the Officers Mess for inclusion in the next newsletter. She will include her, Bill's and Kathi's phone numbers for people to call. Steve will give Norma new lists for the phoners.

**Christmas Tickets.** It was decided to again use tickets for the Christmas luncheon. They will be on sale at the September meeting or members can phone Cecile or Norma for them. It was proposed that we continue to subsidize the cost and keep it at \$20.00. Kevin and his wife, Paulette, will sell the tickets at the September luncheon. The cost for the September luncheon will be in the \$18.00 range.

**Use of Click Dimensions for Member Communications.** Bill explained that Click Dimensions is used by National Office to in part deal with the Canadian Anti-SPAM legislation (CASL) for Commercial Electronic Messages (CEMs). At this time there have been no court cases and lawyers are not sure how the law might be applied. Our messaging is mostly non-commercial; however, it was suggested that having Aji Fliss write her ad as a travel tip with her contact information at the end of it would remove any visible commercial content. Bill said, as a branch, we are compliant, but as we aren't 'stand-alone', we will send our newsletter to National Office for onward transmission. He also said that we will reduce transmission time for our messages because, instead of attaching the fairly large newsletter PDF file to an e-mail message, he will just upload it to our website and provide a link to it with a statement such as "...the September newsletter is available here" and all one would have to do is click on the link.

**Announcements:** A volunteer luncheon at the Prime Chophouse is being considered for October.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 1345 hours.

**Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, 3 September 2019**

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*Edith Kelly, Secretary*

*Bill Turnbull, President*