

NAFR York Branch Meeting

09:15 AM – 12:10 PM, Tuesday September 15, 2020

ZOOM Video Conference

Present: Fred Conway, President; Tom Nichols, Past President/Treasurer; Ken Ackles, Vice President; Vasdev Sawhney, Membership; Sharon Carson, Advocacy; Linda Laffree, Giuseppe (Joe) Vettese, Frank Froude, Sharon Paris, Marie MacPhee, Directors-at-Large; Ed Millar, Recording Secretary.

Regrets: Nil.

1. Review and Approval of the Agenda: Approval moved by Sharon Carson, seconded by Sharon Paris.

2. Review and Approval of the Minutes of June 2, 2020: Approval moved by Tom, seconded by Sharon Paris.

3. Action Items from the Minutes:

(i) Venue Change – Aurora Legion: Marie reported rental would be \$85.00/hour with a minimum of 3 hours and a maximum of 50 people. Catering can be brought in or Legion will supply sandwiches/vegetables for \$9.00/person. Marie will check if a NAFR member who is also a Legion member could get a reduced rate. **Action: Marie.** Tom stated the York Regional Police (YRP) building community room is booked for 2020 but not available due to police use. Dates for 2021 should be booked in November.

(ii) Functional Review of Positions: To spread the workload Fred suggested Ed assume the Agenda, Linda handle Branch emails, Ken was asked to reflect on past experience with SAGE to determine how the Branch can move forward. Fred to circulate the latest Branch email addresses. **Action: Fred.**

4. Reports:

(a) Treasurer:

(i) Financial Report: Tom circulated the financial statements prior to the meeting. Referring to the Balance statement Tom noted Branch is in a very positive position and he was able to balance the bank accounts with the CRM system. Membership funds posted to the CRM that belong in the following year are considered liabilities. A forecast of a \$4,000 surplus could be assigned to the Reserves. The Defence of Benefits Reserve has been renamed the Advocacy Reserve. There is room to move money into the Equipment Reserve (\$2,700), the Facilities Reserve (\$5,000) and the Advocacy Reserve (\$2,000). The National Office is doing a study of surpluses at the Branch level to ensure the Not for Profit status of NAFR is maintained. The allocation of funds to Reserves including equipment purchases should be on the October Agenda for resolution. **Action: Ed.**

(ii) Signing Authorities: Fred reported all approvals had been completed at the bank. Tom suggested that, due to low interest rates, keeping the Tangerine account was just complicating the Branch finances, especially when changing the treasurer. National Office have offered to take over Branch accounts for a 10% management fee. Tom moved, seconded by Sharon Carson that the Tangerine account be rolled into the main TD Branch account. **Action: Tom.**

(iii) Office Expenses: Tom noted that paying Board members a flat fee (\$10.00/month) to cover expenses is not legal. Actual receipts are necessary. After discussion Tom moved seconded by Sharon Paris that Branch members present a copy of their interned bill every six months and 10% will be refunded to cover office expenses. **Action: All.**

(iv) Honoraria: Tom stated a flat fee for the storage of equipment is not legal without a receipt. He agreed to absorb the cost for now.

(b) Membership: Tom reported 994 members are listed in the CRM. 3 DDS members were dropped and the lost contact list stood at 24. The National Office is currently conducting a membership drive with incentive prizes.

(c) Advocacy: Sharon outlined a recent half day interview session dealing with contacting MP's and contacting people in government. While useful for many it was somewhat demeaning for anyone experienced in dealing with people at the government and political level. Will continue to try despite Covid-19 hampering contact with people in government. A meeting was held with Deb Schulte, the new minister of seniors.

5. On-Going Business:

(a) Bulletin to Branches: Items covered include suspension of the PSHCP process, Long Term Care moving up the agenda and the possibility of establishing national standards, NAFR's financial situation with membership at 172K members, Branch surplus issue, relaunch of project 338, extension of all position to 2021 due to inability to hold AGM's, various training modules, including treasurer on line and the Dec. 2 AMM on video.

(b) AMM: Dec. 2 video conference with budget approval.

(c) FMM: Oct. 20 date can't be in person according to National Office. York Branch to use a video meeting including a door prize. Possibility of using a phone link for those not on a computer. Fred and Tom may do a practice session. Speaker from Johnson Insurance to be confirmed again by Tom: **Action: Tom.** Fred to check if a National Office speaker is available. **Action: Fred.** Marie to arrange for an e-blast invitation to members. **Action: Marie.** Fred to prepare an Agenda. **Action: Fred.**

6. New Business:

(a) Branch Website: Needs a new content person and updating if Branch is to use to get information out. Content could include AGM minutes and financials.

7. Trends and Concerns Review: Fred raised a concern around pensions and balancing budgets.

8. Next Board Meeting Video Conference 09:15 AM, Oct. 6, 2020.

9. Adjournment: Moved by Vasdev, seconded by Frank.