



**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
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**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING  
STRATHCONA BRANCH 595, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012**

**PRESENT:** Comrades Brian Madden, Jim Simpson, Ken Parker, Georges Winters, Helen Fraser, Greg Devine, Ken Byars, Martin Maltais, Bruce Brown, Dennis Sirman, Ron Oakley, Roger Power, Michel Laverdure, Howard Wallace, Caroline Wallace, Shelagh Trombley, Paul Gauthier, Ron Barrie, Shelley Robinson, Robin Brown, Wanda Riddell, Susan Renaud, Jim Garner, Russell Williams, Stanley Fields, Charles Kelly

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

Meeting called to order and opened with the President, Comrade Brian Madden, conducting the "Opening Ritual" at 7:10 pm. He then turned over the meeting to the Branch Chairman, Comrade Jim Simpson.

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

Membership Chair Ken Byars announced the following new members were present for initiation:

Susan Renaud, Russell Williams and Jim Villeneuve

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 September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012 were distributed.

Moved by Charles Kelly and seconded by Stanley Fields to accept the minutes as circulated.  
**Motion carried.**

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

The Branch Chairman Comrade Simpson announced that at the last General Meeting in September, notice was tabled that a Motion would be presented at this General Meeting to ask for the approval of our Members to restrict the use of the Branch by Members on the occasional Saturday evening.

The Motion was then read out: "Resolved that when the Branch premises have been rented for a private function on a Saturday and if the Renter requests that they have the exclusive use of the premises, the Members will give up their right to enter into the Branch".

The Motion was Moved by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Greg Devine and Seconded by 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President Ken Parker.

The Chair then asked Comrade Devine to speak to the Motion. He reminded that a memo had been sent out explaining the reasons and provided a summary:

"Faced with the problem of our continually losing money, the Executive has decided to try is to significantly increase the rentals of the Branch for events such as wedding receptions, stags, showers and other private functions. Some of these rentals in the past have brought in as much as \$2000 and revenues in the order of \$1500 are usual. On Saturdays the Branch is very lightly used by the members. Average revenues have been between \$100 and \$200 per day.

Recently a wedding reception that had been booked for a Saturday was cancelled by the renter when they learned that the Branch would not be available for their exclusive use.

Clearly we can earn much, much more from an outside event and several months of Saturday revenues will not make up what we could have earned from the cancelled wedding.

Therefore we are asking our members to give up their right to come into the Branch on a Saturday evening when the Branch has been rented out for a private function. Obviously this will not happen every Saturday and when it does happen, the Members will be given plenty of notice that the Branch will be closed that evening."

Following a brief discussion the Chair asked for a vote on the question and the **Motion was CARRIED.**

5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**  
**President, Comrade Brian Madden**

Our branch has spent the last month getting ready for this year's Poppy Campaign. Comrades Martin, Winters, Oakley and Barrie have been very busy getting everything ready. After our meeting last month with Montgomery and expanding our boundaries, extra work has been needed to get everything ready. I have been working with the GGFG Cadet Corp setting up their runs for the weekends of Oct. 27 and 28, Nov. 3, 4 and Nov. 10.

We are also getting ready for our annual Remembrance parade to be held on Nov.4th.

I will be attending the Poppy Tea held at the Rideau Pearly Hospital on Nov. 24th at 2 pm.

The last few of Friday nights have been well attended and I would like to thank Comrades Ken and Greg for arranging the food and entertainment. I would also like to thank all branch members who have helped with the kitchen duties.

I hope to see everybody coming out to help with the Poppy Campaign.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT:**  
**Comrade James Simpson**

The financial statements for period ended September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012 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 advised the bar is status quo. Entertainment is booked and attendance is picking up.

The Branch breaks even with meals, sometimes there is a loss when not all meals ordered are sold. Meal costs will be reviewed at an Executive meeting. There was a suggestion to pre-sell tickets.

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

Direct Energy – contract to consolidate our three gas meters down to one has been let and accepted, expects work to begin at any time.

CLV Group property managers – contact has been made with Ed Torres, as to the matter about the back door, the problems are on the inside and we are responsible.

Consequently I will be repairing the door soon.

- On the matter of the loose flashing, it will be fixed immediately
- Bar-B-Q's, Mr. Torres would like a letter requesting permission to have bar-b-q's outside, giving the frequency and duration –propose to draft a letter for the President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice signatures soon.
- New matter – vandalism to legion flag, although this is the first time, suggest we notify CLV. I can and will repair damage soon.
- Still trying to find best solution to dart mats

An account has been applied for with Swish cleaning products, research has shown that over all they are price competitive and offer a better product meant for a business establishment. Upon opening the account we will receive 2 new towel racks at no cost. This will provide up to date washroom facilities as requested.

Past President and Lady Aux scrolls have been fixed and mounted.

Procurement and installation of sound system completed.

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

Ken Byars is doing a good job of updating list of members for emails and mailings

(d) **Membership - Comrade Ken Byars**

Members in Good Standing	202
Lapsed 1 Year	10

Lapsed 2 Years	18
Lapsed 3 Years	10
Waiting for Initiation	<u>30</u>
Total	270 members

Member Management System is working well. Dominion Commands information on our members is lacking. All the data from UpFile has been transferred into the new system. We will now need to work our way through each file looking for any data that is missing. Info sheets on each member will be printed and placed in their files.

Shelagh Tremblay has joined the membership Committee.

Motion to accept new members and transferred members approval passed. A list of names can be obtained from Ken Byars

#### Membership Make up

Ordinary	90
Associate	83
Affiliate	23
Life	<u>6</u>
	202

Pre-paid for 2013 is 30

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

A big THANK YOU to all those who helped on Tuesday afternoon getting the boxes together. The signup lists are up and ready to accept names of volunteer walkers. All that is needed is three hours of your time.

#### (f) **Training and Organizational Development - Comrade Greg Devine**

There was a Provincial Command meeting on September 22, 2012, minutes are available from the meeting, obtain from Greg Devine

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

Zone eight ball is on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012, posters are up in the Branch. There is a meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup> for the sports officers

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

A reminder that the cost of hall rental is \$75 for members and \$225 for non-members. The Hall has been rented to the end of the year.

#### (i) **Honours and Awards - Comrade Brian Madden**

No report

#### (j) **Public Relations and Publicity - Comrade Georges Winters**

Comrade Georges Winters is pleased to say that he now has all prices from the media in line and you can look forward to seeing ads in the Sun and in the EMS South for the branch.

He has also had the pleasure of talking with Brian Sylvester of 98.5 Jewel FM, a personal friend, and Brian has advised he would be pleased to pass on an thing sent to him to the other media that Comrade Georges sent on behalf of the Legion events. He personally will make mention on his segments of community events.

Comrade Georges has just about finished the ads for our Nov. 4th Parade as well as the Grey Cup Day events to be publicized.

New saleable and raffle items have been ordered from Dominion Command for use during our Remembrance Calendar of Events.

**(k) Veteran's Services and Legion Seniors - Comrade Dan O'Leary**

No report - absent

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

Comrade Simpson advised he is reviewing the regulations for resubmission.

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

The annual Literary and Poster Contest is coming up. The schools in Strathcona's boundary having been contacted and the information on the contest has been distributed. The deadline for receiving entries for the Contest at Strathcona is November 9, 2012. The judging of the entries will be about the middle of November. We will be looking for volunteers to help in judging the entries. The awards ceremony will be held in January 2013.

The Zone G5 Public Speaking Contest will be held March 2, 2013 at Strathcona branch. Information on the contest has been sent to the schools. Again we will looking for volunteers to help out at the event. It will be an all day event.

There has been a "follow-up" with the schools to ensure the material sent to them was received.

Comrade Richard Brown has been of assistance in contacting all the schools.

**(n) Sick and Visiting - Comrade Corinne Allaire**

No report. Excused

**9. MOTION TO ACCEPT ALL REPORTS**

Moved by Stanley Fields and seconded by Charles Kelly that all reports be accepted. **Motion carried**

**10. GENERAL AND NEW BUSINESS:**

President Madden proposed the acceptance of the new executive members who were approved at the May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012 executive meeting: Martin Maltais, Bruce Brown, Dennis Sirman, Ken Byars, Mike Gauthier and James Simpson.

The proposal was moved by Roger Power and seconded by Michel Laverdure. **Motion carried.**

President Madden proposed the acceptance of Martin Maltais as Sergeant-at-Arms and James Simpson as Treasurer.

The proposal was moved by Charles Kelly and seconded by Ron Barrie. **Motion carried.**

Chaplin requested volunteers for colour guard.

Ron Barrie suggested a deposit for damages from hall rentals be obtained and cameras installed. These items will be discussed at the executive meeting.

**11. TABLING OF NOTICES OF MOTION**

A notice of motion was tabled by Comrade James Simpson that a motion will be presented at the next general meeting to be held on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 to approve revised Branch Regulations.

**12. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:**

All of the business of the meeting having been concluded, the Branch Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

**13. CLOSING CEREMONY:**

President Brian Madden conducted the "Closing Ritual" at 8:40 pm.

Next General Meeting: General Meeting on November 27, 2012

Helen Fraser  
Secretary

Brian Madden  
President

November, January, April, June, September, October