

**Minutes of an Executive Meeting
Held At Branch 92
Tuesday 11 Sep 2018**

Committee Members Present

3rd Vice President Ray Foster
1st Vice President Janet Gaylord

Executive Members Alf Read
Anne Parker
Doug Johnston
John Robertson
Owen Fitzgerald
Gloria MacMillan

Secretary Bill Beswetherick

Committee Members Absent

Wes Rideout
Jim McGee
Deborah McGee
Cliff Weir
Bob Howard

President In the absence of President Wes Rideout, 3rd Vice President Ray Foster chaired the meeting. There were 25 members in attendance.

The meeting was attended by Ralf McMullen, the Zone G-2 Commander, who also conducted a review of Branch 92 operations.

The meeting began with the induction of five new members: Mario Boulay, Patricia Caine, Lorraine Mullin and Andy Anderson .

Much thanks to Jerry Witkowicz, Christine Witkowicz, and Don Dorval for completing the Branch Financial Review. John Robertson made a motion to accept the Branch Financial Review Report. Seconded by Alf Read. Approved.

There was a discussion about extending the parking lot. The cost would be \$8,500 plus taxes or about \$9,775. To re-coat the current parking lot and re-paint the lines would be \$1,225 plus taxes or about \$1,410. Following much discussion, it was decided not proceed with either project at this time.

It was decided not to proceed with first aid training for staff and some executive members. Workplace Safety and Insurance Board states that first aid training is required only for staff covered by WSIB to treat other employees and not for employees to treat business patrons.

Ray reminded members of the Veterans Memorial dedication at Lansdowne Elementary School 11 am Sat 22 Sep.

Treasurer Secretary Bill Beswetherick stated the Fiscal Year 2017/18 (1 Jun 2017 – 30 May 2018) showed a loss of \$6,839.66, but that in effect the Branch made a small

profit over the year as a \$7,500 Town tax rebate for 2017 was not received until after the end of Oct 2017/18 Fiscal Year.

As of 11 Sep the Branch has \$52,047.12 in its General Fund and \$79,873.61 in its Building Fund for a total of \$131,920.73 that can be used for operations and upkeep. There was \$10,863.14 in the Lottery Fund.

In order to make our financial status clearer to members, it is proposed to have a monthly 'running total' by month of major costs/expenses and revenue. To be discussed with the Manager what details are required.

Lottery There was \$10,863.14 in the Lottery Fund. Doug Johnston confirmed with the Salvation Army that any donations made by the Branch remain in the Gananoque community. He proposed three grants to local organizations that the Branch has supported for many years: Salvation Army \$250, Almost Home, Gananoque Minor Hockey \$500. Seconded by Bill Hale. Carried.

Sports In the absence of Bob Howard, Bill Beswetherick noted upcoming sports events. The list of 2018/19 events will be posted on the Sports Board. The Branch will host on 12 Jan 2019 Zone G-2 Senior Darts.

Sick and Visiting Owen Fitzgerald briefed members on sick and visiting.

Youth Education Janet Gaylord outlined the Veterans Memorial dedication that will occur Sat 22 Sep at 11 am. Everyone most welcome and food will be available. She asked for volunteers to judge Remembrance theme posters, essays, and poems. Judging will occur Mon 12 Nov. More details at the Oct General Meeting.

Bursaries John Robertson outlined the current Ontario Command bursary program. 2019 forms will be available shortly.

Honours and Awards Alf Read will convene a meeting to discuss the awards such as Legionnaire of the Year and Honouree of the Year.

Service Officer Alf Read noted that he has worked with the Ontario Service Officer to resolve two files involving local residents.

Membership Anne Parker presented service pins and bars to many members. Alf Read noted all of the excellent work that Anne is doing to make the Branch a success in addition to her responsibility as Membership Chair. She is especially crucial to the success of advertising events via the Branch website.

Anne read an E Mail from a Legion member who complained that some of our Branch patrons consider certain seats to be reserved for themselves. Legion members from Nova Scotia complained about the negative atmosphere generated by some regular bar patrons who seemed to believe that certain seats are reserved. Bar staff will be reminded that all seats are available for use by patrons. Anne reminded us that all of us must be more welcoming so as to attract new members.

Poppy Murray Salter made a motion to donate \$750 from the Poppy Fund towards the Lansdowne Veterans Memorial. Seconded by Alf Read. Carried. The Mallorytown Legion and its LA have donate \$1,500, Zone G-2 has donated \$1,000, and Kinsmen donated \$5,000. Murray explained what is needed to conduct a successful 2018 poppy campaign. Last year the Branch raised almost \$12,000.

PRO The Queen's University Band will participate in the Gananoque Remembrance Day ceremonies.

New Business

Sharon Dorey outlined upcoming Sun afternoon dances: 30 Sep Tim Hallman and Terry Hoffman; 28 Oct The Reasons; and 18 Nov Tim Hallman and Terry Hoffman. Come out to these dances. A small cover charge and light meals are served.

Ray Foster reminded members of the Zone G-2 Convention Sun 16 Sep at Seeley's Bay.

Bill Beswetherick noted that after 7 pm on Wed and Thu evenings there often are no customers at the bar but it has to remain open because of ladies darts on Wed and Bingo on Thu which last from 9 to 9:30 pm. The annual cost of keeping a bartender for these two events totals from \$2,800 to \$3,000. It is being proposed that there be a charge for participation in these events in order to defray the cost of the bartender. Other groups such as pool, bridge, and euchre pay a fee for use of Branch facilities. It was recommended that the Executive discuss with the Branch Manager a way to recover some of the costs of maintaining a bartender during Wed and Thu evening events.

Bill Beswetherick is working on a process whereby the medals and pictures at the Branch become the property of the Town and the Arthur Child Heritage Museum in the event that the Branch ever closes. This arrangement would require approval by Ontario Command.

Zone G-2 Commander Ralph McMullen briefed members on the results of his inspection of Branch operations. He congratulated the Branch and especially its Manager.

Adjournment At 8:28 John Robertson Foster made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Alf Read. Carried.

Ray Foster
3rd Vice President

Bill Beswetherick
Secretary