

BC09 BOD MEETING MINUTES

October 1, 2024

We acknowledge that this meeting is taking place on the Traditional Lands of the Lekwungen-speaking Peoples, the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

Location: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 292,
411 Gorge Road East, Victoria, B.C.

Time: 9:33 a.m.

In Attendance: Jim Dallimore, Patricia Francis, Jennifer Furry, Elizabeth (Libby) MacRae, David Stinson, Gordon Usipiuk, J. Ray Webber, Bennie Wong

Regrets: Erika Kanczula

Quorum: Yes

Approval of Agenda:

M/ David S/ Ray Carried

Approval of Minutes: September 3, 2024, meeting

M/ David S/ Ray Carried

1. REPORTS

A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Libby

- Oct. 1 is National Senior's Day, which coincides with the United Nations International Day of Older Persons (UNIDOP).
- Winter Sage and In Memorial List was submitted to NO by September 24.
- BC election – There is not going to be a provincial townhall organized by NO because only one leader indicated interest in attending. NO have submitted numerous emails and a tool kit for use in sending letters. CARP and COSCO have also done election packages.
- After NO BODs meetings, Branch Presidents in B.C./Yukon will be updated by our two District Directors via Zoom on decisions made – first one Oct. 15, 7-8 pm
- NO has requested ideas for SAGE and SAGE60.
- Noted email from a member with which she included the letter she sent to Legion together with Legion's response regarding moving our meeting room location.
- September bulletin to branches advised the Association's Strategic Plan will be discussed at the Fall District meetings with comments to NO by November 30.
- Public Services and Procurement Canada now including a bulletin about Federal Retirees in its pre-retirement courses and has a link to the Association's website in the communiques it sends to future retirees.
- 2024 AMM report is available online.
- Sage Cross-Canada Roundup Photo Story – NO is encouraging Branches to send in photos of their local events
- Remembrance Day – need to order a wreath asap.
- 2024 Branch Holiday E-Cards are available again this year.

B. TREASURER'S REPORT:

As Erika is away, there was no report.

C. ADVOCACY: Gordon/Libby

It was noted again that the BC townhall was cancelled. Several members have used the package sent by NO to send the letter to the candidate in their riding and found it easy to use. Therefore, there is no need to go forward with our plan to send out an email blast.

D. HEALTH BENEFITS: David

David advised the PSHCP booklet June 2024 is available on the website. There is also a comparison online outlining the changes in benefits now Canada Life has taken over the program.

E. MEMBERSHIP: Ray

Latest membership count is 5327.

F. RECRUITMENT: All

Please note that NO have sent out information on recruitment.

G. SPEAKERS PROGRAM: Patricia

October – Iris eye care. December- Seniors Serving Seniors and Victoria Police Chorus. Advised the Victoria Police Chorus that a cheque would be provided on the date of the program. Patricia learned that the cheque will be issued by NO and she does not know how long that will take or when the Police Chorus will receive it. Will discuss further with the Treasurer when she is back from vacation.

H. PREFERRED PARTNER PROGRAM: Gordon

Work is ongoing with the goal to provide a summary to be used for the townhall.

I. WEBSITE:

Our October event is posted and will post most recent minutes. Because of recent software update at NO, computer problems are being experienced.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Board Roles and Responsibilities/Skills Matrix – Board Gap Analysis

Libby is planning to do an analysis before the 2025 AGM.

B. Membership Engagement Survey

Gordon will use some of the slides for the upcoming townhall.

C. Results of the townhall and General Meeting September 10, 2024.

Libby reiterated points made by those attending the meeting and a copy of the meeting notes have been distributed to the Board members. The question was raised again about having over 5000 members and yet we get such a low turn out for meetings. Therefore, we have asked NO for a data analysis of the most recent eblast sent out to determine how many members there are, how many members do not receive emails, how many unsubscribed, etc. Gordon will report back on results.

D. October 8, 2024, Townhall and General Meeting

Gordon will put together some main talking points, for example, membership, health benefits officer, speaker's program, preferred partner program. Board members will speak to the program with which they are involved.

E. Business Cards

Cards have been ordered and awaiting a sample for approval.

F. Name Tags

Name tags were distributed.

G. Meeting Venue Options

One good thing about the Legion is that our members can go for lunch at the Legion after the meeting. Jim gave Libby a letter containing information, including rental prices, about a possible meeting place at the Saanich Presbyterian Church. It has a good sound system.

It was suggested that a committee led by a Board member be set up to do research and make a recommendation regarding the location at which our meetings should be held. A discussion ensued during which a related question was raised – do we need to hold as many meetings as we do. These two items will be considered further at the next meeting. Gordon has the names of the two people who volunteered for the location search committee.

H. Audio Visual Equipment

Decision on hold until a decision is made regarding where we will hold our meetings.

I. Regional meeting – Quality Inn Nanaimo Oct. 22, 10:00-3:00

While at the meeting, it was suggested that we take the opportunity to ask the question as to why we can't email our membership.

It was moved that the three members attending (Libby, Patricia and Benny) travel the day before and stay overnight – and that accommodation and dinner, breakfast and incidental costs be covered.

M/ Libby S/ David Passed

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Branch By-Law Review

Deferred until after strategic plan and organizational structure review is completed. It was suggested that we review how the banking initiative with the NO is working and perhaps make some recommendations for improvement.

B. December 10 General Meeting

As discussed above.

C. Advocacy

Online letter writing campaign was discussed above. It is very easy to send a letter to the candidate.

D. Remembrance Day

It was decided that we would do the same as was done last year. We will ask Erika to handle.

E. 2024 Branch Holiday E-cards

Agreed that we would send E-cards again this year.

Gordon will see if he can query the data base for members not on email.

4. ROUNDTABLE

Gordon suggested if we decide to reduce the number of meetings, they should be held in February, April, October, November. Libby mentioned that it makes it easier if we have our AGM in March to meet all the requirements and deadlines of the governing legislation.

Gordon further suggested if we were to rotate venues around the CRD we could reduce the number of general meetings to three: Victoria/Saanich, Westshore, and Saanich Peninsula.

UPCOMING BOD MEETINGS: November 5, 2024

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: October 8, 2024

ADJOURNMENT:

M/ Libby

S/ David

Carried at 12:03 pm