**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION SPENCERVILLE, BRANCH 604**

**General Meeting Minutes May 3, 2023**

Meeting called to order 7 pm and opening done by Koren McDonald

Koren then introduced people running election.

- Aubrey Callan, John Martineau, Brian McCloskey, Phil Wiseman

A. Callan called for nominations.  Note: letters were provided by Tom and Mary stating they would stand if nominated but were absent due to illness.

President - Tom Lillico (acclaimed)

1st VP - Koren McDonald (acclaimed)

 2nd VP - Christine Hayter (acclaimed)

3rd VP - Mark Packwood (acclaimed)

Nominations for executive:

Mary Moore

Susan Moreau

Tony Haystead

Jim Sheppard

Carol Charlebois

John McCrea

Chuck Larter

21 signed in eligible to vote.

Election was done due to seven people being nominated, we only vote on six.  Tony Haystead was absent but sent an email stating he would run if nominated.  It was pointed out by Comrade Callan that a written paper letter is required, but he would accept it this time.

The only person not elected was Chuck Larter.  This was because of his position as past president he is already on the executive.  It was explained to everyone that the president, Tom, would be assigning portfolios to everyone before next meeting.

Koren read minutes of previous meeting. Motion to accept: Chuck Larter, 2nd by Sue Moreau

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Thank you all - the executive, volunteers, membership and the community - your ongoing support has made for a very successful year at Branch 604.

We have been getting things in order, including needed updates in equipment for safety. Our renovations have enhanced our rentals and events, and encouraged us to try new events. We have reinstated long past programs and are working on others, including awards, honours and pins.

We encourage you, our members, to join us as volunteers, and to share your thoughts and ideas with us today or anytime.

We look forward to meeting the challenges ahead with renewed confidence, as we strive to carry out our mission: to serve Veterans, including serving military and RCMP members and their families, to promote Remembrance, and to serve our communities and our country. Motion to accept - P. Bury, 2nd by S Moreau

FINANCIAL REPORT

I apologize that I do not have a profit loss for tonight’s meeting. I was sure that I had sent the documents to my work email to print but it appears I didn’t.

As of May 3, 2023, our general bank account sits at $29, 204.18. There is still approximately $4000.00 to deposit from the last week of April. The lottery account sits at $1,457.70 and the membership account sits at $1447.34. I have calculated the amounts to be transferred to these accounts at the end of our fiscal year, to settle our accounting of funds raised since June of 2022.

We are currently at a profit for April of $1,841.87. The entries for the last week of April will change this value.

I am formally resigning from this position. My work over the past two years has become full time and the time I need to accomplish this role has dwindled. It is my suggestion that a member of the branch or even two takes on this position. I am willing to assist in the changeover.

Going forward I will deposit the money, take on the youth portfolio, and help at wing night on the night that my husband is cooking.

POPPY REPORT

Our Poppy Campaign this year took in $1494.00 from wreath donations and $656.75 from boxes - down from previous. Our account stood at $14,137.48 before the campaign. The balance is now 14,788.23 after a $1000 donation to Perley Health, $60 spent in poster prizes, $500 in our first bursary grant in some time, to Justin Schmitz.

I will post again for one more bursary, and this summer we will again donate to Perley Health. We are looking to also donate to service dogs for vets. We should be able to donate at least $2500/year as we move forward.

In 2024, I will develop a stranger campaign for our poppy box program, and will be seeking volunteers to distribute and pick up.

Motion to accept - D Richardson, , 2nd - C Larter

YOUTH - no report

SPORTS - no report as there is no sports officer.  But, it was noted that several events are posted on board. Washer toss, golf, horseshoes.

SENIORS\VSO -  one application sent in on behalf of veteran.

BYLAWS - contacted Ont Cmd. They replied that C & L have them and we should be hearing soon.

BAR AND HOUSE - very successful evening with Eddie and Stingrays. Check with Koren for more of her report.  Motion to accept M. Fisher, 2nd by C Hayter

HOUSE - Fire extinguishers have been replaced, recertified, exit lights have been checked, have new batteries.   Motion to accept - A. Ladouceur, 2nd - B Fisher.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

My online and Mail Chimp promotional efforts are paying off with increased awareness, sales and participation. A shout out here to all, but especially Christine Hayter whose sense of fun and decor have really upped the ‘fun’ quotient at our special events! President Tom also takes the time to greet, to serve, and to reach out to other branches in comradery. All serve our patrons and guests with kindness and helpfulness.

While Facebook remains our strongest opportunity to promote (for free!), our website continues to serve as an online information hub. We have accomplished a revitalization through branding, teamwork and communications.

Motion to accept - D Richardson, , 2nd - C Larter

SGT AT ARMS - nil report

WAYS AND MEANS - several fund raisers and more rentals coming up.  (Please check with Koren for her report) summer is going to be slowing down operations. Last dinner is May 9, last wing night is May 12

Motion to accept - J McCrae, 2nd - C Hayter

BURSARY  - grant to Justin Schmitz, another posting will be done for Bursary

Motion to accept - M Packwood, S Fisher

NEW BUSINESS - Jim is busy getting us up to Fire Code acceptance. $ 1,323.23 passes for upgrade to fire extin, testing, batteries,

Motion to accept - S Moreau, J. Larter

No correspondence.

John Martineau expressed his congratulations to the branch on good attendance for meeting, and extended congrats to the executive.

Motion to adjourn - S Moreau, 2nd C Larter   7:55 pm