**National Association of Federal Retirees, Huronia Branch ON 35**

# **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**

Held via Zoom on **Wednesday May 5, 2021**

Executive members: President Lynne Ellis, Treasurer Noreen Campbell, Membership/ Communications/Recruitment- Kathy Rupnow, Health and Benefits- Jackie Akeson, Recording secretary- Dianne Michals Regrets: Nancy Viktil Elections Chairperson- Peter Evans

1. CALL TO ORDER: at 11:10 am by President Lynne Ellis welcoming everyone in attendance. Members in good standing noted present for Quorum. Introduction of Executive and the Elections Chair, Peter Evans.

2. MINUTES OF MAY 2, 2019 AGM were emailed for preview. Motion by Lynne Ellis on behalf of the Secretary, that the minutes be accepted as presented, seconded by Patricia Ummels. All in Favour. Carried.

3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Lynne gave a brief overview of the Branch activities, future focus, and Reach 338, since the last AGM in May of 2019. She thanked Noreen for taking on the duties of Treasurer with the steep learning curve.

Attached hereto is *President’s Report.*

4. TREASURER’S REPORT: Noreen explained the background and process regarding Financial Statements per National Office, particularly during this time as effected by Covid restrictions. Peter Evans, in his capacity as Auditor, reviewed and certified the Financials. These documents were electronically mailed to registered attendees and provided on screen for voting. *Reports are attached hereto*.

Noreen spoke of the Total Equity balances and Earnings (Loss) between Years 2019 and 2020, and asked for any questions. Question by Leo Brooks: Could a savings be made by using Google or other application for translation?

i) 2019 Financial Report: Moved by Noreen that the 2019 Financial Statement showing a Total Equity of $24,179.49 and Earnings (Loss) of -$1,747.71 be accepted as presented. Seconded by Lisa McGowan, All in Favour. Carried.

ii) 2020 Financial Report – Explanation given as to the reduction of Expenses due to office move i.e. the rent, phone, internet, post office box, and addition of ‘Branch Information Sharing’ item being French translation fees. Moved by Noreen that the Financial Statement showing Total Equity $30,322.46 and Earnings of $6,142.97 be accepted as presented. Seconded by Leo Brooks. All in Favour. Carried.

iii) Report of Reserves – Noreen gave an overview of the Reserves Motions Template with regard to being a non-profit association. Allocation for: Reserved Equity: – Equipment - the purchase of 3 Laptops; - Advocacy - Townhalls for Federal & Provincial elections; - Training/Succession Planning: Observer attendance at District & Regionals, and travel expenses for future Branch meetings. Moved by Noreen to accept the Report as presented. Seconded by Myrna Austen. All in favour. Carried.

iv) 2021 and 2022 Proposed Budget – This proposed Budget was prepared in January and included expenses, for potential of Fall meetings to be held in Branch area locations e.g. Bracebridge. (A suggestion made to hold meeting in Alliston.) Moved by Noreen to accept 2021 and 2022 Budget Forecast as presented, Seconded by Donna Wallace. All in favour. Carried.

5. HEALTH AND BENEFITS REPORT – Jackie reported i) that the Sun Life Bulletins are accessible on line and include information on International Travel, Mental Health, the temporary suspension of submitting prescriptions for claims. ii) Benefits – PSHCP renewal negotiations (last was in 2006) and Treasury Board - for vision care and paramedical care. iii) You and Your Survivors Workbook (51 pages) is available by request. After the first 50 copies there will be a postage charge.

6. MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNICATIONS/RECRUITMENT – Kathy reported that we have 1600 members in the Huronia Branch and there are close to 170,000 across Canada. E-blasts have been utilized for communication since the start of Covid and it is important to have up-to-date email addresses on file. Communications are via the SAGE magazine and on the website.

Since our last in-person meeting in October 2019, Recruitment has been limited to sharing on FaceBook or email; contact was made with Base Borden and a FaceBook group in Peterborough. At the National level, there was another Mega Recruitment Drive in 2020. A new feature that is offered is the gift of membership.Kathy referenced the website under the “Joining Us” section.

To encourage the recruitment of new members, we decided to offer a draw for 2 door prizes that are $50 restaurant gift cards. Draw to take place at the end of the meeting.

7. OVERVIEW OF BRANCH HEALTH – Kathy spoke on the following: As a volunteer retiree, you provide your expertise and time. Our Branch can provide long term, short term and/or ad hoc volunteer opportunities for you to:

provide leadership at the branch level

* advocate on behalf of our entire membership to protect the pensions and benefits and to promote the interests of retired federal employees, veterans, Canadian Armed Forces personnel and RCMP members
* promote income security and healthy aging for all Canadians in retirement
* help plan meetings and events to grow our membership and increase our influence

The health of our Branch is precarious. New fresh ideas are also important to maintain the vitality of the Branch going forward.

 We are required to have 6 to 9 volunteer executives to keep the Branch afloat. Now that we are able to connect virtually, geography is no longer an issue.

8. INTRODUCTION OF ELECTION CHAIRPERSON – Peter Evans was introduced by Kathy and given a very appreciative ‘Thank you’ for the volunteer work and auditing of financial records that he provided over the past few years.

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS – Peter advised that there are 6 to 9 Executive required and currently there are six on the Board. Per the By-Laws he did a Call for Nominations and conducted the elections. Each position was called three times. The OATH OF OFFICE was presented on screen, recited, and the new Executive was installed.

Election results are as follows:

President - Lynne Ellis - 1 year

Vice-President - no nominations- remains open; can appoint someone in the future.

Treasurer- Noreen Campbell – 2 years

Secretary- Dianne Michals – 1 year

Director – Health & Benefits – Jackie Akeson – 1 year

Director – Membership/Communications/Recruitment – Kathy Rupnow –2 years

Director - Communications - Nancy Viktil

Directors at Large - Chris Auger – 1 year, Mark Burchell- 1 year, Leo Brooks – 1 year

Peter congratulated the Board members individually. Lynne thanked those who were willing to stand and become the Executive.

10. CLOSING REMARKS – Lynne thanked Peter for his role as Elections Chair.

Any Questions: - Joyce Keyes asked if the SAGE is available in electronic form. A: will advise her.

- Leo asked re the Advocacy officer position and/or a group. A. Could be either; to be arranged.

The Fall date for Meeting of Members will be advised. The Draw for prizes was held.

Lucky winners: Donna Wallace and Joyce Keyes.

An invitation was extended to remain on-line for a Meet and Greet.

There will be an Executive meeting this month for the Board members.

11. MOTION TO ADJOURN by Chris Auger. The meeting ended at 12:05 pm.

Attachments:

Minutes of the AGM, May 2,2019

President’s Report

Financial Statement - Page 1-Balances; Page 2-Earnings/Loss

2021 Budget Forecast

Reserves Motions Template