

 <p>National Association of Federal Retirees</p> <p>Association nationale des retraités fédéraux</p> <p>WINNIPEG & DISTRICT</p>	<p>National Association of Federal Retirees Winnipeg & District Branch National Website: www.federalretirees.ca Branch Website: www.federalretirees.ca/en/Branches/Manitoba/Winnipeg-and-District Branch E-mail: nafrwpg@mymts.net Branch Mailing Address: 526-3336 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, MB R3K 2H9 Phone: 204-989-2061</p>
<p>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Monday, April 15, 2019 Lunch: Noon - Business Meeting 1:00 p.m. Masonic Memorial Temple, 420 Corydon Avenue, Winnipeg MB</p>	

<p><u>MINUTES</u></p>
<p>Present: Ceci O’Flaherty, Barb Higham, Pam Proctor, Donna Dobson, Connie Kehler, Nicky Compton, Gerry Jennings, Paula Nygaard, Tom Higham, Lionel Guerard, Lucy Cummings, Dorothy Watermulder</p> <p>Guests: Danielle Martins, Collette Travel Jo-Ann Stebbing, Collette Travel</p> <p>Attendees: 232</p> <p>Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>1. Approval of Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Motion to approve agenda was made by Richard Daly and seconded by Cynthia Foreman. Carried</i>
<p>2. Introduction of “first-time attendees”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 25 first time attendees were identified from the floor. A moment of silence was held for those no longer with us.
<p>3. Review of Minutes from the November 20, 2018 General Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Motion to approve minutes as presented by Dorothy Watermulder seconded by Jim Chester. Carried</i>
<p>4. President’s Report – Ceci O’Flaherty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three of our volunteer board members terms were up this year so we would like to take this opportunity to thank Lucy Cummings, Louise Jutras and Gerry Jennings for their contributions over the years. Gerry will continue in his role as Advocacy

Program Officer for Manitoba but will not be a member of the Winnipeg and District board.

- We have a busy year coming up: The National Board of Directors will be tabling a 5-year plan at the Annual Members' Meeting (AMM). The plan will run from 2019-2024.
- If the strategic plan gets adopted at the AMM, in the Fall our Board will develop an operations plan which will outline the direction for our branch to support the National Plan.
- Another major event coming up is the federal election in the Fall of 2019. The National Office has already been hard at work developing position papers, kits, initiatives, etc to ensure that the needs and concerns of our Association are widely known by all parties.
- It is important to remember that we are completely non-partisan – we have no affiliation to a political party and would not try to sway our members to vote in any particular way.
- We are focused only on hearing how leaders and local candidates respond to our issues and what commitments they are making with respect to safeguarding our pensions, benefits and broader senior issues.
- Our branch may be hosting some events for candidates such as all candidate meetings, formal or informal and will be following the lead from National Office and our Advocacy Programs Officer.
- At the bottom of the agenda you will notice a list of our upcoming events. The Speakers Series on May 7 is full. If enough members are interested we may arrange another session. Please put your name on the waiting list if you are interested in attending. The annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for August 13. General Meetings will be held in September and November.

NOTE: ALL REPORTS WERE PROVIDED TO MEMBERS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MEETING

5. New Business:

Financial Report (Pam Proctor) –

- Pam presented the annual financial statements. These are reported in a different format this year because the new financial systems provides different statements and more information.

- Debbie Anderson questioned why the difference between the 2017 and 2018 fees for the branch. This is because all fees are now being processed by National Office and forwarded to us electronically which is faster and easier.

Audit Review Committee:

- Thank you to the members of the Audit Review Committee for an excellent job.

MOTION:

Pam Proctor moved that the 2018 Financial Statements of the National Association of the Federal Retirees (the Association) Winnipeg and District Branch, as reviewed by the Audit Review Committee, and showing earnings of \$2,127.67 be accepted. Seconded by Pat Cappello. Carried.

Budget

- Pam presented the 2019-2020 operating budget. Branch meeting expenses continue to rise with larger venues and more attendees. No other questions were received.

Norm Wiseman moved that the 2019 budget forecast be approved as presented. Seconded by Pam Proctor. Carried.

Reduce Defence of Benefits Fund and remit to National Office

Withdrawals from this reserve may be made only to support initiatives to promote or protect significant pension or health benefits.

It is the view of your Board of Directors that it is at the National Office where the bulk of advocacy efforts take place on our behalf. Our Defence of Benefits reserve fund currently stands at \$50,000. We have made two donations in the past three years, which have resulted in our Branch being exempted from the repatriation of excess funds.

This money will help defer some of the costs associated with the National Advocacy campaign which will focus on the 2019 Federal Election and the ongoing appeal of the Public Service Health Care Plan federal court decision. Currently, National Office is projecting a deficit related to their election activities (which are a non-partisan approach representing seniors, pensions, health and dental care).

The following motion will result in our fund standing at \$30,000 in 2021. This amount should be more than sufficient for local efforts made by the Branch.

Pam Proctor moved that the Defence of Benefits Reserve upper limit be reduced as follows:

Year 2019: \$10,000

Year 2020: \$ 5,000

Year 2021: \$ 5,000

And that each reduction amount be remitted to the National Office Defence of Benefits reserve fund. Seconded by Janine Wilson. Carried.

Committee Reports:

District Director: Cynthia Foreman

- Last week was National Volunteer Week. It is important that we take a minute to appreciate the many volunteers that are at work in our communities every day.
- Membership in the Association was 175,000 as of December 31, 2018.
- For members not currently using DDS (Direct Deposit at Source) as well as new members, a savings of 25% on your membership fees can be realized by switching to DDS. This comes out to a savings of \$12.59 on a single membership; \$16.29 for a double for the year.
- SAGE magazine has completed its contract with iPolitics and will now be published in house. They have received a \$400,000 Canadian Heritage Grant.
- There is nothing new on the Public Service Health Care Plan (PSHCP) appeal although we have recently met with the judge who asked a number of good questions. We should be receiving a decision soon.
- Advocacy has received an approved election roadmap and will be trying new things, getting opportunities to talk to MPs to discuss the senior strategy.
- The Advocacy group met with 25 MPs and nine other senior organizations in February. We are looking to educate the public that issues that affect seniors affect everyone.
- National financial statements have been approved with an unqualified audit.
- There are still a number of Branches that are struggling financially. National Office has set up a fund of \$77,000 to offset some of their costs. Only nine requests for funding were received this year for a total of \$40,000.
- Internal elections will be taking place at the AMM. Jean-Guy Souliere has been acclaimed as President. Two District Directors positions are also up for election this year.
- The District meeting will be held in May in Regina.
- The National Strategic Plan moving forward initiative has been approved and will be presented at the AMM.
- Please visit our website. There is lots of information there as well as issues papers, election information, FaceBook links, etc.

Branch Services Coordinator – Paula Nygaard

- New in the position and would like to thank everyone for their help.
- Will attend the District meeting in May
- Attending the AMM in June

- Attended a meeting with a struggling small branch who had double the amount of people attend the meeting. This is a positive outlook.
- There are business cards on the tables with the Branch email address. Please ensure you send any changes to your name, address or email address to this address so we can keep you up-to-date on activities in the Branch.
- Watch for information about the Golf Tournament coming soon. If you are willing to volunteer for this event please let Paula know by sending an email to the Branch email address.

Advocacy – Gerry Jennings

- If you are interested in meeting with your MP about the priorities of NAFR, go to the website, educate yourself on the four key Association messages and visit. Our top priorities are: Bill C-27, Seniors Strategy, Veteran’s issues (treatment and reintegration to civilian life).
- Has visited 10 of the 14 MPs in Manitoba twice over the last couple years. First visit introduced who we are and what we do; second visit talked about the four issues; the third visit will ask where they stand on seniors issues.

6. Elections:

Bios for volunteers were located on tables. Ceci called for any nominations for the floor. No nominations were made.

Ceci O’Flaherty motioned to elect Dorothy Watermulder as Director at Large, seconded by Pam Proctor. Carried.

Ceci O’Flaherty motioned to elect Connie Kehler as Director at Large Web-Site and Social Media, seconded by Lil Atamanchuk. Carried.

Ceci O’Flaherty motioned to elect Naomi Ashton as Director at Large, seconded by Lucy Cummings. Carried.

Ceci O’Flaherty motioned to elect Pat Cappello as Director at Large, seconded by Paula Nygaard. Carried.

Ceci O’Flaherty motioned to elect Janine Wilson as Director at Large/Treasurer, seconded by Barb Higham. Carried.

Cynthia Foreman administered the Oath of Office. Congratulations to all new board members.

Before we adjourn, please complete the venue survey and leave them on your table for pickup.

Pat Cappello motioned for adjournment, seconded by Paula Nygaard. Carried.

SIGNATURES:

Donna Dobson, Secretary

Date

Ceci O'Flaherty, President

Date

2019 Schedule of Meetings

Orientation/Planning Conference: April 30 & May 1, 2019

District Directors Meeting: May 8-9, 2019 (Regina)

Annual Members' Meeting: June 17-20, 2019 (Gatineau)

Golf Tournament: August 13, 2019

Board of Directors: September 11, 2019

General Meeting: September 24, 2019

Outreach: October 2, 2019 (location to be determined)

Regional Learning Conference: October 8-10, 2019

Board of Directors: November 5, 2019

General Meeting: November 19, 2019