

**National Association of Federal Retirees
South-East New Brunswick / Section du Sud-Est du Nouveau
Brunswick
Branch 64**

**Revised MINUTES - GENERAL MEETING
April 28 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Branch President, Karen MacGregor at 10:00 a.m.

NEW MEMBERS

There were no new members at today's meeting.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the February 24th 2017 meeting were reviewed. Elizabeth Steeves moved the Minutes be accepted as presented; seconded by Don MacGregor. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jo-Ann Milburn presented the financial report for the months February 1 through March 31 2017. Total Receipts were \$6,208.34; Total Expenses \$601.34; leaving a Cash Balance as of March 31st \$6,532.44.

Jo-Ann moved the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented; seconded by Natalie Cormier. Motion Carried.

Jo-Ann will advise at a future meeting whether National's change to Accrual Accounting has any effect on the calculation of funds to be paid to National office for excess dollars on hand at this Branch.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Jack Dennahower presented the membership report; as of this date the Branch has a total membership of 2,880.

CARING COMMITTEE REPORT

Sheila Huntley reviewed the report of the Caring Committee. Condolences were sent for the following deaths: Kathleen LeBlanc, Imelda Melanson, Dan Billing, Edward Gould, Douglas Long and Clemence Bourque.

A **moment of silence** was recognized in honour of departed members.

LUNCHEON and BANQUET REPORTS

Luncheon

Lorraine advised there will be three upcoming luncheon meetings, November 24, 2017, February 23, 2018 and April 27, 2018. All tickets will be on sale at September 27th meeting. Everyone is urged to purchase tickets in advance; call Lorraine or reach her through Jack Dennahower.

Banquet

Regarding the June 5th Banquet, Norma Jeanne Lavoie advised anyone with food allergies to contact Julie at Four Points Sheraton at least two weeks prior to the event.

Tickets are \$15.00 for members, \$45.00 for non-members. Meet and greet at 5pm; dinner at 6pm and remember to bring your tickets; there will be draws for **13** \$50 gift certificates from Maverick's.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Leonard LeBlanc, Atlantic Director on National Board of Directors

Mr. LeBlanc advised that a Board meeting was held in Ottawa at the end of March and proceeded to give an overview of the activities going on at the National level.

You will recall that the previous conservative government decided to raise premiums paid for our Public Service Health Care Plan from 25% retirees' contribution, to 50-50% over a four-year period... and the government did this without prior consultation with the Partners Committee (of which our Association has a membership on the Committee). The Association decided to go to Court over this. The Judge heard the presentations by both the Association and the Federal lawyers on April 10-11th.

- We do not expect the Judge's decision for a few months. We hope that the Judge will render the decision prior to our AMM in June.

Regarding the National Office rededication ceremony, our new building is well operational and a ceremony was held while the Board had its regular meeting. Invited guests came and the building was dedicated to Claude Edwards a pioneer in the establishment of the Association.

Membership survey results indicated that most are satisfied with our advocacy initiative and value advocacy as high priority in our efforts to protect our benefits especially health care benefits. Our preferred partner MEDOC is the most popular and valued partner by our members. Presidents and participants at the AMM will be briefed on the results of the survey. There is a Conference Call planned for early May to brief the Presidents on the findings.

Regarding the Recruitment Project, two branches in the Atlantic Provinces have been chosen to pilot a Project. Charlottetown Branch, and Fredericton

and district Branches, have been chosen and if it produces the results anticipated, it will be shared with all Branches across the country.

Update, Regional meeting and upcoming AMM

Karen advised that a Regional meeting took place in Moncton April 12-13, attended by the Atlantic Directors from the National Board plus the Presidents and some Directors from various NB Branches. A wide range of issues were covered including nine resolutions proposed for the June AMM. These were reviewed and the National Board's recommendations for support/non-support were discussed. A presentation on how to improve our NAFR membership numbers was provided; an additional presentation on this will be given at AMM in Ottawa.

Karen noted that the proposed resolutions for the AMM will also be reviewed at our May 15th Management Meeting where the Board will make recommendations to the President for the support or non-support of each Resolution. Lise Bourque, 1st Vice President will attend the AMM as an Observer.

The General Meeting Minutes are to be posted on our local website; names of our Board members shall also be posted on our local web site.

Recognition Awards presentation

Karen advised that within the Branch a recognition program has been restarted; Lorraine was called upon to introduce the recipients of NAFR Branch 64 Recognition Award Certificates, who are Claude Curwin and Glen McClusky. Glen McClusky was recognized for his 10+ years of service on the Branch Board of Directors. Claude Curwin, past President for 2 ½ years and current Branch Services Co-ordinator, was presented the Award by President Karen MacGregor.

PRESENTATION

Norman Bosse, NB Child, Youth and Seniors' Advocate, addressed the meeting advising we were his first speaking engagement since the government gave him this mandate as seniors' advocate. In this position he reports to the Legislative Assembly and he answers to the Speaker of the House, ensuring he is free to act without political interference. He can investigate complaints and make formal recommendations to government; his position cannot change laws but these recommendations have weight in changing policy.

Questions from the floor were addressed by Mr. Bosse.

Mr. Bosse was thanked by Lorraine Casey for his presentation to NAFR Branch 64.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Karen confirmed that a meeting with the Honourable Ginette Pettipas Taylor was held April 19th to discuss NAFR's concern with the impact of Bill C27 on pensioners. A meeting on that same issue was also held with the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc on April 24th.

Karen advised that both MP's confirmed that our members will not be affected if Bill C27 is implemented.

50/50 DRAW

Lucky recipients of \$56 each were Shirley Kale and Claude Curwin.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.