

**Branch Board Meeting Minutes
Antonio's Pizza, Corunna
March 8, 2023**

Branch web site <https://www.federalretirees.ca/Bluewater>

Present -

President - Lawrie Lachapelle
Treasurer - Diane Kerr
Director of Membership - Bill Mason
Vice President / Advocacy - Gloria Cayea
Outreach Coordinator - Pat Mason
IT and Web Site Coordinator - Doug Kerr
Member at Large - Murray Lester
Secretary - Robert Jackson

Regrets -

Past President - Chris Hawksworth

President Lawrie Lachapelle opened the meeting at 11:15 am.

Minutes of the February 1, 2023, Branch Board meeting were approved on a motion by **Gloria** seconded by **Murray**.

The agenda for the upcoming AGM was discussed. To be included are approval of last year's minutes; approval of the By-law amendment; financial approvals as outlined in National's Treasurer checklist; reports from Directors; and elections/Board appointments. **Board members are requested to forward agenda items to Lawrie.**

Lawrie reminded the Board he previously shared the latest Ontario District Zoom meeting recording concerning Branch restructuring. Lawrie will be providing District with his thoughts concerning the number of Branches and the over-burdening nature of our financial structure. Lawrie also summarized his thoughts on the

recent Direct Benefits and Financial Reserves webinars in which he and several members of the Board participated. In summary, the webinars were found to be useful although perhaps the entire Direct Benefits and Financial Reserves are a bit overly complicated in execution.

Diane requested a motion to approve the Reserves as previously distributed to the Board. Approval was carried on a motion by **Doug**, seconded by **Bob**.

Diane moved that the 2023 budget previously distributed to the Board be approved, seconded by **Lawrie**. Motion carried.

Doug summarized his recent update of the website, including the changes requested by the President. Doug suggested the President's message be updated at some point.

Pat gave a status report on our planned social events, namely bowling, golf, and lawn bowling fun days.

Bill updated the Board on our membership numbers, noting we have 6 new members; 3 recently deceased; and 3 out of contact.

Lawrie indicated he will provide the Board with a map showing the boundaries of the Branch. **Doug** stated he could put it on the website. A general discussion followed concerning the vagueness of our Branch boundaries. Also pointed out was the fact that our members do not have to live within Bluewater Branch boundaries to belong to the Branch.

Gloria noted it is difficult to meet her Branch responsibilities using just her tablet, and suggested she could put a Branch computer to good use.

As a past president **Gloria** thanked **Diane** and **Bob** for their contributions to the Board. **Lawrie** thanked the Board for their work and noted he has not yet found anyone new who is willing to join the Board or fill upcoming vacancies. The Board is encouraged to continue its search for volunteers.

The Board discussed printing requirements for the AGM. It was agreed to limit the printing to one copy per table. **Diane** will print the Reserves; the Financial statement; and the Budget for AGM approval. **Bill** will print the AGM agenda; 2022 minutes; and By-law amendment.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 on a motion by **Murray**, seconded by **Bill**.