



**National Association of Federal Retirees
North Island – John Finn Branch (BC06)
General Meeting Minutes
Via ZOOM –
September 15, 2021**

Call to Order - 1:00 pm – by Norma Dean, President

Attendees: 16 members attended – Executive absent – Lorene Hill, Cheri and Warren Kelley

Welcome: President Norma Dean – Thanked everyone who attended our 3rd ZOOM General Meeting. Norma attended a ZOOM Special Meeting of Members this morning with National Office about Branch reserves and a panel discussion on the elections.

Approval of the Agenda: Norma asked if there were any additions to the agenda – there were none.

Committee Reports:

Financial Reports – Serge Gosselin –

- Account Balances as of the end of August – Bank - \$13,941.25, Cash Account - \$475.00. Total Assets amount to \$52,780.24. Overall total of \$65,947.66.
- Total Income – \$7242.90. Expenses of \$4,602.26. After expenses – Surplus of \$2,640.64.
- Motion by Serge: to accept the 2021 financial reports to date as presented, 2nd by Rick Shaw. All approved.

Membership – Steve Bunyan – 691 Doubles, 608 Singles with 1299 Households, Total – 1990 members.

Newsletter – Cherie Kelley – away

- The second newsletter by Cherie went out on time. Articles promoting our Preferred Partners will be included in each Newsletter.
- Cherie has sent copies to Legions, local Federal Departments and RCMP Detachments for information purposes.

Health Benefits – Gordon Richardson –

- Gordon mentioned that one member phoned asking if we had a moving company as a Partner. We do not, but he did mention our Relocation Service which gave good advice to the member.

Communications – Bill Turnbull -

- Website is up to date.

Advocacy – Warren Kelley – away

- Keep getting our message out to MP's
- Remind members of our initiatives
- A large part of our budget for is advocacy.
- Ads were put in local papers to thank Public Servants for a job well done.

Programs – Cecile Turnbull –

- Welcomed everyone.
- Lorene Hill will be the Programs Director when we get back to in-person meetings.
- We looked into a possible meeting place for December, but more than likely March before we meet again with fourth covid surge underway.
- National Board of Directors has given the green light to proceed with in-person meetings, but with additional paperwork required for entry.
- This is too much for both the volunteers and members to undertake at this time.

Others suggestions by attendees:

- Attending members suggested guest speakers for Medoc and Spartan Wellness. Info will be sent to Cecile.
- A suggestion was made to surprise members with a free luncheon in the future. This was not to be announced ahead of time.
- Increase membership by having member(s) bring a new member and get a free lunch.
- Attend General Meetings of the Legion and talk about the benefits of membership and what we are all about.
- \$5.00 lunch and use the money for a door prize or give to an organization.
- Talk to unions like PSAC, PIPs.
- Brochures to Federal offices like Fisheries and Service Canada.

Welfare – Lena Jenkins –

- From May to end of August we have lost 19 members.

New Business:

Elections 2021 – Encourage members to get out and vote keeping in mind where we stand on Association initiatives. Members can vote via mail or in person.

- Pensions, Veterans, Pharmacare, and Seniors Strategy remain Association goals.

Reserves – Norma Dean – we have always had a Defence of Benefits Reserve which is quite substantial but is to be allocated to new Reserve accounts for better budgeting purposes, for example:

- **Information Technology & Equipment** - for computers, printers etc. as required.
- **Rental Facility Improvements** – only by branches that rent office space.
- **Special Events** – for special events, dinners.
- **Advocacy** – big one. Association wants more promotion of organization, what we do, contact with MP's getting our message out, and promoting our Preferred Partners.
- **Recruiting and Communications** – See Membership Recruitment below for examples.
- **Training/Succession Planning for Directors.**
- **Human Resources Liability** – can be used to hire staff if required.
- **Unallocated Activity** – Operating expenses for 1 year – based on the average expenditures from the years 2017-2019 due to the impact of Covid. If money is not spent it will be repatriated.

Membership Recruitment - Norma Dean – Norma gave a brief run down on the work the 5-person Membership Recruitment team has been up to:

- With dwindling numbers across Canada at every branch, concerted efforts have been made to get our name out there for more recognition.

- Budgeting for recruitment – ads, meetings, recruitment materials, why we exist
- Sending out our newsletters to different venues
- Business cards with branch and National Office information
- Possible trade show events in the future
- Meet and Greet meetings.
- Promote Medoc and other Business Partners

Next Meeting –

- A December meeting was discussed and seemed most favored a ZOOM meeting for continuity. A decision will be made by the executive.
- Date of next Annual General Meeting – Wednesday, March 15th, 2022 – possibly in-person.

Adjournment: Norma thanked everyone for their time and moved for adjournment. Seconded by Steve Bunyan – All agreed.

Cecile Turnbull, Secretary

Norma Dean, President