

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL RETIREES
Best Western Plus Westerly Hotel, Courtenay
Vancouver Island North Branch 06
General Meeting, September 12, 2012

Cecile called the meeting to order and welcomed all those who were in attendance, especially those who have not been with us before, and to our guests.

We were led in the singing of "O Canada" by Ian Sibbald and Bill Turnbull.

She then asked the secretary to rise so that the members could see who holds that position and to allow them to show their appreciation.

It was moved by Ian Sibbald and seconded by Kyle Jones that the minutes of the last general meeting be adopted as presented. The motion carried.

Cecile then told us about a form she had found which made it so much easier to do a Personal Property inventory.

She also suggested that we take pictures of our special possessions so that we have a record in the event of an emergency. Bill Turnbull passed out copies to those who wanted to have one.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Kathy said that for the past year our \$5,000.00 investment was redeemable on the 15th of each month until its anniversary date in September of this year. As of that date, it would then be redeemable only once each year on the anniversary date in September.

We were advised that, if we wanted to keep the investment liquid, we should withdraw that investment and reinvest it so we can continue with the flexibility to withdraw these funds if required on the 15th day of any given month. We did that with no interest rate penalty and added an additional \$2,000.00 into that Cashable Rate Riser account.

As there were no questions with regard to the financial statement on each table, it was moved by Paddy O'Blenis and seconded by Gary Liddiard that the statement be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Membership/Web: Steve said that our membership stands at 2096 at present. He also said that the Newsletter was out and had posted 1023 copies with another 285 sent via e-mail.

Benefits: Bill Turnbull said that things have been very quiet recently. He also told us that the Health Benefits position in the National office has been filled by Louise Bergeron. He still has some estate documents which can be bought from him after the meeting for \$3.00 each.

Programs: Barb asked if we enjoyed our meal and received a resounding round of applause. It was excellent! On March 1, 2013 the cost for the luncheon will be raised from \$15.00 a plate to \$16.00 a plate. Cecile said the extra cost would be absorbed by the treasury.

Media: Absent

Welfare: Absent

Telephone: Paddy said she still needs more callers. The list would be shorter and be would be less work for each one if she had a longer list of callers. There will be no calls for the December meeting.

History: Frank said the history was up to date.

Old business:

In June, Bill McSeveney presented the cheque covering our donation to the Free Masons Cancer Car Project. We have since received a letter expressing their appreciation for our donation.

Cecile said that 5 medals from the Paralympics came to Vancouver of the 30 received by Canadians. Kathi and Cecile presented a cheque for \$1,000.00 to the Vancouver Island Society of Adaptive Snow Sports represented by the President Brian Culley and Glen Hooge. Glen thanked the Association for the donation and assured us it would go toward helping the veterans. He said the veterans learn-to-ski program was established in 1992 on Mount Washington. It is now 1 of 2 National Training camps for soldiers. The

Soldier On program is free to Veterans. It costs about \$10,000.00 a year to run and they have 90 volunteers.

John Renaud asked to address the chair. He was recognized and made the following motion: I move that the Branch membership recognize the Board of Directors for their time, leadership and efforts in conducting the Branch affairs by authorizing one annual Executive Lunch/Meeting at the cost not to exceed \$500.00. It was seconded by Derek Shaw and the motion carried. Cecile thanked them for their thoughtfulness.

New Business:

Cecile also reminded us that Christmas is Food Bank donation time and asked everyone attending that luncheon to bring a food or cash donation.

Jean-Guy Soulière was elected as Second National Vice-President at the Annual General Meeting in Edmonton this summer.

A Regional Service Officer is required for the Island. If anyone is interested, please e-mail Cecile for information as to the qualifications, duties, etc.

She also remarked on the information Memo which was put on each table with regard to being charged PST/HST on membership dues because of a ruling by the Canada Revenue Agency. The new dues rates will stand but FSNA does plan on appealing this decision.

Our guest speaker was introduced by Cecile. Dr. Betty Donaldson is a Professor emeriti from the University of Calgary and is with the Elder College at North Island College. She gave a slide presentation on the aims and courses which are being offered to seniors – over 55 – the Third stage of Learning. She invited anyone who has an interest in getting more information to check the College website – www.nic.bc.ca/eldercollege.

Cecile thanked her for her very interesting presentation.

The winner of the draw from Jo Claussens for \$30.00 was Toady Elvins.

The Pot of Gold Winners were Juanita Benedictson and Joe Richards.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dorothy M. Lind – Secretary

Cecile Turnbull - President