

NAFR York Branch Meeting

09:30 AM – 12:00 PM May 7, 2024

Video (Zoom)

Present: Fred Conway, President; Tom Nichols, Past President; John Macphee, Treasurer; Marie Macphee, Events; Linda Laffree, Membership; Frank Froude, Web Editor; Vasdev Sawhney, Advocacy; Joe Vettesse, Ed Millar, Directors-at-Large; Member Don Gracey attended as a guest of the President;

Regrets: Keith Chang, Director-at-Large.

1. **Review and Approval of Agenda:** Approval moved by Marie, seconded by Linda.
2. **Review and Approval of the Minutes of April 2, 2024:** Approval moved by Linda, seconded by Marie.
3. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**
 - (a) **Virtual Mail Box:** Fred noted the cost is \$20.00/month for a limited number of mail items. Fred successfully tested the mail box. Address to be published in SAGE. Tom noted the Branch needs a phone number. Currently his phone is the listed number. Fred felt it should be the President. To be actioned at the next meeting.
 - (b) **Equipment Storage:** Not resolved. Items stored at several homes.
4. **Review of the April 26, 2024 AGM Minutes:** A number of spelling and editorial changes were identified and corrected. Fred requested Board approval of the minutes. The approved minutes of the 2023 AGM along with the 2024 AGM minutes will be forwarded to the National Office.
5. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**
 - (a) **Board Positions:** Member Don Gracey provided a review of the positions he has filled during his career most notably around Long Term Care. Currently he is doing consulting work and is a registered lobbyist. He would like to work in Branch advocacy. After some discussion on possible conflict of interest Fred appointed Don to the York Branch Board.
 - (b) **CRM Updates:** Discussion around who has access. Fred and Linda (membership) as well as John (Treasurer) have access. Members were asked to determine if they had access to the VIP portal of the website.

6. Branch AGM Review – Positives and Negatives: Generally positive, some hearing difficulties which could be improved with more equipment. Available lunch sandwiches and treats consumed.

7. Reports:

(a) **President:** Fred outlined recent NAFR developments: the April Bulletin to Branches and National Board of Directors (NBOD) minutes (Jan & Feb); the recent Caretaker Webinar; and the Membership Survey (York portion). A BC director on the NBOD has resigned; the number of NBOD directors who have resigned is concerning. Fred asked the Board to check that they were receiving access to SAGE60 and that they have access to the VIP area of the NAFR website. He reported that he had registered for the AMM. Keith is able to attend as an election candidate at NAFR Ottawa expense.

(b) **Treasurer:** John described the ongoing problems with the TD bank chequing account. The result has caused cheques to bounce due to insufficient funds despite the bank assuring the treasurer there was no problem. Fred and John to try again to work with the bank to clear up the matter. Members should bring expenses for the first six months to the June 4 meeting.

(c) **Membership:** Linda spoke to her report circulated prior to the meeting. The Branch now has 979 members down 5 from the previous report. Three members joined recently, there are 3 unpaid active members, 5 members dropped their membership, 1 DDS not received and 25 lost contacts.

(d) **Website Editor:** Frank requesting clarification on what to upload to the site. Fred will make a list of items from the AGM to be uploaded.

(e) **Advocacy:** Nil.

8. District Meeting: Fred reported on the meeting, also attended by Vasdev and Keith. There was a short presentation on the Strategic Plan, presented by the National VP; Fred relayed comments about the overly-large scope. There was to have been a report on the Branch Structure review, but this has now become the Special committee on Association Structure, which is to set its own Terms of Reference at its first meeting on 29-April, so there was no report. Fiona is the Ontario rep: Fred intends to provide some input to her on a personal basis. NAFR CEO mentioned the planned improved

NAFR website and the associated Digital Marketing Strategy (might mean targeted messaging on social media). There was a three-hour presentation on Governance delivered by a consultant, with NAFR specific comments by Lionel (NAFR-Ottawa). This item seemed to be calculated to show that NAFR is running well, though the consultant had not looked at NAFR specifically. There was some discussion by way of preparation of the AGM. A list of all candidates to be elected is available, but the lack of candidate CV's limited any serious discussion. Most of the Proposals before the AMM looked routine, but the language issue –requiring the NAFR exec to be bilingual English-French may bring some fire to the floor.

9. New Business:

(a) **Recruitment and Retention: Nil.**

(b) **Trends and Concerns Review: Nil.**

10.Next Board Meeting: 09:30 AM June 4, 2024. Aurora Legion (Hybrid).

11.Adjournment: Moved by Linda, seconded by Frank.