

BC09 BOD MEETING MINUTES

April 2, 2024

We acknowledge that this meeting is taking place on the Traditional Lands of the Lekwungen-speaking Peoples, the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

Location: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 292,
411 Gorge Road East, Victoria, B.C.

Time: 9:54 a.m.

In Attendance: James Dallimore, Patricia Francis, Jennifer Furry, Erika Kanczula, Elizabeth (Libby) MacRae, Benny Wong

Regrets: David Stinson, Gordon Usipiuk, J. Ray Webber

Quorum: Yes

Approval of Agenda: Approved with one change: Add Orderly Affairs under New Business

M/ Shirley S/ Benny Carried

Approval of Minutes: March 5, 2024, meeting

M/ Patricia S/ Libby Carried

1. REPORTS

A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Federal Retirees recognizes that it is National Care Giver Day today in Canada and May is National Care Giver Month.
- The first draft of the new Strategic Plan has been circulated to branches for discussion and feedback; the plan will be discussed by branches during their respective district meetings.
- National Volunteer week is coming up April 14th and the theme is: "Every Moment Matters".
- The first meeting of the special committee on the Association's structure will be held on April 29th. It is expected that consultations with volunteers and members will take place.
- Results of the 2023 membership engagement survey will be provided to the Branch Presidents. Libby will share once received.
- There will be National Branch board orientation two-part webinars in April and May both of which are very worthwhile to participate in. They are Part 1 – Governance; session dates: April 30 and May 29; Part 2 – Operations; session dates: May 1 and May 30.
- Our Fall Sage submission is due June 21; in members' homes Sept. 3-12, date range for events Sept. 4 - Dec. 21. It was discussed that it may arrive too late to remind our members of our September meeting. Libby advised she will include in the Fall Sage the rest of our meeting dates for 2024. It was recommended that e-blasts also be sent out prior to each meeting.

B. TREASURER'S REPORT:

There has been minimal change in the accounts since the last report. Erika indicated she would bring the petty cash to each meeting in case anyone had minor expenditures for payment.

C. ADVOCACY:

It was pointed out that there are eight provincial electoral districts in our area, which means there could be about 40 candidates to try to meet. Given the branch's limited capacity for advocacy, it may be better to wait until after the election to meet with MLAs in person. In the meantime, members could attend townhalls to ask questions of candidates.

D. HEALTH BENEFITS:

Patricia had a call from a member who indicated that they had not heard from the insurance company for over 3 months. It was noted that other members have also had a long wait - up to six months, but eventually everything was settled satisfactorily.

E. MEMBERSHIP:

Nothing to report at this time.

F. RECRUITMENT:

It was noted that we have a position vacant on the Board. Libby advised that it is anticipated that recruitment will be a topic at the district meeting and she will report back with any information provided. It was suggested that the need for another board member be raised again at our September meeting. It was also mentioned that it might be a good idea to have a job description for each position so that prospective members may be aware of what is expected of each position.

G. SPEAKERS PROGRAM:

Patricia is planning for the December meeting and asked for suggestions. It was recommended that e-blasts be sent out to remind our members of the meetings and who our guest speaker is. HearingLife is our September speaker and Iris is our October speaker.

H. PREFERRED PARTNER PROGRAM:

See below.

I. WEBSITE:

Gordon is having difficulties with webmaster google account and will be in touch with Anne for assistance.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update list of duties of Board members

Deferred to next meeting.

B. District Meeting Abbotsford May 6 - 8th, 2024

Libby has submitted the names of the three people attending the District meeting (Libby, Benny and Patricia) but has heard nothing back as of yet.

C. AMM Gatineau June 18 – 20, 2024

The theme for the meeting is “Connected Conversations: Building a Stronger Association”. The President and one observer per branch (latter at the Branch’s expense) may attend. Registration will be open on Thursday April 11; close on May 10. Due to spacing concerns, each Branch is permitted to register one observer between April 11 and May 3; Branches wishing to send a second observer will be permitted to register between May 6-10 (space permitting). Libby will provide travel information when received.

D. Annual Report to National Office

The Annual Report must be submitted by May 15th and Libby is working on gathering the documents as required. The Report consists of a variety of documents including: Financial Statements balances and earnings (loss) reports, Branch representation letter, Bank and investment statements for December 2023, draft Branch 2024 AGM Minutes including Branch reserves, and Branch annual review form.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. September General Meeting

It has been suggested that we include a townhall during the meeting. Potential items for discussion could be the status of the branch and the way ahead, a survey of members (it was suggested that notice of the survey could be given in the September Sage) and recruitment and need for another Director. It was decided that we would meet again on May 14 to develop survey questions.

B. October General Meeting

It was suggested a second townhall be held to provide a summary of what was discussed in the September meeting, the results of the written survey and further discussion with the members.

C. Draft Strategic Plan

It was discussed that the contents of the draft strategic plan look like a several year project and that we can anticipate that committees will be set up and volunteers needed. Even though not mentioned, it may be that the focus will be on the younger age group. The plan will be further discussed on May 14th.

D. Name Tags/Business cards

Orders were confirmed.

E. Preferred Partner Request – Orderly Affairs

It was noted that Arbour, our national partner, does many of the things that Orderly Affairs offers. It was recommended that we make inquiries with NO and regulations be checked. This will be added for discussion at next month's meeting.

4. ROUNDTABLE:

Patricia mentioned that she had received a phone call from someone who had received a condolence card in error. The new members asked what the procedure is for sending out condolences, who receives them, as well as what is sent to those who have lost someone. Erika mentioned that part of the process followed in the Sidney branch included a phone call to the family. It was requested that this topic be added to the agenda for next meeting.

UPCOMING BOD MEETINGS: May 14, 2024, June 4, 2024

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: September 10, 2024

ADJOURNMENT: 11:58 a.m. **M/** Patricia **S/** Libby Carried