

Branch Board Meeting Minutes
Nick's Family Restaurant, Sarnia
September 5, 2018

Branch web site-<http://www.federalretirees.ca/en/Branches/Ontario/Bluewater>

Present- President- Gloria Cayea
Outreach Coordinator- Pat Mason
Director of Membership- Bill Mason
IT and Website Coordinator- Doug Kerr
Treasurer- Diane Kerr
Member at Large- Murray Lester
Member at Large- Diana Wright
Member at Large- Georgina MacIsaac

Absent- Vice President - Earnie MacDougall
Program Coordinator- Mary Ann Burgess
Secretary- Bob Jackson

Gloria opened the meeting at 12:00 pm with the following agenda items:

- Goderich Meeting
- Advocacy
- Future of branch- e.g. - meetings (where, how many)
- Volunteers
- Christmas Meeting
- Financial Report

Goderich Meeting:

There was discussion as to whether \$20.00 was too expensive for soup and sandwiches. Some board members felt it was, but other members said a sandwich in any other restaurant was about \$15.00 + soup + beverage. It works out about the same. It was also decided that entertainment would be for the Christmas meeting ONLY. That is what makes the Christmas Meeting special. Guest speakers are welcome at any meeting other than the Christmas meeting.

Advocacy:

Pharmacare- it is hoped that we can get a Guest Speaker for the February 20th, 2019 meeting.

Future of the Branch:

There is risk of 15 branches closing, and Bluewater Branch is one of them. National Office does not want to see that happen and have made a few suggestions that may help. They are willing to come to the branch to help recruit members. We already make phone calls, and send out emails. They suggested reaching out to Union Meetings, Legions, or just getting existing members to talk to people they know. People may not be aware that by being a NAFR member, you have great benefits such as Travel Ins. (Medoc), discounted Hotel/Motel Rooms, Vacation Trip Discounts, Car Rental Discounts, just to name a few. Possibly putting up Posters, or mass mailing by National Office might be a way of getting people's interest.

Volunteers:

President Gloria is looking for volunteers to go the Legions, and Union Halls to speak about our organization.

Also, Doug reported that the Volunteer Information Portal is accessible for all Volunteers through the National Website, and that there is tons of information available on Volunteerism. He also said that the Web presentation by National Office was very informative and enjoyable.

Christmas Meeting:

A motion was made by Bill Mason and seconded by Diana Wright that the Christmas Meeting on November 21, 2018 be held at the Legion in Sarnia (waiting for confirmation), at the price of \$22.00 + tax + gratuity for a Turkey Dinner. Also, the entertainment is the return of "The Casuals".

Financial Report:

Diane reported that our finances are in order.

Membership:

Bill made an announcement that all incoming correspondence to the Bluewater Branch **MUST** have P.O. Box # 263 in the address or the mail will be returned.

ALL BOARD MEMBERS: Please have your reports to Doug by Sept. 24th, 2018

Upcoming Dates:

Oct. 02/18 – Exec. Meeting at Nick's Family Restaurant, Sarnia

Oct. 17/18 – General Meeting at Hessenland, Zurich. Guest speaker is Ted Young.

Nov. 06/18 – Exec. Meeting at Nick's Family Restaurant, Sarnia

Nov. 21/18 – Christmas Meeting at Legion, Sarnia (if available)

Feb. 05/19 – Exec. Meeting at Nick's Family Restaurant, Sarnia

Feb. 20/19 – General Meeting at Legion, Sarnia.

Apr. 2/19 – Exec. Meeting at Nick's Family Restaurant, Sarnia

Apr. 17/19 – AGM in Wallaceburg. Venue to be determined.

Sept. 04/19 – Exec. Meeting at Nick's Family Restaurant, Sarnia

Sept. 18/19 – General Meeting in Goderich. Venue to be determined.

Nov. 05/19 – Exec. Meeting at Nick's Family Restaurant, Sarnia

Nov.20/19 – Christmas Meeting in Sarnia. Venue to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 1:38.