

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL RETIREES
WESTERN MANITOBA BRANCH MB30**

GENERAL MEETING

Seniors for Seniors Co-op, 311 Park Ave E.

October 16, 2018

Present: Terry Gunnlaugson (Past President), Linda Dueck (Treasurer), Rhonda Mathers (Secretary), Mac Estabrooks (Director), Garnet Shearer (Director), Sue Gunnlaugson (Director), Edna Wells (Director), Val Zoerb (Director)

Regrets: Brett Turner (President), Barry Caswell (Branch Advocacy Liaison), Dorothy Caswell (Director)

1. **Call to order.** Terry called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. He welcomed the new attendees and stated he was very pleased with the attendance. He mentioned that Brett Turner and Barry and Dorothy Caswell were at a Training Seminar in Winnipeg.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** Jac Hiebert moved that the agenda be approved. Seconded by Lloyd Curtis. Motion carried.
3. **Introduction of Guests (if required).** No new guests.
4. **Remembrance of our members.** A short silence was held for members lost this past year.
5. **Approval of the May 2018 Member Meeting Minutes as circulated.** Shirley Curtis moved the minutes be accepted as circulated. Seconded by Garnet Shearer. Motion carried.
6. **Correspondence:** No new correspondence.
7. **Branch Report – Outreach Meetings plus:** Terry spoke on the meetings that took place in Erickson and Killarney. Mac, Brett and Terry went to Erickson and only 3 people showed up and one was recruited. Terry, Brett, Barry and Dorothy attended the Killarney meeting and only 4 people showed up here with possibly one being recruited. Terry recruited one person at his PIPS meeting on Tuesday Oct. 9th. Also, Garnet Shearer had an outreach luncheon with the Shilo/Sprucewoods Senior Mens in Brandon October 3rd and recruited two new persons. Terry didn't hear the National President's speech as he wasn't there at that time but the major focus for NAFR this year is advocacy. Bill C-27 (retiree benefits) has been moved to the back-burner at the moment but not removed so NAFR is watching this.
8. **Treasurer's Report:** Linda Dueck presented and explained the Financial Report ending 14 October 2018 which included the Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statement and Budget vs Actual Report. She also spoke about the income and expenses that are yet to come. If the

estimates hold true, it looks like the Branch will have a \$350 profit for 2018.

Lloyd Curtis asked how many members the Branch has and as of October 7, there were 821.

Motion: Linda Dueck moved the Treasurers Report be accepted as circulated. Seconded by Garnet Shearer. Carried

Motion: Helen Harrison moved that the Branch add \$5000 to the Reserve for Defence of Benefits Fund and \$1000 to the Reserve for Equipment Replacement. Seconded by Kae Demond. Carried

Al Robertson asked if our Branch had given any Defence of Benefits Funds to Ottawa. Terry explained that the Branch sent funds three years ago for the legal battle about the increased cost of our Health Benefits. NAFR was not consulted about the health benefits premiums being increased.

Lucy Harron asked why we were going to the Supreme Court and the answer was that we had lost at the lower level courts.

9. **Other/New Business:** Jac Hiebert wants our Branch to let the new Minister for Seniors know that our pensions should rise with inflation which is much greater than whatever they are using as the index for the pensions. Currently our pensions are falling behind and I would like the Minister to know we are living on beans. Prices on everything are rising much higher than percentages on our indexing are. Discussion took place with everyone expressing concern and dissatisfaction.

10. **Lunch**

11. **Introduction of feature speaker from our preferred partners at Hearing Life Canada Ltd. - Mr. Marc Dubois**

12. **Presentation – The Hidden Cost of Untreated Hearing Loss**

13. **Door Prizes & 50/50 Draw:** 50/50 Winner was Bill Crewson \$52; Dianna Weisgerber – Travel Bag from Hearing Life Canada; Murray Sangster – Coffee Cup from Johnson Insurance and Velma McCombie – recording book from Johnson Insurance.

14. **Next Meeting: Jan. 3 Board of Directors 11 a.m.**

Jan. 15 General Members Meeting – Seniors for Seniors 11:30 a.m.

Mac moved the meeting be adjourned at 1:30.

Approved by Terry Gunnlaugson - Past President

Submitted by Rhonda Mathers - Secretary