

BRANCH 92 GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 10, 2023

ATTENDEES:

Bob Howard	President	Anne Parker	1 st Vice
Janet Gaylord	2 nd Vice	Owen Fitzgerald	Poppy Chair
John Beddows	Executive	Chris Ormsbee	Executive
Dan Beauchamp	Executive	Mary Alguire	Executive
Bill Beswetherick	House & Property	John Robertson	Sgt. at Arms
Shirley Howard	Secretary/Treasurer	Ann DeWolfe	Br. Manager.

ABSENT:

Wes Rideout	Past President	Kevin Offord	3 rd Vice
Alf Read	Service Officer	Joanne Lancaster	Youth Education.

Introduction of our guest this evening – Zone Commander Rob Fernell who is here tonight to do our Branch Inspection.

Minutes of Meeting on September 12, 2023 reviewed. Motion to adopt minutes as presented made by Ed Harding. Seconded by Carl Duff. Carried

Business from September's minutes – The plumbing problem is still ongoing. One of the Ladies toilets was continually flushing, so our water bill will be sky-high. The water was shut off to that toilet and Hogan's are coming in on Wednesday Oct 11th to see what they can do with it. The one that Hogan's worked on in the Men's that cost over \$ 2,000. was a bowl replacement and valve replacement and it is working well.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Bob is looking for 3 people along with himself, to set up a Grievance Committee. He would like someone to chair it as he cannot chair this Committee. This is just in case we do have a problem and may never be called upon. This will be to settle concerns “In House” rather than incurring the expense of going to Zone which could be into the thousands of dollars.

We are still looking for a “Ways and Means” Chair. Bob would like anyone who is interested to step forward and you would not be responsible for it all by yourself. You can form a committee to help you come up with ways to help make more money for the Branch. We will be looking for a “Leadership & Development” Chair since the passing of Ron Miller. Again, if anyone is interested, please step forward and let Bob know. Also again, you can form a committee.

1st Vice, Anne Parker brought to Bob's attention that he could appoint members of the Executive to fill the vacant Chairs. Bob responded that he hoped people would voluntarily step up and planned to give them a bit more time before he had to make the decision to appoint.

Brunch this past Sunday was on Thanksgiving Day. We were unsure if it would be well attended or very scarcely attended. We had only 55 people.

Bob went to the Bank this week regarding investing \$ 50,000. in a GIC. For a 3 year term it is at 3 1/2 %. At the moment we are not getting any interest on what we have. We would be able to remove it, but we would only get the interest on it for the time it has been invested and it would have to be under dire circumstances to be removed. There is also a penalty clause in case of removal. The interest would be given on the anniversary of the investment yearly. It would be automatically renewed unless the Legion decided not to renew. The interest rate would be fixed at 3 1/2 % for the 3 years, regardless of interest rate fluctuation. We will bring this up again at the next General Meeting.

The movie “The Battle of Britain” there were 10 people who attended, including Bob. It was a good movie and quite informative.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Shirley Howard reported the bank balances for the end of the month of August

GENERAL ACCOUNT \$ 101,407.22 LOTTERY ACCOUNT \$12,297.56

BUILDING ACCOUNT \$ 75,293.85

TOTAL REVENUE \$ 14,739.33 TOTAL EXPENSE \$ 17,698.83

NET INCOME remains in the NEGATIVE - \$ 2,959.50

CORRESPONDENCE: Shirley has brought up again the letter we received during the summer from “Almost Home” asking for a donation to help with sick children in the Kingston area hospitals. There is also a request for a donation for consumable materials, from Linklater School. This will be dealt with in New Business.

MEMBERSHIP: Anne Parker reported that we have 4 new members. Doug Simpson; Dave Massey; Julia Marcus and Dennis McCann. Also welcome to John Rose and Shirley Carter who are new members this year. Also David Carter is a transferred member and is celebrating his 50th year membership with the Legion.

Also Anne is reminding everyone of the “Early Bird” membership drive. It runs from Sept 1st to Nov 30th 2023. At the moment we have 62 members that have paid their 2024 dues which is 31% of Anne's goal.. She is aiming for 200 by the end of November. The winner gets their \$60 membership fee reimbursed.

POPPY CHAIR: Owen Fitzgerald reported on the Poppy drive. He has a sign-up board for the Poppy campaign for volunteers to stand outside the stores on Saturday, November 4th. There will be 2 shifts on that day. One from 0930 to 1200 and the second one from 1230 to 4:00 (1600hrs). Please sign up for as much help as you can and please arrive here at the Legion 30 minutes before your shift starts. Owen and his committee will be meeting at the stores involved around the 27th Oct. The Ladies Auxiliary are providing a hot lunch at noon, between shifts. A question was raised regarding the “Tap Boxes” and response was that they do not seem to work in this area. Also a question raised about having the campaign ongoing for 2 days. Response was that we have problems getting enough volunteers for 1 day. We used to do the campaign for 2 days when we had the Cadets, but we no longer have them.

LOTTERY: nothing

YOUTH EDUCATION: Joanne Lancaster is absent

P.R.O.: Janet Gaylord reported that we did have a full page report with pictures in the newspaper about the Legion. Thanks to Lorraine Payette. She also reported that the Ottawa Senators are offering discounted prices for the Nov 2nd game for the 20th Annual Armed Forces Game.

SPORTS: Since we don't have a Sports Officer at present, Bob is reporting the Cribbage tournament on Nov 25th at Seeley's Bay. He has posted the sign-up sheet. If you are interested in going, put a team in of 4 members. It has to be in by the 4th Nov. You have to be a paid-up member to play.

LEADERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT: no one in this chair since Ron Miller's passing

SICK & VISITING: Owen Fitzgerald reporting that Murray Salter still at home, and very weak. It is hoped that he will be able to come to the Legion and sit at the bar and have his glass of beer.

The passing of Ron Miller – the service is Nov 14th at 11 AM at Bethel Church on Johnson St. in Kingston. There is a Celebration of Life here in the Webb Room on Nov 14th from 1 PM to 3:30.

HOUSE & PROPERTY: as previously discussed the plumbing is the ongoing problem and plumbers will be in tomorrow.

LADIES AUXILIARY: Shirley Walker has nothing to report at this time.

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS: Shirley Howard states it is a work in progress.

WEBSITE: Anne Parker is making up a page under “A Soldier Died Today” regarding Ron Miller.

BURSARY: John Robertson reported that the Bursaries have been raised to \$1200 and the forms are available at the bar for those interested. The students must be in college up until the end of the year.

SGT. at ARMS: John Robertson again asked everyone giving a report to please use the mike. The people at the back cannot hear. He also reported that the Remembrance Day Service at Carveth Nursing home on Nov 11th will be at 2 PM. They have a Padre for the service. John Robertson will also be with John Beddows when the people from the base in Kingston come down to scout the area around the Cenotaph for Remembrance day.

MANAGER: Ann DeWolfe reported that we had a very busy week-end this past week-end with 2 days of back to back bookings. Ann is getting in touch with Amy Running and hopes to talk her into doing some Euchres again. We will probably try some Fridays and some Sundays. They went over very well in the past. Stu Hill has mentioned that he might do a Fish Fry when he returns from holidays. Ann also said that a Spaghetti night will be tried. The Meat Draws will continue to be the last Friday of the month. She has started a "Find the Ace of Hearts" draw at the bar and it's a 50/50 split. We are on our 4th board right now. She has the month of October pretty well booked up with the LA Friday lunches, Celebrations of Life, the Humane Society booking. She also has the Dale Hill Dart Tournament booking in November which is a huge fundraiser for us. The Pool League which usually goes every Tuesday night is postponed until November, as Moroni's cannot open their pool tables to the League until then.

GENERAL & NEW BUSINESS: Bob Howard asked for a motion to donate to Linklater School Motion made by Anne Parker to donate \$ 500 Seconded by Chris Ormsbee. Voted on and motion carried. Bob suggested that if we give to Linklater School, we should also give to St Joseph's School.

Motion to donate \$500. to St Joseph School by John Robertson. Seconded by Owen Fitzgerald. Carried. John Beddows made the motion that we request a report from St Joseph's School as to how the donation was used. All agreed.

Motion made by Shirley Walker to donate \$ 500 to "Almost Home". Seconded by John Robertson. Carried.

President Bob Howard stated that District G Fall Convention is coming up on October 20th to 22nd in Orleans. Both he and John Robertson will be attending. He is asking for financial support to attend this Convention. Motion made by John Beddows to cover the cost for accommodation and travelling expenses for two representatives to this convention, to be reimbursed, pending the remittance of receipts. Motioned seconded by Ed Hardy. Carried.

REMEMBRANCE DAY UPDATE: John Beddows reports - the order of Ceremony will be essentially the same as last year. He has been in touch with Queen's Band who have guaranteed to provide us with at least a Pipe Major and a bugler. 21 Regiment 212 squad will participate in our ceremony. We may have a 2nd contingent from Support Troop of Joint Signals Regiment. John Beddows is looking to arrange a meeting date with all parties involved including our Sgt. at Arms to do a walk through, talk through, a week or 2 before the ceremony. Clark Bus Lines has graciously offered a bus to transport the musicians from Queens. He has asked the town for waterproof chairs like last year. Also, the PW squadron has volunteered to man the Sound System if needed. He has requested the block of King Street between Stone and Brock be closed off from roughly 9:30 AM to 1 PM for the ceremony and once the street is clear of pedestrians, Gananoque Police Service will open the street. If Highway 401 happens to have to be closed, contingency plans are in place and parade will be in place at the Cenotaph.

ZONE COMMANDER: Rob Fernell commented that Comrade Bob has put to the floor the request for volunteers for the different Chairs, he is suggesting that people learn by mistakes and need not be afraid to try new things. He also stated that on March 25th 2024, he will have \$24,000 to train Branch and Zone Leadership & Development Chairs, so you can do these at your own Branch. L & D as well as Sports are mandatory Chairs.

Ways & Means is not mandatory, but it is very nice to have a Chair in place to help the Branch financially.

Comrade Rob asked if any pictures had been sent of the Ontario Track & Field team. There was a young man from the Brockville area who took gold in the 3000 M event and earned a trip to Saskatchewan for the Canadian Championship. We need to publicize and support our youth.

Motion of Adjournment by Ed Harding
Seconded by Owen Fitzgerald.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY/TREASURER