

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL RETIREES
WESTERN MANITOBA BRANCH
MB30 GENERAL MEETING

October 25, 2022

Board of Directors Attendees: Brad Kelso, Wendy Jarvin, Jane Brunet, Rae McBurney, Brett Turner, Kathie King. Regrets: Garner Shearer, Terry Gunnlaugson

Guests: Pat and Linda Selinger, Mac and Mora Estabrooks, Lyle Gawletz, Kathy and Bob Patryluk, Shirley Miller, Alice Kjartanson, Sonia Sawatsky, Desiree Czerkawski, Kenn Jarvin

1. Welcome Remarks: Wendy J. welcomed everyone to the barbecue luncheon meeting. Stated the current facility may not be suitable in the future to host our meeting. Seniors for Seniors programming has increased with the closure of Prairie Oasis, they are now providing meals to seniors and thus, they are unable to cater to our meetings. The agenda will be flexible, a lunch break will occur and guest speaker Rob Lavin, Executive Director of Seniors, will do a video presentation on the “Senior for Seniors” organization and their programs. Copies of the agenda, minutes and financials were placed at each table.

Wendy read the new COVID-19 safety measures for all NAFR branches: “At the meeting of the national board of directors October 6, the board decided to remove the requirement for participants to demonstrate that they are fully vaccinated in order to attend branch events. Branches are still required to follow their local health authority guidance for COVID-19 and are encouraged to observe social distancing and mask wearing at their events.”

2. Call to Order: Wendy called the meeting to order at 11.25 a.m.

3. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Bob Patryluk to approve the agenda. Seconded by Brett Turner. **MOTION: CARRIED**

4. Introduction of Board of Directors: Wendy introduced directors and their functions.

5. Remembrance of Members: – short silence for those lost. (Please send the branch an email if you know someone who has passed, sympathy cards can be sent on behalf of our branch and association.)

6. Approval of General Member Meeting Minutes, January 21, 2020: Moved by Bob Patryluk seconded by Shirley Miller. No discussion arising from minutes. **MOTION: CARRIED**

7. Correspondence: Surveys “Engage Manitoba” Wendy stressed the importance of completing surveys. Results determine what programs will be offered to members.

8. Branch Report: Main points covered were:

- a. Membership Fees 2023: \$52.56 for a single membership, \$68.28 for a double membership.
- b. Upcoming events from National: Financial literacy webinar, Nov. 2, *Globe and Mail webinar*;

and The Walrus and the NAFR virtual panel re: Veteran Issues. Wendy stated these webinars are developed with members in mind and are funded by memberships fees.

If you have a certain request for a type of webinar, information session, speaker series, please let us know or let the national office know. It is our association.

c. Recent survey results:

i. Why do people join NAFR?

- 1) Protection of pensions and benefits – advocacy efforts
- 2) Preferred partners – MEDOC, travel, home/auto insurance, financial, health,
- 3) Have an opportunity to stay in touch with former colleagues/ socialize
- 4) To stay informed – SAGE magazine
- 5) Volunteer to share their experience/expertise

ii. What are successes achieved through advocacy measures by FSNA & now NAFR?

- 1) Indexed pension & protection over the years
- 2) Dental plan development
- 3) Married after retirement to obtain a survivor pension for spouse.
- 4) Increase Supplementary Death Benefits paid up for Public Service and CAF.
- 5) NAFR are one of 3 parties responsible for governance process of PSHCP.
- 6) Were influential in getting government to allow pension income splitting.
- 7) Have a seat on various government boards and committees which ensures concerns of pensioners are known and considered.

d. Branch volunteers: Branch needs members to fill positions on the board: vice-president and secretary positions and our branch advocacy liaison. Additionally, we are seeking members to volunteer as a “friend of the board” to work on specific branch projects and campaigns.

e. Branch activities:

i. 774 members in our branch, 335 members live in the Brandon area,

ii. Remembrance Day: Financial support and wreath presentations are planned for the following communities: Brandon, Erickson / Onanole, Killarney, Minnedosa, Dauphin.

iii. Holiday greetings which include advertisements in local papers, not all members have emails or have given us their email address, a small ad in their paper lets them know we are here.

iv. Changes by national office dictate that as a non-profit association and following the CRA guidelines we are to change the focus of lunch meetings to recruitment events, which may include a small fee for members. The board of directors moved on Oct 20th to not have a January general members meeting. Next in person meeting will be the Annual General Meeting in April 2023.

f. Ageism: National Office is developing a campaign to heighten awareness of Ageism: **A prejudice and discrimination against people based on their age.** As retired people, we need to raise public awareness about its existence and dispel common stereotypes and

misperceptions about aging. The assumption that all older people are frail and helpless is a common and incorrect stereotype. Self-directed ageism refers to the ageist beliefs we adopt that limit our potential. For example, we may think we are too old to learn new skills or try an activity. We may assume health or mobility declines are a natural part of aging rather than something we can influence or receive treatment for.

(Lunch Break: 11: 45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

9. Guest – Rob Lavin, Executive Director for Seniors for Seniors

10. Treasurer’s Report: Rae McBurney reviewed the reports presented and provided the following balances: Chequing \$ 18,558.93

Investments \$ 15,112.47

Revenue to date \$ 4,207.97

Expenses to date \$ 161.79

Rae moved the financial statements be approved.

Seconded by Bob Patryluk. **MOTION: CARRIED**

11. Manitoba Advocacy Report: Kathie King read the report provided by Cynthia Foreman, Advocacy Officer. Highlights included the new Minister of Seniors position held by Scott Johnson and preparations for the 2023 provincial election.

12. 40th Anniversary Update: Wendy discussed the board’s intention to plan this party to be held April or May 2023. Will need volunteers.

13. “Canada Life” - Public Service Health Care Plan 2023: Wendy reviewed the highlights given at the District Prairie on the new plan and changes that will be implemented. Advised that members need to make sure their contact information with SunLife is current.

14. Adjournment: Pat Selinger moved the meeting be adjourned at 1.22 p.m.