



Strathcona Branch 595

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 24TH, 2018

PRESENT: Comrades James Simpson, Helen Fraser, Wanda Riddell, Derk Duermeyer, Dennis Sirman, Ron Barrie, Harold Pretty, Ken Bonell, Robert Buss, James Grady, Rob Mantle, Brian Madden, Victor Dowie, Diane Muldoon, Adeline Gadde, Sharon Brush, Dave Brush, Grant Yusak, Andre Fortier, Carm Valiquette, Ron Oakley, Toula Pouris, Heather Mills, Dorothy Corbin, Gilbert Maxwell, Bruce Brown, Howard Keck, Rick Johnston, Russ Williams, Wendy Wynne-Jones, Steve Young, Ken Harrison, Robin Brown, Shirley Lajolie

1. **OPENING CEREMONIES AS PER LEGION RITUAL:**

Meeting called to order and opened with the President conducting the "Opening Ritual" at 7:00 pm.

The President conducted the meeting.

2. **CEREMONY OF ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS:**

MOTION

None.

3. **ELECTION**

The Elections were conducted by Zone Commander Frank Stacey assisted by Comrade Doug Cody from Westboro Branch as Scrutineer.

Comrade James Simpson and Comrade Brian Madden ran for the position of President. After counting the votes, Comrade Brian Madden was elected President.

Comrade Derk Duermeyer was elected as 1st Vice-President, Comrade Wanda Riddell was elected as 2nd Vice-President and Comrade Robert Mantle was elected as 3rd Vice-President.

Eight members ran for the nine executive positions and were acclaimed:

Comrades Ray Moloughney, Connie Bennett, Janet Waitman, Bruce Brown, Stephen Young, Robert Buss, Shirley Lajolie and Toula Pouris

It was moved by Comrade Frank Stacey and seconded by Comrade Wanda Riddell that the ballots be destroyed.

Zone Commander Frank Stacey then went through the procedure of swearing in the newly elected Executive, the three Vice-Presidents and the President in their respective offices. Following those ceremonies, President James Simpson continued with the business of the General Meeting.

4. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING:**

The minutes of the last meeting held on February 27th, 2018 were distributed.

MOTION

Moved by Comrade Rob Mantle and seconded by Comrade Andre Fortier to accept the minutes as circulated.

CARRIED

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

President James Simpson turned the conducting of the meeting over to Secretary, Helen Fraser for the purpose of the following motion:

MOTION

Moved by Comrade James Simpson and seconded by Comrade Dennis Sirman that Strathcona Branch withdraw from the Ottawa Poppy Trust Fund be approved.

Comrade Wendy Wynne-Jones asked for OPF committee members to canvas membership for what donations should be made on behalf of Strathcona Branch. Comrade Dave Brush asked that Comrade Brian Madden, as future President, for his decision. Comrade Doug Cody, Chair of Ottawa Poppy Trust Fund, was introduced by Comrade Brian Madden. Comrade Doug Cody spoke regarding the current operation of the Ottawa Poppy Trust Fund. Comrade Ken Harrison spoke regarding the primary purpose of the Poppy Fund, serving veterans, not recognition of branches. Comrade James Simpson spoke regarding withdrawal from Ottawa Poppy Trust Fund, Strathcona Branch wishes to choose donations and administer trust fund directly in order to have recognition to the community it serves.

SECRET BALLOT: CARRIED FOR 17 AGAINST 16

It was moved by Comrade Helen Fraser and seconded by Comrade Grant Yusak that the ballots be destroyed.

6. **FINANCIAL REPORT: Comrade Dennis Sirman**

Comrade Sirman provided the financial statements for the period ending March 31, 2018. The financial statements are attached to the Branch and Secretary's copies of the minutes.

7. **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

I greatly appreciate your support of the Motion to withdraw from the Ottawa Poppy Trust Fund. It is a very significant step for Strathcona but it is one that I am convinced will greatly benefit us in the end. There will be lots of work to do between now and Poppy campaign time but with the help and support of the Zone Commander during the transition I am sure we will be ready for a successful campaign. We will be asking for your input on where our Poppy donations should go.

Well we now know who the Officers and Executive of the Branch will be commencing June 1, but right now we have 40 days to go until the end of our current fiscal year, so we will focus on that.

You have heard the Income statement from Dennis but that only reports up until the end of March so we still have this month and next month to report on. Your Executive is working hard to try to get the situation closer to the break-even point or at least hold the losses where we are now which, as you

have seen, is much improved over where we were last year. To help us achieve that goal we ask you to support our remaining events as much as possible and bring your friends.

Towards the end of the Agenda we will be tabling a Motion to carry out some amendments to our Branch Regulations. Along with changes such as moving our election meeting to May from April, an important part will be to provide some structure and clarity in our Branch Nominations and Elections procedures. This Motion will be voted upon at the June meeting and we will providing you with all the details in an upcoming Newsletter.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE AND BUSINESS ARISING THEREFROM:**

None

9. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

(a) **Legion Seniors – Comrade Toulia Pouris**

No report.

(b) **Membership - Comrade Helen Fraser**

As at April 24th, 2018: Total Membership – 319

STATUS	# RECORDS
PAID UP	234
LAPSED 1&2	85
TOTALS	319

(c) **Poppy – Comrade Brian Madden**

Comrade Brian Madden reported cheques have been received for donations to Perley, Military Family Resource Centre and Cadet Corps. Presentations will be made in the near future.

(d) **Public Relations and Publicity – Comrade Dom Baldwin**

No report.

(e) **Sports and Track and Field – Comrade Greg Devine**

No report.

(f) **Training and Organizational Development - Comrade Dom Baldwin**

No report.

(g) **Veterans' Services - Comrade Vic Dowie**

Comrade Vic Dowie advised that help is available for disabilities, applications for assessment are available.

(h) **Bar - Comrade Helen Fraser**

Comrade Fraser reported the bar is running smoothly.

(i) **Bylaws and Branch Regulations - Comrade Wanda Riddell**

No report.

(j) Cadet Liaison – Comrade Rob Mantle

Comrade Mantle reported:

Community Relations/Volunteering

On September 15th, 25 Cadets from the Governor General Foot Guards exercised their rights by participating in the Freedom of the City Parade.

Some Cadets had also dedicated their time by now only volunteering in the Canada Army Run, but also volunteering for this Event.

4 Cadets had the honour of presenting the Flags at at 67s game on 10 November.

Last year's recipient of the Legion Medal, Sgt Miasya Bulger was selected to act as Master of Ceremonies for the Army Cadet AGM held 21 April. This is further proof that her recommendation for this award was very deserving.

Cadet Training

September 22 - 24 saw 10 GGFG Cadets participate in the "Gold Star" Expedition, which is provides elevated training to Cadets who are looking to move ahead.

The Field Training Exercise (FTX) was held 13 - 15 Oct. These exercises help cadets to hone their field craft and provide them with practical skills in Outdoor Orientation. These exercises are usually held twice in a training year, both Winter and Fall.

Winter FTX had taken place 9 - 11 March with great participation from the Corps.

Fundraising

On November 25th, many Cadets participated in Tag Day to help raise funds for operating costs. On February 3rd Cadets participated in the Kiwanis Bed Races, where they advanced to the Semi-finals.

Thanks to Comrade Grant Yusak for suggesting a bowling fundraiser for Cadets. They have already made arrangements and hoping it is a great success.

Remembrance Activities

3 Cadets from 2784 were selected to lay a wreath at Beachwood during Remembrance Ceremonies. Those who participated were honoured to be selected for this important function. As a gesture of gratitude, the Branch decided to present our Corps with "Lest We Forget" wristbands as a small appreciation for their continued support to Branch #595 during our Remembrance Activities, including Brantwood Gates, as well as the Veterans Day at Billings Bridge and our annual Veteran's Dinner.

Branch Support

\$150 dollars from the Cadet Fund was used to assist in designing business cards/bookmarks which the Cadets will use for recruitment during Tag Days.

Cadets had requested support in purchasing a small fridge to be used for their canteen during training nights. These funds were provided through the Cadet Fund and I was able to purchase a fridge and deliver it to their Drill Hall.

With funds received from Ottawa Poppy, Branch #595 will be presenting a cheque in the amount of 5000 dollars to the GGFGs at their Annual Cadet Review.

On February 4th, Comrade Georges Winters and I had the pleasure of presenting a cheque from Ottawa Poppy to the 742 Air Cadet Band to say thanks for their continued support to our Remembrance Activities. While we were there, I had the great pleasure to act as their

Reviewing Officer for the CO's Parade. (note: pictures will be coming out May 2018 in Legion Magazine)

C/Sgt James Swartz has been nominated as this year's recipient of the Legion Medal of Excellence.

Sports

After working hard in training, a number of Cadets were selected to participate in the Biathlon Competition from 13 - 14 Jan 2018.

Winter Fun Day was held this year on January 20th at a local park.

Other

Our Cadet Corps puts out a monthly newsletter to report on current events and activities of the Corps. Newsletters are posted on our bulletin board at the branch for those interested in reading up on their activities.

(k) **Hall Rentals – Comrade Greg Devine**

No report.

(l) **House – Comrade Dennis Sirman**

Comrade Dennis Sirman reported CLV, our property management group has been contacted to address the people parking in the fire lane area and put back the speed bumps. Also, with the renovations going on next door, repeated access through to the roof has left our ceiling in poor condition, which has led to an additional request to have that fixed to our satisfaction.

(m) **Legion Retail – Comrade Derk Duermeyer**

Comrade Duermeyer reported everything going smoothly. He advised he will make the trip to Kanata to fill orders once a month.

(n) **Member Communications – Comrade Janet Waitman**

No report.

(o) **Youth Education and Bursary - Comrade Bruce Brown**

Comrade Brown reported the Zone 5 Public Speaking contest was held on 3 March at Strathcona. There were 8 contestants in the morning and 8 in the afternoon. There was not quite as many contestants as years past but it was still a success. Thanks to Jim Simpson for helping at the event. Photos may be found on the website. The District public speaking contest was held in Brockville on March 24. A student from Strathcona placed 2nd in the Intermediate level and another student from Strathcona placed 2nd in the senior level.

(p) **Ways & Means - Comrade Dom Baldwin**

No report.

(q) **Catch the Ace – Comrade Dennis Sirman**

Comrade Sirman reported we are at our half way point as there are 26 envelopes left. To date we have had 26 different winners, mostly members and the weekly tickets sales are improving with the last sale being 103 tickets.

The Legion has benefited \$2600.00 in cost of operation with over \$2000.00 being raised for community support. It is hoped that this additional money directed towards the community will see more awareness of our Branch and stronger participation through rentals etc.

10. **MOTION TO ACCEPT ALL REPORTS**

Moved by Comrade Wendy Wynne-Jones and seconded by Comrade Wanda Riddell that all reports be accepted. **Motion carried.**

11. **GENERAL AND NEW BUSINESS:**

Comrade Frank Stacey advised there will be a training seminar for the new executive held on July 14, 2018 from 9 am to 3 pm at Dominion Command, 86 Aird Place, Kanata.

Richmond Legion is celebrating its 45th anniversary and has invited all branches to send a delegation to participate in their festivities on June 17th at 4:45 pm.

12. **TABLING OF NOTICES OF MOTION**

MOVED by Comrade Ron Oakley and **SECONDED** by Comrade Wanda Riddell to update the Strathcona By-laws and if necessary the Branch Regulations. If the Regulations have to be updated that must go through Ontario Command.

13. **MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:20 pm the President, declared the business of the meeting having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned.

14. **CLOSING CEREMONY:**

Comrade James Simpson conducted the "Closing Ritual".

Next General Meeting: June 26, 2018

James Simpson
President

Helen Fraser
Secretary

January, April, June, September, October, November