



Strathcona Branch 595

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH, 2015

PRESENT: Comrades Helen Fraser, James Grady, Adelaine Gadde, Dave Brush, Toula Pouris, Ron Oakley, Ron Barrie, Brian Madden, Malph Maltais, Katherine Winters, Howard Keck, Ken Harrison, Georges Winters, Robin Brown, John Carter, Bruce Brown, Serge Gauthier, Marjorie Joly, Bothtawee Kelly, Faye McDonald, Diane Muldoon, Francoise Laflamme, Ron Sparks, Glenn Bell and Horace Himbury

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 Marjorie Joly.

Kenneth Bonnell Associate

Derk W.J. Duermeyer Ordinary – Transfer from Alliston

George Langille Ordinary

Kenneth Nye Associate – Transfer from Port Elgin

Joseph Stec Ordinary – Transfer from Greely

Margaret A. Sturley Ordinary – Transfer from Bells Corners

Robert J. Tracy Ordinary – Transfer from Kanata

Richard Turcotte Ordinary

CARRIED

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

Kenneth Bonnell - Associate

George Langille - Ordinary

Wendy Wynne-Jones - Affiliate

Comrade Helen Fraser, Membership Chair, 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 last meeting held on October 27th, 2015 were distributed.

MOTION

Moved by Comrade Dave Brush and seconded by Comrade Diane Muldoon to accept the minutes as circulated.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President, Comrade Dennis Sirman

We are at the half point, your Executive has done well. We have addressed the recommendations of both the Financial Review and the Profitability Sub Committee, implemented some and set aside others. Financially we have done well showing that we can be in the black, the poppy campaign exceeded our goal by more than \$5,000, your Poppy Chairman will give you the full report. We have continually increased our membership and from what I can see active participation has also increased. Congratulations to all of you, for a job well done.

The Second half will be the real test, however with the dedication and effort of you, the members that have been actively supporting the Branch, we can succeed.

The first task is to come up with a plan of what, when and who are going to fill our schedule and then get the message to our PRO so that all are aware of it. This where you can too have some input onto what we can do. Now is not the time to relax we must stay on top. Please take the time to put forward your ideas, I would like to have our calendar of events completed before the end of December.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT: Comrade John Carter

The financial statements for the period ending October 31st 2015 were presented and a copy is attached to the Branch and Secretary's copies. Comrade Carter reported that the Branch is in the black.

7. CORRESPONDENCE AND BUSINESS ARISING THEREFROM:

None

8. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

(a) Bar - Comrade Helen Fraser

All is running smoothly.

(b) Entertainment – Comrade Greg Devine

Comrade Devine reported all going well.

(c) Sports and Track and Field - vacant

No report.

(d) Legion and Dart Retail - vacant

No report.

(e) House - Comrade Glenn Bell

Comrade Bell reported completion of work in kitchen area. The installation of the baseboards is yet to be completed.

(f) Hall Rentals – Wanda Riddell

Comrade Riddell reported met with several people, Hall is rented Dec. 19th 2015 and March 19th 2016. Working on a few more.

(g) Training and Organizational Development - Comrade Tom Feeley

No report.

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

Comrade Smith reported normal newsletters and advertising is being done. There has been some encouragement that our message is reaching beyond our regular group. Looking at ways to expand on that and continue to grow.

(i) Membership - Comrade Helen Fraser

As at November 22nd, 2015: Total Membership – 362

STATUS # RECORDS

PAID UP 313

LAPSED 1 32

LAPSED 2 17

TOTALS 362

Per capita tax send to Dominion Command since last General Meeting \$2,298.27.

(j) Poppy – Comrades Martin Maltais/Brian Madden

Comrades Madden and Maltais reported 2015 was very good for the Poppy Campaign. My goal at the beginning of the Campaign was to raise \$40,000 which was surpassing the 2013 Campaign, however Strathcona raised a total of \$45,242.

I would like to profoundly thank all those who volunteered their time and efforts in order to make this a successful year. I am sorry for those that were not able to attend the post campaign luncheon but you were not forgotten.

WELL DONE Comrades. And in the words of Rabbi Bulka "I say BRAVO".

Comrade Madden thanked everyone on behalf of the Ottawa Poppy Fund.

(k) Honours and Awards - Comrade Brian Madden

No report.

(l) Veterans' Services - Comrade Georges Winters

Comrade Winters reported receipt of one enquiry which he speedily passed on to the next level.

I wish to thank all my comrades for helping Ron Oakley, Ray Ayotte and myself with another successful Commemorative Ceremony on November 8th.

Kudos are to be given to the Colour & Honour Guards that participated that day as well as our Marching Cadet Bands and Cadets.

A special thank-you to Comrade Terry Warner for bringing his GEM (jeep) out of winter storage specifically for the parade.

With my health remaining the same, I look forward to an even bigger turn-out and member participation for next year.

(m) Legion Seniors – Tom Feeley

No report.

(n) Branch Regulations - Comrade Dennis Sirman

No report.

(o) Youth Education and Bursary - Comrade Bruce Brown/Comrade Brian Madden

Comrade Brown reported the deadline for Strathcona's school Remembrance Day Contests was November 13, 2015.

Judging of the On November 17 the judging for the Remembrance Day contests was carried out. A big thank you and Bravo Zulu to all the judges! More than 200 entries were received. Volunteers to help with the judging were Comrades Bruce Brown, Georges Winters, Katherine Winters, Dom Baldwin and partner, Helen Fraser and Lise Sequin.

The Awards ceremony for the Remembrance Day contests will be held on Saturday January 9, 2016 from 1300 – 1500.

Comrade Brian Madden spoke to Comrade Fraser regarding the redesign of the bursary form for applications to Ottawa Poppy.

(p) Ways & Means - Comrade Ethel Benson/Comrade Tom Feeley

Comrade Benson reported the meat draw is ongoing and the craft sale held on November 21st went very well, \$101 was raised for the Legion. Comrade Feeley sold over \$100 of Legion merchandise.

(q) Kitchen Services - Comrade Wavey Bennett

No report.

(r) Cadet Liaison – Comrade Bot Kelly

No report.

9. **MOTION TO ACCEPT ALL REPORTS**

Moved by Comrade Ron Oakley and seconded by Comrade Toula Pouris that all reports be accepted.
Motion carried.

10. **GENERAL AND NEW BUSINESS:**

Comrade Fraser advised the members that the chairs at the branch have been on recall by the manufacturer since March, 2013 and only discovered this by accident when the chairs were googled on the internet. Arrangements are being made with the manufacturer, Regency Seating Inc. to have the chairs replaced at no cost to the Branch.

Comrade Winters spoke regarding the fact that there will not be a New Year's Eve party hosted by the branch and then spoke regarding the Robbie Burns event scheduled January 23rd, 2016.

Comrade Ken Harrison suggested 50/50 draws being held to raise funds for a new stove for the kitchen with a larger oven.

Comrade Toula Pouris welcomed Comrade Maltais back to the executive after a short hiatus.

11. **TABLING OF NOTICES OF MOTION**

None.

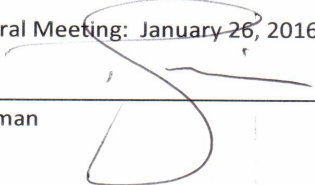
12. **MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:40 pm Comrade Martin Maltais, Branch Chair, declared the business of the meeting having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned.

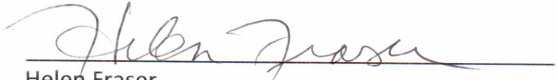
13. **CLOSING CEREMONY:**

In Comrade Dennis Sirman's absence, Comrade Martin Maltais conducted the "Closing Ritual".

Next General Meeting: January 26, 2016



Dennis Sirman
President



Helen Fraser
Secretary

January, April, June, September, October, November