

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL RETIREES BRANCH 39

MEETING MAY 14, 2018

PRESENT: Carol Grieco, Frank Bayne, Louise Nobbs, David Kaminski, Gerard Carmichael, John Mitchell, Yves Marchand, Lorna Kennedy, Wayne Keefe, Lynn Borthwick, Lois Brown, Ted Young

GUESTS: Carolyn Marchand, Andrew (Andy) Zajchowski, Ted Young, Sylvia Keefe

REGRETS: Deb Phillips, Joe Mansfield, Maggie & Dave McNichol

1. WELCOME: President Carol welcomed all board members and introduced special project volunteers Carolyn Marchand and Andrew Zajchowski
2. SECRETARY'S REPORT: In the absence of Deb and Maggie, Lynn volunteered to take these minutes. The President asked that the minutes of the March board meeting and the April AMM be accepted as circulated. The AMM minutes will also be on the 2019 AMM agenda, with a request for acceptance by the members.
3. BUSINESS ARISING: none
4. TREASURER'S REPORT: Louise reported that the quarterly payment has been received and on other monies deposited and disbursed. The Bank balance sits at approximately \$12,000.
5. MEMBERSHIP REPORT: In the absence of Joe, Gerard reported that there has been minimal change since the March report.
6. MP MEETINGS RE BILL C-27: Andy volunteered following Carol's request for assistance at the April AMM and will join Carol and Yves in meeting MPs and attending forums as each is available. Carol shared briefing notes with Andy and Yves. Yves also received and shared info re *Vibrant Voices* from our PAO, for use in discussions with MPPs.
7. GROUP TRIPS: Carolyn has volunteered to work at coordinating trips for BR 39. Her AMM survey indicates that day trips were favoured by those in attendance. She has had contact with Great Canadian Tours but their response rate has been poor. Lois and Lorna both offered other local tour companies with which they have had success. She shared information about the Penetang theatre and a Blue Jays game; general consensus was to try the baseball game as the first outing and evaluate the success. Carolyn will forward info to Lois for an e-blast.
8. LONDON REGIONAL MEETING UPDATE: Carol, Gerard and Maggie attended. Carol shared highlights, including descriptions for the volunteer roles of President and Vice, which she will also distribute to all BR 39 board members. Carol will present the Branch Health Report via e mail or at the August meeting.

Board members are asked to consider nominees for the Volunteer Award. Are there any suggestions for the position of Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement Director from within this branch to work for this branch? Carol also asked board members to consider reassigning director responsibilities to ensure better functionality and creating ad hoc committees for special projects. Parameters will be required.

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8. LONDON REGIONAL MEETING UPDATE, continued

National Office will set up a facebook page for branches, as requested.

Board members are asked to consider contacting employees at their previous workplaces as a recruitment

activity. An updated Presentation package is on hand in the office, as required.

9. KITCHENER BOARD POSSIBLE RE-ORGANIZATION: tabled until August meeting
10. SAGE: all contributions are to be sent to David **no later than June 15**
11. JUNE AMM: Carol (voting member), Louise and Yves (observers) are attending. Carol thinks a future plan will have board members looking to take executive positions participate at this meeting, to prepare to take on roles that require and/or benefit from 'historic knowledge'.

At the point of discussing travel to this and other related events, Lois Brown moved that "BR 39 pay the National Office mileage rate for branch authorized travel", seconded by David Kaminski. CARRIED

12. ROUND TABLE:

Ted Young provided an update on national Office efforts for *Advocacy, Recruitment and Retention*. He noted that Board member Ian Gray is currently recovering from an illness and has not been in a position to participate fully. Human Relations at National has done a study and determined that 24 branches across the country are currently in difficulty and struggling to stay afloat. Recruitment and Retention are keys to a successful branch, and BR 39 has an advantage due to our staffed office. National is re-evaluating the Affinity Partners and Carol stated that BR 39 would be prepared to participate on the team.

Louise attended a Seniors' Event at Cambridge Mall and picked up info pamphlets on potential guest speakers.

Carol also commented that if your computer uses WORD 7 (which is no longer being supported by Microsoft) and you have not upgraded to the pricy WORD 10/11, that a great alternative is the **free** Open Office.

NEXT MEETING: Monday August 20th

Lynn Borthwick, Acting Recording Secretary