



Strathcona Branch 595

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH, 2017

PRESENT: Comrades James Simpson, Helen Fraser, Derk Duermeyer, Dennis Sirman, Greg Devine, Toulia Pouris, Ken Bonell, Robert MacLean, Rob Mantle, Shirley Lajolie, Victor Dowie, Ken Harrison, James Grady, Bruce Brown, Brian Madden, Robin Brown, Janet Waitman, Alden Buttle, Paul Bendus, Rick Johnston, Keith Hendricks

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**

Comrade Helen Fraser moved to approve the following members and the motion was seconded by Comrade Ken Harrison.

Andre Fortier	Ordinary
Kathleen Turner	Affiliate

CARRIED

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

Alden Buttle - Associate

Keith Hendricks - Ordinary

Shirley Lajolie – Affiliate

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 last meeting held on October 24th, 2017 were distributed.

MOTION

Moved by Comrade Ken Bonnell and seconded by Comrade Bob MacLean to accept the minutes as circulated.

CARRIED

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

Tabling of By-laws from last general meeting carried forward: Motion to be tabled at January, 2018 meeting 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.

Comrade Sirman advised that we are expecting a reimbursement of \$220 from Ontario Command which we advanced to a veteran in need at Ontario Command's request and if not received, we must take further action by contacting Ontario Command or the Ottawa Poppy Fund for reimbursement.

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

Comrade Sirman provided the financial statements for the period ending October 31, 2017. The financial statements are attached to the Branch and Secretary's copies of the minutes.

6. **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

President, Comrade James Simpson

POPPY CAMPAIGN – Poppy Chair Brian Madden will be giving us a full report later in the Agenda, but I want to thank him and all those who worked hard to bring us another successful campaign. A special comment for 1st Vice-President Wanda Riddell who underwent a serious calamity at her home just as the campaign got underway. She tried to persevere and carry on, but it was just too much bear and she had to withdraw.

FINANCES – As you have seen from the financial reports, we continue to do much better financially than last year and previous years. Our goal of finishing the fiscal year at least at "break-even" or perhaps with a small profit is still on track.

MEMORIAL CUP – As reported in the Newsletter, we are going to have the Memorial Cup on display at the Branch on Dec 4th. We have a commitment from legendary 67's coach Brian Kilrea to put in an appearance and provide information about the history of the Cup.

EVENT ATTENDANCE – I hope all members have had an opportunity to read Comrade Dennis's report on Grey Cup weekend at the Branch in this week's Newsletter. Attendance at the Sunday Brunch and the Grey Cup Party was shameful and clearly Dennis is deservedly frustrated after he and all the others involved put in so much hard preparation work. This frustration extends to all the other members and Executive who put in so much time and effort to plan and do a meal or event and find them poorly patronized. Except for a core group who come out regularly, our constant appeals to our other members to attend our events and support our Legion do not get much response.

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

None

8. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

- (a) **Legion Seniors – Comrade Toulia Pouris**
No report.

(b) Membership - Comrade Helen Fraser

As at November 28th, 2017: Total Membership – 356

STATUS	# RECORDS
PAID UP	263
LAPSED 1&2	93
TOTALS	356

The new members can now sign the book and participate in the weekly Pot of Gold draw.

(c) Poppy – Comrade Brian Madden

Comrade Madden reported that he would like to thank all the people that helped out with this year's Poppy Campaign. With the special help from Wanda Riddell, Georges Winters, Katherine Winters, Robin Brown and Ron Barrie who made sure that everything was ready for when the walkers came in and with their hard work took control of the incoming monies with counting rolling and depositing the money. Because of this they made deposits every couple of days therefore the money did not build up. I would also like to thank SylviAnne, Jim Simpson and Dom Baldwin who helped look after the phone. I would like to hold a meeting on Dec 10th at 1pm with all the runners to say thank you and to go over their runs and make changes as needed.

(d) Public Relations and Publicity – Grant Yusak

No report.

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

Comrade Greg Devine reported that the posters are up for the five upcoming events with the Legion Zones.

(f) Training and Organizational Development - Comrade Tom Feeley

No report.

(g) Veterans' Services - Comrade Vic Dowie

Comrade Vic Dowie reported that application forms are available for claims with Veterans' Affairs.

(h) Bar - Comrade Helen Fraser

Comrade Fraser reported the bar is running smoothly.

(i) Bylaws and Branch Regulations - Comrade Wanda Riddell

Comrade Riddell reported that until we hear back from Ontario Command regarding our questoins, the amendment to the Branch Bylaws is on hold.

(j) Cadet Liaison – Comrade Rob Mantle

Comrade Mantle reported as in past years, the 274 GGFG Cadets provided tremendous support to Branch 595 during our Remembrance Ceremonies this year. Along with participating in the

Brantwood Gates Ceremony, there was no shortage of Cadets to volunteer to assist with the Poppy Campaign dedicating 2 full weekends to canvassing at local businesses. Cadets also helped to Serve at this year's Veteran Dinner as well as taking part in the Veteran's Event at Billings Bridge. They are to be commended for a great turnout throughout.

At our upcoming Parent Advisory, we will be discussing plans for this year's Christmas Dinner.

- (k) **Event Planning – Comrades Greg Devine and Toula Pouris (Coordinators)**
Comrade Toulas Pouris reported that Comrade Shirley Lajolie has come through with many dinners and a special gourmet dinner is planned for February 16, 2017 at a higher price.
- (l) **Hall Rentals – Comrade Greg Devine**
Comrade Greg Devine reported to the new members that the hall is available for rent at a lower price for members.
- (m) **House – Comrade Dennis Sirman**
Comrade Sirman reported nothing much to say but there are many little things that need to be addressed. If anyone has some time I would appreciate the help.
- (n) **Honours and Awards - Comrade Derk Duermeyer**
Comrade Duermeyer reported that he and Comrade Simpson spoke at the Remembrance Day ceremonies at three local schools.
- (o) **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. He also advised that some of our stock was sold at the Veteran's Appreciation Day event at Billings Bridge held on November 5th.
- (p) **Member Communications – Comrade Janet Waitman**
Comrade Waitman reported all is going well with the newsletters.
- (q) **Supplies and Services – Comrade Robin Brown**
No report.
- (r) **Youth Education and Bursary - Comrade Bruce Brown**
Comrade Bruce Brown reported the judging for the posters and essays are held on November 21st. There were 250 entries. Thank you to Janet Waitman, Georges and Katherine Winters who helped with the judging. The Awards Ceremony is being held on January 13th at the Branch. The Public Speaking contest is being held on March 3rd at the Branch.
- (s) **Ways & Means - Comrade Tom Feeley**
No report.

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

Comrade Sirman reported we are in our 6th week and the jackpot continues to grow although not as fast as we would like. At this time we are still organizing accounts and procedures and would really like to have a few more people assisting.

At the last executive meeting we passed a motion on how much the Legion will be charging for the operation of this weekly event. Until we hear back from the Licensing Board, OLG, we will hold back on the transfer.

To date we have \$1,025 in the account to support organizations less expenses, I am unable to be precise at this time as I am not sure of banking fees.

The Jackpot carry over to week 6 is \$615.00.

9. **MOTION TO ACCEPT ALL REPORTS**

Moved by Comrade Ken Bonnell and seconded by Comrade Bob MacLean that all reports be accepted.

Motion carried.

10. **GENERAL AND NEW BUSINESS:**

Comrade Ken Harrison advised that he attends at five senior residences in the area to find out who the veterans are in order to distribute Christmas presents. Comrade Brian Madden confirmed the Poppy Fund will continue to fund the costs.

11. **TABLING OF NOTICES OF MOTION**

None.

12. **MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:05 pm the President, declared the business of the meeting having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned.

13. **CLOSING CEREMONY:**

Comrade James Simpson conducted the "Closing Ritual".

Next General Meeting: January 23, 2018

James Simpson
President

Helen Fraser
Secretary

January, April, June, September, October, November