



NORTH ISLAND - JOHN FINN

National Association of Federal Retirees  
North Island – John Finn Branch (BC06)  
Executive Meeting  
1 October 2019 – Prime Kitchen & Bar

Bill called the meeting to order at 1335 hours.

**Present:**

Bill Turnbull - President	Norma Dean – Vice President/Telephone Coordinator
Cecile Turnbull – Health Benefits	Serge Gosselin – Treasurer
Paddy O’Blenis – Programs	Edith Kelly – Secretary
Kevin Weighill – Newsletter	Steve Bunyan – Membership
Deb Yelf - Welfare	Kathi Brown – Director
Cherie Kelley – Director	Warren Kelley – Director
John Renaud - Director	

**AGENDA AND MINUTES:**

The agenda was accepted as presented. Cecile moved that the minutes of the 6 August 2019 special executive meeting be accepted; seconded by Kathi. Carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** Serge reported that as of 30 September 2019, the branch savings and cash accounts totaled \$55,527.40. Income for the period 01 January to 30 September 2019 was \$9,617.30 and expenses were \$10,993.51, resulting in a deficit of -\$1,376.21. Serge moved that the financial statement be accepted as presented; seconded by John. Carried.

Bill noted that the deficit was the result of higher travel expenses for the AMM and some unforeseen duplicate charges when we changed our June and September luncheon venues.

**Membership:** Steve and the CRM are at odds again over membership numbers. His records show we have 2114 members in 1386 households while CRM records indicate we have 2125 members. The latest CRM figure just obtained by Bill showed we have 2121 members. We have five members who have not renewed their membership and will probably be dropped.

Membership fees will be going up in 2020 based on the indexing percentage. Everyone is now paying via National Office.

**Newsletter:** Kevin and Bill had some training on branch reports for Sage. See report under Business. Deadline for our next newsletter is early November.

**Health Benefits:** Cecile was pleased that a number of members approached her at the last luncheon for estate documents. Bill and Cecile attended a Night Out at the Filberg Centre and listened to a moving and very revealing talk by Isabelle MacKenzie, the Seniors Advocate for B.C., on the seniors’ situation in B.C. The talk included information on housing, resources and challenges, different options for home care and support and long term care. Cecile plans to include some of the information in the next newsletter.

**Advocacy.** Cecile was proud to announce that we sent 280 signatures to National Office on some of the forms given out at the last luncheon. National Office was very pleased and Cecile had to explain how we were able to obtain so many.

It you happen to attend any candidates’ meetings and you get a chance, be sure to ask questions on things that might affect you. There will be an All Candidate forum at the Filberg Centre on October 4th and another at the Comox United Church on Oct 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Programs:** The Officers Mess has been booked and Prime Kitchen & Bar will cater a Christmas turkey dinner. Paddy is in the process of purchasing 30 bottles of wine and 30 other presents for the luncheon. Paddy should find out the cost for the meal today. Some costs for the Mess were: \$52.00 for rental, \$50.00 for tea/coffee and \$470.00 for two ladies to clean up/ take down which also included cleaning the tablecloths.

**Communications:** The last electronic newsletter was sent out through National Office. They reported a 68% opening rate which they thought was terrific.

**Welfare:** Deb reported that since the 11 September meeting we have lost another five members, four still active. We still have a lady recovering from a stroke and Dave Shewchuk, suffering from inoperable brain cancer, is still hanging in there.

**Telephone:** Norma has heard from several phoners who plan to step down next year. She does not anticipate this being a huge problem as the caller lists have been getting shorter.

**BUSINESS:**

**Meeting Venues and Costs.** It was suggested that next year the meal cost, other than for Christmas, be increased to \$20.00. This can be brought up at the March meeting.

Overall, everything went fine at the last luncheon; however, people should not be clearing their tables. Apparently this is normally done at Mess dinners, so an announcement will be required. It was also suggested that in future, after the main course is finished, there will be a 10 minute break and then the dessert will be served.

The 'Check In' table at the last luncheon was in the wrong location. It will be at the front door next time, with someone at the back door to let people know where to check in.

**Banking Arrangements.** In September, after three days of trying to contact someone at the Bank of Montreal, Bill and Serge were able to redeem our \$35,721.77 GIC; however, we still have to buy a new one. Our other GIC can be redeemed on 15 October. Bill checked out the TD Bank and they have a community, not for profit bank account plan, similar to the one we have at BMO. In the terms of GICs, they have a 100 day plan, at 1.3%, with automatic roll over and it is cashable after 30 days.

Moved by Kevin; seconded by Cherie that Serge and Bill be authorized to investigate and decide whether or not to move our financial accounts to the TD bank. Carried

**Sage Newsletter Options.** We can now do a four page glossy insert twice a year in the Sage magazine at no cost to us. The staff at the magazine couldn't come up with a cost for four times a year. It was suggested having basic information such as health benefits in the two inserts and also have a smaller version of our own newsletter with meeting dates which we could self produce. Bill and Kevin will investigate further.

The printer purchased for Steve to print envelopes needs a software update and won't work. Steve used his colour printer which worked fairly well.

In future, if the newsletter is going to be late, Norma should be advised so she can pass the information on to the phoners. We currently mail out approximately 400 copies.

**Wreaths for Remembrance Day.** Bill will purchase a wreath for Comox, Terry Hluska for Campbell River, Edith for Cumberland and Serge for Courtenay.

**BCCI Meeting – Tuesday 5 November.** Bill, Norma and Cecile will attend. As this date conflicts with our normal meeting date, our next executive meeting will be held on Wednesday, 6 November at the Comox Legion.

**Announcements:** Bill will be meeting with NDP candidatGord Johns regarding a letter that he didn't write.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 1430 hours.

**Next Executive Meeting – Wednesday, 6 November 2019**

---