



NORTH ISLAND - JOHN FINN

National Association of Federal Retirees
North Island – John Finn Branch (BC06)
Executive Meeting
3 March 2020 – Comox Legion

Bill called the meeting to order at 1300 hours.

Present:

Bill Turnbull - President	Norma Dean – Vice President
Cecile Turnbull – Health Benefits	Paddy O’Blenis – Programs
Steve Bunyan – Membership	Edith Kelly – Secretary
Cherie Kelley – Telephone Coordinator	Kathi Brown – Director
John Renaud – Director	Warren Kelley – Director

Absent:

Serge Gosselin – Treasurer	Kevin Weighill – Newsletter
Deb Yelf – Welfare	

AGENDA AND MINUTES:

The agenda was accepted as amended. Paddy moved that the minutes of the 4 February 2020 executive meeting be approved as presented; seconded by Cecile. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Serge was absent so Bill presented the financial report. As of 02 March 2020, the branch savings and cash accounts totaled \$56,251.20. There was no income for the period 01 January 2020 to 02 March 2020 and expenses were \$126.09 resulting in a deficit of -\$126.09. Our first quarter payment from National Office won’t come in until April. Bill moved that the financial statement for the period 01 January 2020 to 02 March 2020 be accepted as presented; seconded by Cherie. Carried.

Membership: Steve reported we have 750 double and 649 single memberships in 1399 households for a total of 2149 members. Steve’s and CRM’s membership totals are now only out by one. At the end of February there were 28 memberships that had not been renewed and there were still three from October that were not renewed, but still showed as being active.

Steve noted that several members have had their DDS application rejected, presumably because of minor errors. He e-mailed Ottawa about this issue and was advised that they are somewhat overwhelmed; however, if an application is turned down, they do all they can to try and sort things out. They have assured members that their memberships are still active.

Newsletter: Steve mailed 380 newsletters. Bill received a list of 168 addresses that were blocked by the ClickDimensions electronic messaging system. He wrote to all of them and all but 29 messages got through. He plans to re-evaluate the system in the future.

Health Benefits: Cecile had an article in the latest newsletter on what people can claim as income tax deductions. Approximately 70% of MEDOC charges are eligible as a tax deduction. Members who have not received an income tax statement from MEDOC should contact Johnson who will provide one by e-mail or mail.

Programs: Paddy reported everything is set for the roast beef dinner next week. She plans to check with the hotel about rental charges should we have to cancel the June luncheon because of the coronavirus threat. Bill advised that the guest speaker on 11 March will be bringing his own projector, but will need a microphone.

Communications: Bill reported that the website is up to date as the February executive minutes and latest newsletter have been posted. He has offered to continue looking after the website.

Welfare: We lost three inactive members in February. Frank Elvins, a member of the executive for many years, was one of them. Deb has sent a card to Toady, his wife.

Telephone: Cherie has contacted the callers and given them their new lists. There is now only one caller for Campbell River.

Luncheon Assignments:	Warren – Luncheon Payment	Bill – Bank Account
	Cherie – Membership	Norma – 50/50
		Edith - Cheques

BUSINESS:

Elections: Cecile will phone Clint Halfkenny to ask if he would be interested in letting his name stand for the Vice President position. Warren Kelley said he will let his name stand for that position.

National AMM - June 2020. Information is available in the February Bulletin to Branches. Norma, as President, will attend as the branch delegate. We can afford to send another and it was felt that the member elected as Vice President at our AGM in March would be the obvious choice. The Branch would cover all travel costs.

Reach 338. The advocacy group from National Office wants every federal MP to be approached by their local branches/constituents. Our branch is one of the first 50 branches to get involved. Our local area spans two ridings and Gord Johns is the MP for the Courtenay-Alberni riding. A meeting with him will be pursued. The talking points are much the same as those during the last election; i.e. a national seniors' strategy, universal pharmacare, care for Veterans and their families and Income security in retirement for all Canadians. National Office has promised talking point materials.

It was mentioned in passing that we should try to get Isobel MacKenzie, BC's Seniors Advocate, as a guest speaker.

2020 Member Survey. A survey, to be completed by 3 April 2020, has been e-mailed by National Office to Association members in order to obtain their opinions on a variety of issues.

PSHCP Pension Contribution Rates. The February issue of the Public Service Health Care Plan Bulletin provides the new contribution rates for retired members that will take effect on 1 April 2020. It also contains helpful information about the hospital provision.

Ronna Rae Leonard. Ronna Rae Leonard, MLA, has been appointed B.C.'s Parliamentary Secretary for Seniors. Bill's initial attempt to contact her received an automated turn down.

Budget: Cecile moved that the branch 2020 Budget be approved as presented; seconded by Steve. Carried.

It will now be taken to the Annual General Meeting on 11 March 2020 for approval by the general membership.

Announcements: Paddy is still trying to arrange a date for the volunteer luncheon in October.

This was Kathi Brown's last meeting as a member of the executive committee. Bill thanked her for her many years of participation.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1400 hours.

Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, 7 April 2020