

**Minutes of a General Meeting
Held At Branch 92
Tuesday 12 September 2017**

Committee Members Present

President	Wes Rideout
1st Vice President	Owen Fitzgerald
2nd Vice President	Anne Parker
Past President	Cliff Weir
Executive Members	Ron Knapton
	Dan Spencer
	Bob Howard
	Janet Gaylord
	Glen Parker
	Charlie Burrige
Secretary	Bill Beswetherick
Manager	Ann DeWolfe

Committee Members Absent

Ron Knapton
Harold Miller
Heather Thomson
Alfie Read
Doug Johnston

President There were 24 members present. In attendance was Zone G-2 Commander Ralph McMullen who was present to do his annual inspection of branch operations.

Wes outlined changes to the Branch executive following the resignation of Ray Foster. Owen Fitzgerald is now 1st Vice President and Anne Parker is 2nd Vice President. Wes made a motion that Janet Gaylord be 3rd Vice President. Seconded by Anne Parker. Carried unanimously. Janet will be sworn in at the 20 Sep Honours and Awards Evening.

Wes Rideout explained a motion that will be presented at the 17 Sep Zone G-2 Convention. The motion, a copy of which is attached, calls for clarification about the Dominion Command By Laws complaint process and in particular calls for penalties for those who harass or attempt to intimidate members who have lodged complaints. Following some grammar changes, Wes asked for a motion to accept the amendment to the complaints procedure of Dominion Command By Laws. Seconded by Dan Spencer. Carried.

Treasurer Secretary Bill Beswetherick stated that the end of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 showed a loss of \$27,155.99 but noted that much of this loss came because the Branch spent \$25,982.63 paving the parking lot.

Currently the Branch has \$79,798.84 in the Building Fund and \$52,215.25 in the General Fund for a total of \$132,014.09. June was a successful month with a surplus of \$2,750.00

The Branch has been the beneficiary of three generous bequeaths made in the wills of Eileen Bulger, Dennis Weir, and Harold Rushton. In addition, the metal reclamation programme run by Cliff Weir, Carl Duff, and John Robertson has generated considerable revenue as well as have the Sunday Brunches started by Cliff Weir and the monthly meat draws run by Manager Anne DeWolfe.

Bill noted that Branch 92 is an expensive building to maintain. Utility costs alone last year were \$25,342.26 or just over \$2,000 a month and that insurance costs were just over \$10,000.

Bill also noted that Manager Ann DeWolfe has arranged to have the chairs in the upstairs area re-covered. To do them commercially would have cost the Branch well over \$2,300. Ann purchased the material and had them recovered at a cost of about \$300.

Raffle Bill Beswetherick noted that there was \$11,407.91 in the raffle fund. He proposed the following grants: \$300 to Queen's University Band for its participation in our annual Remembrance Day Ceremonies and \$400 to acquire two oak seedlings – one for the Town Park and one for the Legion Rider's Park. The seedlings come from acorns gathered from the Vimy Battlefield just after the April 1917 battle.

Membership Ann Parker outlined changes to the membership program. Every member will receive a new plastic card that will last until it wears out. The current card has the date 2018 and are effective 1 Jan 2018 but can be used now on payment of 2018 dues. Each year a member will be issued a new sticker for his or her card.

You can pay your membership dues directly on line for up to five years in advance. Anne indicated that for now she would prefer that members pay their dues through the Branch bartender and Anne will issue a receipt. This will give the system a year to work out any problems.

Initially new members become "Legion members at large". After the first year they have the option of selecting a Legion branch of their choice.

Currently the branch has 305 paid-up-members. Anne suggested that members register on line and that they then establish a new password as at present everyone has the same password.

Sergeant at Arms Glen Parker noted that dress for the 20 Sep Honours and Awards Night is full Legion dress.

Poppy The poppy Fund has just over \$3,150 in the bank and no outstanding expenses. It was proposed by Bill Beswetherick that a sum up to \$1000 be granted to 492 Cadet Military Police Corps so that it can plan its winter training session. Seconded by Dan Spencer. Carried.

PRO Janet Gaylord noted a project to plant trees along the Highway of Heroes that stretches from Trenton to Toronto. The plan is to plant 117,000 trees, one for each of Canada's war dead since 1867.

The Lansdowne War Memorial Garden at the Thousand Islands Elementary School will be unveiled Fri 10 Nov. Details to follow.

Manager The TGIF system has not attracted any new customers and will be ended immediately.

Shortly the Branch, like all organizations, will feel the effects of a rise in the Provincial minimum wage. Effective 1 Oct Draft will be \$4.00, bottled beer will be \$4.50, wine will be \$4.75.

The next Meat Draw will be Fri 29 Sep. There will be a Brunch Sun 1 Oct.

New Business Owen Fitzgerald will represent the Branch on Sun 17 Sep to greet about 200 paramedic bicycle riders who will be stopping At Branch 92 for a light meal and a rest break. They are traveling from Toronto to Ottawa.

New member Colin McConnell requested support to collect items that can be sent to Canadians serving in Amman, Jordan, supporting Canadian operations in the Middle East. Hopefully these items can be collected in time to arrive in RCAF aircraft by Thanksgiving.

Adjournment Sat 8:04 Dan Spencer made a motion to adjourn. Carried.

Wes Rideout
President

Bill Beswetherick
Secretary