



**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
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**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING  
STRATHCONA BRANCH 595, TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2014**

**PRESENT:** Comrades Brian Madden, Jim Simpson, Ken Parker, Greg Devine, Bruce Brown, Helen Fraser, Dennis Sirman, Grant Yusak, Bill Bradley, Ethel Benson, Kim Richardson, Shelly Robinson, Ron Barrie, Paul Bendus, Robert McLean, Ron Skemer, Robert Buss, W. Brush, Pat Chamberlain, Roy Marsaw, Ken Harrison, Gerard Chamberlain, Ethel Benson, Coreen Allaire, Ron Allaire, Janet Waitman, Mike Keane, Howard Keck, Michael Robinson, Ernie Tannis, Archie McQueen

**EXCUSED:** Annie Moreland, Georges Winters, Martin Maltais

**ABSENT:** Michel Gauthier

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

Meeting called to order and opened with the President, Comrade Brian Madden, conducting the "Opening Ritual" at 7:00 pm. He then turned over the meeting to the Branch Chairman, Jim Simpson.

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

Membership Chair Helen Fraser moved to approve the following members and the motion was seconded by Comrade Grant Yusak. **Motion carried.**

Gregory Parent  
Kimberley Parent  
Michael Hayes  
Shawn Scott

David Nigra  
John Granata  
Archie McQueen  
Don Willard Pickrell

George Ernest Roper  
James Solomon Sookhbirsingh  
Josiane Marie Pauline Roberds  
Lloyd Olive

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

Anastasia Bendus  
Archie McQueen  
Michael Keane

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

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

The minutes of the previous meeting held on November 26, 2013 were distributed.

Moved by Ron Barrie and seconded by Gerard Chamberlain to accept the minutes as circulated. **Motion carried.**

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

Nil

5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Comrade Brian Madden reported that he attended the Poppy meeting with Comrade Maltais on Nov. 21, 2013. He attended a special meeting of the GGFG's Cadet Corp on Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>. On Dec.11 he attended the GGFG's Mess Dinner. On Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> both Comrade Maltais and Comrade Madden attended the GGFG's Christmas Parade and Comrade Maltais presented them with a check for \$3000 from the Ottawa Poppy Fund. On Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>, Comrades Maltais, Oakley And Madden attended the monthly Poppy meeting. On Jan. 1, 2014 Comrade Madden held his President's Levee and would like to thank Roslyn and James Harris for their assistance that day. The presidents of Orleans, Bells Corners, Strathcona branches have been tasked with review of Poppy boundaries and to Make a report on March 30<sup>th</sup> at the Zone Convention, held at our branch.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

**Comrade James Simpson**

The financial statements for period ending December 31, 2013 were presented and a copy is attached to the Branch and Secretary's copies.

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

None

8. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

(a) **Bar and Entertainment - Comrade Ken Parker**

Comrade Ken Parker gave update on bar and entertainment. Some suggestions were made by the membership to try other genres of music and it was also requested that the volume be monitored, when bands are performing. It was suggested that a phone committee be formed to call and remind the members of upcoming events. Comrade Gerard Chamberlain volunteered to head the committee.

(b) **House - Comrade Dennis Sirman**

Comrade Dennis Sirman stated that there are still a few things to be completed, such as a few lights and addition of more bulletin boards. One of the HVAC units has broken down and is awaiting repair. There are still some chairs that need repair and Comrade Sirman asked for volunteers to be available on a Sunday afternoon, perhaps, to help finish the job.

(c) **Membership Communications - Comrade Dennis Sirman**

Newsletters are being sent out regularly to the membership, everything is running smoothly. He will speak with Comrade Chamberlain regarding the phone committee.

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

Membership numbers - 325

Life - 6

Ordinary - 127

Associate -107

Affiliate -50

Dues Lapsed

1 year - 19 or 5.8%

2 years - 7 or 2.2%

Paid up for 2013 -290

(e) **Poppy – Comrade Martin Maltais**

Nil report

(f) **Training and Organizational Development - Comrade Georges Winters**

Nil report.

**(g) Sports and Track and Field - Comrade Greg Devine**

Comrade Devine stated that posters are up for events. There is a Euchre tournament in February and Mixed Darts in March. Let him know if anyone wants to register.

**(h) Hall Rentals - Comrade Greg Devine**

Hall rentals are going well. The Hall is rented for 2 events on the same day - Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>.

**(i) Honours and Awards - Comrade Annie Moreland**

No report.

**(j) Public Relations and Publicity - Comrade Grant Yusak**

Comrade Yusak explained that posters are being placed at Walkley Lanes for Legion events. Facebook is also being used for advertising. Councillor McCrea still hasn't issued the refund check for our street signage overpayment for 2013.

**(k) Veteran's Services - Comrade Michel Gauthier**

Nil report.

**(l) Legion Seniors - Comrade Bill Bradley**

Comrade Bradley advised the membership that he and Comrade Sirman attended a workshop for Veteran's Seniors. It provided avenues to pursue issues that may affect Seniors. If Seniors have any issues that they need assistance with, they should contact Comrade Bradley.

**(m) Branch Regulations - Comrade James Simpson**

Nil report.

**(n) Youth Education - Comrade Bruce Brown**

Comrade Brown reported that we have hung the artwork of a prior Poster contest winner on the wall. We plan to do so, annually, if the work is donated. Thank you to the volunteers that helped judge the works. Awards Were given out on Jan. 19. There will be a Zone Public speaking contest Held on March 2.

Comrade Madden explained how the Bursary Program is implemented. He explained that it is for students in need, attending University. There are \$500 bursaries available at the branch level. A student should apply by March, if they wish to receive a Bursary.

(o) **Ways and Means - Comrade Bill Bradley**

Nil report

9. **MOTION TO ACCEPT ALL REPORTS**

Moved by Bob McLean and seconded by Gerard Chamberlain that all reports be accepted. **Motion carried**

10. **GENERAL AND NEW BUSINESS:**

A. The Zone convention will be held at our branch on March 30. Volunteers would be appreciated to help set up, etc.

B. Valentine's Day Dinner will be held on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> and Barb Wallingford will be here to entertain. A fundraiser is also being held for Camp Merrywood.

C. To increase revenues we need some new ideas. If anyone has suggestions, please let someone on the Executive committee know.

11. **TABLING OF NOTICES OF MOTION**

None.

12. **MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:50 pm the Branch Chair, declared that the business of the meeting having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned.

13. **CLOSING CEREMONY:**

President Brian Madden conducted the "Closing Ritual" at 8:50 pm.

Next General Meeting: April 22, 2014

Kim Richardson  
Secretary

Brian Madden  
President

November, January, April, June, September, October