



Strathcona Branch 595

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 26TH, 2016

PRESENT: Comrades Dennis Sirman, Helen Fraser, Wanda Riddell, Brian Madden, Faye McDonald, Diane Muldoon, Adeline Gadde, Ron Oakley, Ron Barrie, Derk Duermeyer, Robert MacLean, John Carter, Wendy Wynne-Jones, Toulas Pouris, Georges Winters, Katherine Winters, Rupert Gleason-Beard, Joanne McNeil, Bob Joly, Marjorie Joly, Harold Pretty, Elizabeth O'Malley, Mary Smith, Ken Bonell, John Gazeley, Glenn Bell, Martin Maltais, Rob Mantle, Jim Simpson, Robin Brown, Tom Feeley, Carmelita Valiquette, Dorothy Corbin, Mac Maisonneuve

EXCUSED:

ABSENT:

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

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

Comrade Martin Maltais assumed the responsibilities of the Chair for the meeting.

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

Comrade Helen Fraser moved to approve the following members and the motion was seconded by Comrade Joanne McNeil.

Carmelita Valiquette	Affiliate
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CARRIED

Comrade Helen Fraser announced the following new members were present for initiation:

Dorothy Corbin - Associate
Rupert Gleason-Beard - Ordinary
Mac Maisonneuve – Affiliate
Carmelita Valiquette - Affiliate

The Membership Chair conducted the swearing in ceremony of the above new members after which they were welcomed by the Members.

3. **ELECTIONS**

The Elections were scrutinized by Comrade Frank Stacey from Zone Command. Comrade Martin Maltais ran for President and was acclaimed. Comrade Wanda Riddell was acclaimed as

1st Vice-President, Comrade John Carter was acclaimed as 2nd Vice-President and Comrade James Simpson was acclaimed as 3rd Vice-President. Eight members ran for the nine executive positions and were acclaimed, Glenn Bell, Tom Feeley, Ray Moloughney, Wavey Bennett, Rob Mantel, Derk Duemeyer, Bruce Brown and Robin Brown. Mary Smith was also acclaimed following the meeting.

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

The minutes of the last meeting held on January 26th, 2016 were distributed.

MOTION

Moved by Comrade Ken Harrison and seconded by Comrade Faye McDonald to accept the minutes as circulated.

CARRIED

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

Comrade Sirman will make available recommended changes as per last general meeting minutes.

ACTION ITEM: Dennis Sirman

6. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

President, Comrade Dennis Sirman

A year in review, last June I had set some pretty high goals for 595, goals that I would dedicate to fulfill to the maximum my skills and time. Looking back, I found that the most important, most significant is to develop a team. For the most part, you, the members of the executive, were elected and some spots were filled by appointment. It is this team that was able to remodel 595 building a new "99 Greenfield" lounge, expanding the cooking area, refinishing the dance floor, installing a new carpet, replacing chairs, painted the entire Branch and maintaining it to a beautiful place as you see. All this plus, weekly newsletters, a year of volunteer dinners most with great entertainment, excellent financial and administrative record keeping, an outstanding achievement in legion darts sales and retail, a happy membership, happy renters and record breaking poppy drive. To each and every one on the executive, thank you.

Comrade Betty Brown not only runs our Monday Euchre but continues to innovate trying new approaches to bring players into our Branch, thank you. Comrade Dave Brush, the leader of the grumpys found new and fun ways to bring Friday dinners to the Branch, thank you. Comrade Shirley, with her superior cooking skills tried new recipes to make our Friday's a success, thank you. There are more to single out and appreciate like one of our more recent transfers, Comrade Derk who can really cook and has brought to the legion some very innovative dishes, thank you.

To comrades Eli and Ray and Mr Anderson, thank you for making the branch a so much better place. I can't stop here I must mention our two bar servers/members Connie and Toula, thank you for going beyond and being there.

Unfortunately, it wasn't enough, we continue to lose ground financially. We must work to make this place busy 7 days a week. A new idea such as the "Lunch and Learn" has opened the door but I am sure there are more ideas out there that we can utilize to make this a sustainable branch.

In closing thank you all for making this past year a fond memory and I hope you continue to support the next executive and its leader as you have me.

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT: Comrade John Carter**

The financial statements for the period ending March 31st 2016 were presented and a copy is attached to the Branch and Secretary's copies. Comrade Carter reported

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

None

9. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

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

Comrade Fraser reported we have hired three bartenders, Kai, Liza who started in March and Pauline Walker who will start in May. Comrade Fraser proposed the installation of a six tap draught bridge tower system. Labatt will provide the tower, cost of \$1,964.25 and reimburse \$500 of the installation cost of \$1,885.10, leaving the branch to pay \$685.00 for a \$3,849.35 value. It was noted by Comrade Tom Feeley that the refrigeration system may be overtaxed. Discussions will be undertaken with the installer.

It was moved by Comrade Helen Fraser and seconded by Comrade Derk Duemeyer that the purchase and installation of a six tap draft bridge tower be approved.

CARRIED (25 for/13 against)

Comrade Fraser also advised that the purchase of a new ice machine is required as the present one is beyond repair due to improper installation at an approximate cost of \$4,500.00.

(b) **Entertainment – Comrade Greg Devine**

Comrade Devine reported all going well.

(c) **Sports and Track and Field – Errol Choo**

Comrade Choo reported the only sport that gained any interest of participation at Legion Zones was darts, in that discipline we had the best success enjoyed by Strathcona.

Thanks to Dennis our drop in dart league is steadily gaining in participation, not quite at the numbers we got use to a few years ago, before we started experiencing dwindling numbers in the last 2 to 3 years.

My sincere hope is that someone can step up and try to drum up some interest in the other sports/games such as cribbage.

Thanks for the short and sweet experience.

(d) **Legion and Dart Retail - vacant**

No report.

(e) **House - Comrade Glenn Bell**

Comrade Bell recapped the year.

(f) **Hall Rentals – Wanda Riddell**

Comrade Riddell reported going very well.

(g) **Training and Organizational Development - Comrade Tom Feeley**

No report.

(h) **Communications, Public Relations and Publicity - Comrade Mary Smith**

No report.

- (i) **Membership - Comrade Helen Fraser**
As at April 24th, 2016: Total Membership – 346

STATUS	# RECORDS
PAID UP	279
LAPSED 1&2	67
TOTALS	346

Comrade Fraser reported Dominion Command has sent out renewal reminders by regular mail to those members who have not renewed for 2016 in late March.

Per capita tax sent to Dominion Command since last General Meeting \$323.70.

The Branch received an Early Bird Award from Dominion Command, having renewed membership over 75% as at November 30, 2015.

- (j) **Poppy – Comrades Martin Maltais/Brian Madden**

Comrade Maltais reported two Branch flags are required, one for our Branch to replace our 55 year old flag and one for the Governor General Foot Guard Cadets to fly during parades and other events when the colours are displayed. A full flag kit for the Corps is a cost of \$540.00 and for the Branch is \$450.00.

It was suggested that Comrade Maltais look to the Poppy Fund for payment of the cadet flag.

It was moved by Comrade Martin Maltais and seconded by Comrade Dennis Sirman that the purchase of 2 Branch flags at a total cost of \$990.00 be approved (pending a decision by the Poppy Fund).

CARRIED

Comrade Madden advised that a new constitution is being finalized for Ottawa Poppy and will be presented at our next general meeting.

- (k) **Honours and Awards - Comrade Brian Madden**

No report.

- (l) **Veterans' Services - Comrade Georges Winters**

No report.

- (m) **Legion Seniors – Vacant**

Comrade Sirman advised that the Lunch & Learn sessions are being held once per month until June, 2016.

- (n) **Branch Regulations - Comrade Dennis Sirman**

No report.

- (o) **Youth Education and Bursary - Comrade Bruce Brown/Comrade Brian Madden**
Comrade Brown reported the Zone G 5 Public Speaking contest which was held at Barrhaven Legion on March 5.
- (p) **Ways & Means - Comrade Tom Feeley**
Comrade Feeley reported there will be a yard sale held at the Branch on May 14th, 2016. Fifteen tables are spoken for already.
- (q) **Kitchen Services - Comrade Wavey Bennett**
No report.
- (r) **Cadet Liaison – Comrade Rob Mantle**
No report.

10. MOTION TO ACCEPT ALL REPORTS

Moved by Comrade Ron Barry and seconded by Comrade Ron Oakley that all reports be accepted.

CARRIED

11. GENERAL AND NEW BUSINESS:

None.

12. TABLING OF NOTICES OF MOTION

Motion to approve Ottawa Poppy Fund Constitution

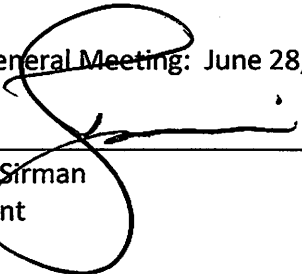
13. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:25 pm Comrade Martin Maltais, Branch Chair, declared the business of the meeting having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned.

14. CLOSING CEREMONY:

Comrade Dennis Sirman conducted the "Closing Ritual".

Next General Meeting: June 28, 2016



Dennis Sirman
President



Helen Fraser
Secretary