

**National Association of Federal Retirees
South-East New Brunswick / Section du Sud-Est du Nouveau
Brunswick
Branch 64**

**MINUTES - GENERAL MEETING
February 24 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Branch President, Karen MacGregor at 10:00 a.m.

PRESENTATION

Lise Bourque introduced Mr. Berkeley Fleming, President of Tantramar Seniors' College.

TSC's mission statement is to provide educational opportunities for seniors in a welcoming environment. Mr. Fleming opened saying that TSC's first classes were held almost ten years ago in 2008; at that time they offered ten courses and had 128 registered attendees.

Today TSC puts on 71 courses and has 1,113 registered participants. Currently sessions are held fall, winter and spring at four communities which are: Amherst, Codiac (Dieppe, Moncton and Riverview) Sackville and Shediac.

The annual fee to be a TSC member is \$120 for one year and members may take as many courses as they wish at any of the four above locations. Courses starting in May, have registration 2nd week of April and if your registration date is missed, you can register at another registration location.

Mr. Fleming provided TSC pamphlets for distribution.

NEW MEMBERS

New members Dan Mathews and Delcia Landry were introduced and welcomed to the Branch.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the January 27, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Moved by Edward Weatherdon that the Minutes be accepted as presented. Seconded by Dorothy Burns. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Leonard LeBlanc from the National Board of Directors provided an update from National Headquarters as follows:

- The government, Prime Minister Trudeau, has indicated that there would not be a tax on employer sponsored health and dental plans in the Federal Budget.
- The Court Case is scheduled for April 10 - 11 2017, regarding the government proposal to increase members' share of the PSHCP. The decision may take some time as it is by Judge only.
- Sage magazine will have a card in early March that you can send to your M.P. regarding Bill C-27 - Federally regulated instruction to Crown Corporations.
- On-line background only - Bill C-27 is an Act to amend the long-standing Pension Benefits Standards Act. Those in favour of pure Defined Benefit (DB) pension plans have criticized Bill C-27, saying it would allow federally regulated employers to replace DB plans, which provide a guaranteed retirement income for life with no risk, with Target Benefit Plans (TBPs) which are also generous pensions but because they count on employees taking on some risk, final retirement guaranteed payments may not be as iron-glad.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jo-Ann Milburn presented the financial report for month January 31, 2017.

The balance brought forward was \$2,966. Total Receipts were \$425 and Total Expenses were \$2,466, leaving a Cash Balance as at January 31st of \$925. Jo-Ann moved the Treasurers Report be accepted as presented. Seconded by Don MacGregor. Motion Carried.

Amended Financial Statements - 2016 year end

Jo-Ann explained that National has decided to move to Accrual Accounting. As a result, the Per Capita Payment (\$4,669.54) we/Branch 64 received in February 2017 (that represented payments made in 2016) is now being allocated to the 2016 calendar year, rather than 2017 as in years past.

She added that this changes our 2016 year-end balance from a Deficit - \$3,192 to a Surplus \$1,496 and as the previous figures were presented to the membership at the Annual General Meeting, the Treasurer presented the amended numbers to the membership today.

In response to queries from the floor, Jo-Ann will further advise if this change has any effect on the calculation of funds to be paid to National for excess dollars on hand at this Branch.

Jo-Ann made a Motion that the above adjustment be accepted as presented. Seconded by Paul Beliveau. All in favour. Motion carried.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Jack Dennahower presented the membership report - as of this date, the Branch has a total membership of 2,910.

CARING COMMITTEE REPORT

Sheila Huntley reviewed the report of the caring committee. Condolences were sent for the following deaths: Gerald Daniel Hobbs, Carolyn Jane MacPherson, William Henry Edgett, Vaughan Edward Carson and Jenny Hedgecoe.

A **moment of silence** was recognized in honour of departed members.

LUNCHEON and BANQUET REPORTS

Luncheon

The next luncheon will be on April 28th and tickets are available from Lorraine Casey. Lorraine advised that the date of the first luncheon meeting next year has been changed from January to February 2018.

Banquet

Norma Jeanne Lavoie reported the banquet will be held June 5, 2017 at the Four Points Sheraton. Cost is \$15.00 for members, \$45.00 for non-members. Members were reminded if anyone has a food allergy they should notify Julie (869-9633) at the Four Points Sheraton at least two weeks prior to the banquet date. Norma Jeanne (854-8336) will be selling banquet tickets at our next General Meeting on April 28th.

CORRESPONDENCE

NAFR membership cards will no longer be renewed annually; NAFR Membership cards will no longer have an Expiry Date. Discussion followed regarding pros and cons of this cost-saving decision by National office.

OTHER BUSINESS

Affinity Plans

Regarding Affinity Partners or Preferred Partners, Karen presented the idea of having a few of the Preferred Partners companies come to our membership meeting to set up a few tables which would give members the opportunity to circulate and ask questions.

Broad topics covered could be Travel, Financial Advice, Health, Home & Auto and Technology. As well, specific names of participating Preferred Partners companies offering discounts are available on the NAFR web site.

Karen asked if there was any interest in having them come to one of our general meetings. Little to no interest was indicated from the membership at this time.

Norma Jeanne then asked if there would be any interest if we had **local** Affinity Partner companies come in to a meeting. Some discussion followed, however, the result was little to no interest from the membership in having Preferred Partners' companies visit.

New Family Program

Karen explained the NAFR Family Program allows our members to share some of the Program's savings with their family. This is not a membership, but a subscription that allows members' families access to similar discounts offered by the Association's Preferred Partners (a company that provides

special prices to our members). Further information is available at NAFR on-line regarding this program.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

50/50 DRAW

Lucky recipients of \$43 each were Connie Dennahower and Edward Weatherdon.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.