

**Minutes of a General Meeting
Held At Branch 92
Tuesday 13 Mar 2018**

Committee Members Present

President	Wes Rideout
1 st Vice President	Owen Fitzgerald
2nd Vice President	Anne Parker
	Dan Spencer
	Charlie Burrige
	John Robertson
	Bob Howard
	Alfie Read
	Harold Miller
Secretary	Bill Beswetherick
Manager	Ann DeWolfe

Committee Members Absent

Ron Knapton
Janet Gaylord
Heather Thomson
Doug Johnston
Cliff Weir

President Wes Rideout noted that the Zone convention will be in Kitley-Toledo on Sun 19 Mar. He, Bill Beswetherick, John Robertson, Ray foster, Janet Gaylord, and Bob Howard would attend. The District G convention will be in Cornwall 20-22 Apr. He will attend as likely will Bob Howard and Janet Gaylord who likely will attend the Sports and Youth seminars respectively. We are hoping for an excellent turnout for St Patrick's Day Sat 17 Mar.

There will be a special brunch/lunch Sun 1 Apr. Wes asked for volunteers to make this a success. The Branch election of a new executive will be on Tue 8 May. In keeping with Ontario Command regulations the Branch will form a team to audit the ladies Auxiliary.

The Ladies Auxiliary will hold an Easter dinner Fri 23 March. Later in the meeting Sharon Dorey will outline a plan to have regular dances on Sunday afternoons.

Treasurer Secretary Bill Beswetherick noted that the financial statement for Jan 2018 showed an operating loss of \$3,207.112. He stated that as of the date of the general meeting the Branch has \$79,845.62 in its Building Fund and \$45,451.59 in its General Fund for a total of \$125,297.21.

Raffle Bill Beswetherick said that there was \$9,563.99 in the Raffle Fund. There were no new requests for raffle funds. Bill noted that for each of the past ten years the Branch, Poppy Fund, and Ladies Auxiliary have given the Kingston and the Brockville General Hospitals \$5,000 for a total of \$50,000. Consideration should be given to making donations that mainly Gananoque organizations or charities.

Membership The names of those members not in good standing (i.e., paid up for 2018) have been removed from the Toonie and 50/50 draw jars. The Branch Website and the Branch Facebook are excellent means for members and for committee chairs to

disseminate information.

Youth Education In the absence of Janet Gaylord, Bill Beswetherick noted that the youth public speaking contest held at the Branch on Sun 25 Feb was a great success.

Honours and Awards Alfie Read requested nominations for awards and for letters of appreciation to those organizations and individuals who support this Legion.

A letter has been sent to the Governor General asking her to preside at the dedication ceremony opening the enlarged Lansdowne Veterans Memorial on Sat 22 Sep 2018..

Plans are underway for a Friends of the Legion Appreciation Night at which the Branch recognizes the many people who make the Branch a success. Date still to be determined.

Sports Bob Howard noted that four Branch members who attended Ontario cribbage competition in Toronto on 10 Mar failed to advance to the Dominion level. Despite failing to win, it was refreshing to have so much Branch participation in sports.

Mike Battams, Brian Thompson, Kelly Burt, and Robert Randall Burt on one team and Doug and Fay Johnston and Bob and Shirley Howard on another team attended Zone Euchre held in Brockville this coming weekend but did not advance to the District level.

The next sports event is Zone Men' and Women's Horseshoes 26 May at Delta Branch 207. Details will be posted on the Sports notice board.

Poppy Owen Fitzgerald noted that a major order for poppy supplies will be submitted shortly. The Branch has just over \$10,000 in its Poppy Fund. Owen, Murray Salter, and Bill Beswetherick will visit the Poppy Chairs in Kingston and Brockville to gather ideas about refining/improving our poppy campaign.

Service Officer Dan Spencer noted that the Ontario Service Officer will be visiting Gananoque Wed 18 Apr. There will be a notice in the local newspapers. Those wishing to be interviewed or to talk to the Service Officer are asked to contact Dan.

Membership Anne Parker noted that Dominion shows our renewal rate for 2018 as just over 81%. We are sitting at 260 paid-up members. Dominion will send letters to those members who have not yet paid for 2018. Some of our members are away for the winter so Anne expects many of them to pay up on their return.

We have a new member, David Berezowski, a newly-retired member of the CF (Naval Lt) . As a newly-retired CF member he received his first year's membership free. Hopefully this new program will encourage more retired CF members to join the Legion. David joined as a member-at-large but will transfer his membership to this Branch.

Entertainment Sharon Dorey outlined a program to promote interest. She is part of a committee consisting of Bev Miller and Larry Scott. The idea is to hold Sun afternoon dances 1 to 5 pm the last Sunday of each month with a cover charge of \$8 to \$10

depending on whether a small lunch/buffet is offered. The first event will be Sun Mar 25.

The regular Sunday dances at the Kingston Legion have been canceled so we may gain some of those people who attended the events.

Sharon noted that it is no longer profitable to offer free entertainment at the bar. She noted that the most recent event had only 34 people in attendance and that bar sales would not cover the band cost.

Manager Ann DeWolfe noted the upcoming St Patrick's day Sat 17 Mar and the Meat Draw Fri 23 Mar. She noted that very few people are at the bar when it is open 11 am to 1 pm under the revised hours.

Adjournment At 7:44 Ron Howard Robertson made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Glen Parker. Carried.

Wes Rideout
President

Bill Beswetherick
Secretary