



RCMP VETERANS ASSOCIATION
NEW BRUNSWICK DIVISION
ASSOCIATION DES VÉTÉRANS DE
LA GRC – DIVISION DU N-B
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Minutes of Spring Meeting, May 05, 2017 Riverview Lions Club, Riverview, NB

1. CALL TO ORDER: President Reg King called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM. He thanked everyone for attending. There were 47 in attendance. Reg advised that the presentation by Vic and Jan Gorman on Support and Advocacy had to be cancelled due to the death of Jan's mother whose funeral is today. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Gormans at this very difficult time.

2. SINGING OF O CANADA – Lead by Veteran Danny McNeill

3. MINUTE OF SILENCE FOR FALLEN BRETHERN: In particular, the following who passed away since our last meeting: Donnie Moffat, Donna Wilson – wife of Veteran Mike Wilson, Cst. Clyde Nicholl – “J” Division, Larry Reid, Cst. Marcel Roberge – “J” Division, Diane Zinck – wife of Nova Scotia Veteran Terry Zinck, formerly of “J” Division, Barbara Bolduc – wife of Veteran Luc Bolduc, Bruce Rogerson, Ben MacDonald, Raymond Maloney-Chumney, Joe Fauteux, Joe Chauvin, Don Johnson, Bruce Jack and Yves Renauld.

4. CONFIRMATION OF CIRCULATED MINUTES: Moved by Secretary Rollie MacNeil, seconded by Tim Hoban, that the minutes from the fall meeting held at Fredericton on October 16, 2016 be accepted as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Thank-you cards/messages for the Christmas Gift Cards were received from the following: Shirley Snow, Judy Geddes, Ethel Rose, Marlene Latchford, Jane Kerr, Mary Wilson, Shirley Ferguson, Margaret Fox, Doris Kilburn, Mabel Spiece, Janet Munro, Connie Jones, Marilyn Hirtle & Monique Vaughan.
- Christmas card wishing members of the Association a Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2017 received from Heather (Ross) McIntyre.
- Thank-you card received from Lona Thomas thanking the Grave Site Inspector for the work done on her husband's grave.

- Thank-you cards from Kevin Storr and Jerry Covey thanking the Association for the get well wishes and gift cards received.
- Thank-you card from Allison Rose thanking the Association for the \$500 bursary in memory of Sharon Clark which was special to her. She said the bursary will help her with tuition and books.
- Thank-you card from Diana Reid for the Association's donation to the Heart and Stroke Foundation in memory of her husband Larry Reid.
- Following received from Patricia Dunphy: "On behalf of myself and my family I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who shared their condolences to the family of retired Staff Sergeant David Dunphy who passed away on 15 Sept 2016. All the kind expressions of sympathy and visits were so much appreciated. A special thank you to all the Vets who attended David's funeral and provided an Honour Guard that made us all feel so proud. David cherished his service in the RCMP and would have been humbled by the turnout. Again on behalf of all my family we were truly thankful for all your support".
- The following was received from Vet Don Hulsman. "The Hulsman family would like to sincerely thank all RCMP Veterans and spouses who attended the visitation and funeral of the late Jacalyn Mae Hulsman. Your presence meant a lot to me and my sons". Thank you. Don.
- Thank-you message was received from Vet. Dave Daley thanking the Association for the visit from Rollie MacNeil and the get well card and Tim Horton's gift card while he was in hospital in Moncton recovering from a serious snowmobile accident.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Bob Rochon presented his financial report. A copy of Bob's report is attached. Greg Cohoon moved, seconded by Dale Lively, that the report be accepted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Bob noted in his report that our Division is financially sound with \$18,405.89 in our bank account and an investment (GIC) in the amount of \$15,332.00 which is scheduled to mature on 2019-02-16. Bob also noted that with the current revenue structure and anticipated expenses, he is projecting a revenue shortfall of \$1,410 in 2017. The major contributors to the shortfall are the increase in the National portion of the dues from \$32 to \$37 and our Division's decision in 2016 to increase our Christmas gift card amount from the previous \$25 to \$40. It is Bob's opinion, that unless we can reduce costs or increase revenues, our Division will continue to experience deficits in the coming years, something that National is cautioning against as outlined in the financial report. One way to reduce deficits is to increase the amount of dues that each member pays from \$50 to \$55 per year which would generate an additional \$1375 based on 275 members. Bob also stated that the Association could charge a nominal membership fee for Associate and Life members but that this may result in the division being assessed a fee by the national office.

During discussion after Bob completed his report, Secretary MacNeil pointed out that increasing dues by \$5.00 per member would still not completely cover the deficit. Bob stated that he felt

raising the dues too much would have a negative impact on our Division's ability to retain members and to entice new members to join the Association.

Keith Morris asked if we could cut any costs and Bob replied that there are really only two areas, one being the scholarship program the second being the amount of the Christmas gift cards. Bob stated that last year when the members voted to increase the amount of the gift cards to \$40, he indicated at that time this decision would cause us to run a deficit. Keith stated that we should look at all options to cut costs. Rollie MacNeil stated that perhaps the National Office should look at ways to cut costs which should negate the need for them to keep raising dues.

John Fraser suggested that if say 50 Veterans were able to persuade one Veteran who is not a member of the Association to join, this would increase our revenue. This suggestion could be extended to all of our 275 members to persuade one non-member to join and would have the potential to double the number of members in our Division of the Association.

Brenda Bouck suggested that someone contact newly retired members and invite them to join. Rollie advised that our Membership Director does this as much as possible.

Gordie Roach stated that when he retired, a package from the Vets which included an application, was included in his retirement package. Rollie MacNeil advised that this is presently being done.

The subject of the deficit will be discussed further at the Fall Meeting.

Treasurer Rochon announced that he was resigning his position as Treasurer effectively immediately after serving for 3 ½ years. He recommended to President King that he appoint Marc Goguen as interim Treasurer until the elections at the Fall Meeting. Bob advised that Marc had agreed to take over as Treasurer and that Bob has shown him how our accounting system operates. Bob assured the membership that he would be available to assist Marc at any time. John Barnstead thanked Bob for his service stating that he has done an excellent job with our finances. His dedication and hard work were very much appreciated by the membership. President King echoed John's remarks and thanked Bob for his 3 ½ years as Treasurer.

7. GRAVE SITE REPORT: Danny McNeill read his report on the status of the program. He advised there are 27 inspectors and in the next few weeks, once the ground is dry, they will complete their inspections and report their findings to Danny. Once all the reports are in, an all-encompassing report will be completed and presented at the fall meeting. Once the report is approved at the fall meeting, an invoice for the work completed will be submitted to the CO "J" Division for payment.

8. MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Laurie MacNeil, the Membership Director was unable to attend the meeting and his report was presented by Rollie MacNeil. Since the fall meeting, 19 applications were approved by the Membership Director. The following new members joined the Association: Paul Urquhart, Wayne Gallant, Miller Morrell, Gregory Davis, Adrian Tompkins, Michael Hornyak, John Jurcina, Roland Wells, John Fraser, Mario Dery, Gilbert Morneault, Dan

Goodwin, Keith Ball, Kendall Murray, Blake Meldrum, Ken Fraser, Kevin Demeau and Michael McFadden. There were four members who left the Association.

9. BURSARY PROGRAM: Dale Lively reported that the Association provides 5 - \$500 bursaries to children/grandchildren of our Veterans. Treasurer Bob Rochon, Communications Director Brian Griffiths and Secretary Rollie MacNeil, donated their honorariums (\$200 each) to the bursary program and there was an anonymous donation to the bursary fund in the amount of \$150. Also money left over from the fall dinner in the amount of \$86 was also donated to the bursary fund for a total of \$836. Dale made a motion, seconded by Bill Goobie, that the Association contribute \$164 to the bursary fund, which would bring the total to \$1,000 allowing for two additional bursaries for 2017 bringing the total number of bursaries to seven (7).

MOTION CARRIED. Dale advised that the application process for bursaries is now open and applications can be obtained from the NB Veterans website - <http://nb.rcmpvet.ca>, click on Forms in the top right hand side of the webpage, or by contacting the Secretary - secretarynbvets@gmail.com.

Dale advised that some students are going to other countries i.e. Europe to further their education. At present, our bursaries are for students who are studying at a recognized university in North America. To give all students an equal opportunity to apply for one of our bursaries, Dale made a motion, seconded by Tim Hoban that students attending a recognized university anywhere in the world may apply for a bursary. **MOTION CARRIED.** During discussion the question arose regarding teaching and values universities in some countries may not equate with our values as an organization and what vetting is done on foreign universities. Dale stated that he believes our Veterans would not support an application to a university whose teachings were against our values and principals. Dale calls the Veteran when the student is attending a foreign university.

A motion was made by Dale Lively, seconded by Floyd Luttrell, that his report be accepted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

10. OLD BUSINESS: ID CARDS. Rollie MacNeil stated the topic of issuing ID cards to our members has been discussed at previous meetings and has been brought to the attention of the National Office over the past three years. The National Office has not taken any action to date. Rollie advised that he was speaking with Vet. Bernie Bergevin, who is the Past President of the International Police Association. Their Association purchased a card printing machine for approximately \$3,000 to make ID cards for their members. The desired details are entered into a computer program after which a plastic card about the size of a credit card is inserted into the machine and the program produces the card. The machine is able to print on both sides of the card and a photo and/or crest can be inserted. Rollie had one of the cards and passed it around to the members at the meeting. This topic will be brought up at the AGM in June by President King to find out if the National office has any interest in producing ID cards for the members. Rollie noted that the RCMP has stopped issuing ID cards to retired members and it is not known if this is temporary or permanent. Also, our Associate Members do not have an ID card and many would like one.

Dale Lively advised the Royal Canadian Legion produces a cardboard card for its members and suggested that we could partner with them. He has a contact and can make enquiries. Tim Hoban said that Veteran Bill Maxwell will be able to provide a cost for the Legion cards. This topic was tabled until the fall meeting when hopefully more information will be available.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

- **2017 AGM.** President King reviewed what topics will be discussed at the AGM. For information on these topics members are encouraged to view them on the National website.
- **APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.** Bob Rochon resigned his position as Treasurer of the RCMP Veterans' Association, NB Division, effective immediately and recommended to President Reg King that Marc Goguen be appointed as interim Treasurer until an election is held in October, 2017. President King asked Marc if he was willing to assume the role of Treasurer for the RCMP Veterans' Association, NB Division to which Marc replied he was. President King then appointed Marc as Treasurer and swore him in. Bob stated that he would assist Marc in learning the job and would always be available for advice if needed. Congratulations Marc!

12. GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- **NEW MEMBERS:** The following new members were sworn in by President King: John Fraser, Marc Goguen, Michael Hornyak and Miller Morrell. Congratulations to one and all and welcome to the Association.
- **SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY:** Tim Hoban advised the Legion has a good advocacy program and they will assist our members in getting benefits from Veterans Affairs Canada. Tim has been an advocate for many years and has worked with the Legion during this time. Tim advised that there are benefits that many members are not aware of such as tax benefits. Tim said it is important for our advocacy representatives to have a good rapport with Veterans Affairs Canada.

13. FALL MEETING: The Fall Meeting will be held in **Fredericton at 2:00 PM on October 14, 2017.**

14. MOTIONS:

- Tim Hoban made a motion, seconded by Jim Payne that the Association pay for wine at dinner. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- Bill Burrows made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Tim Hoban. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Prepared by Rollie MacNeil
Secretary NB Veterans' Association.