BR 92 GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 11,2022

ATTENDEES:

2nd Vice: President: **Bob Howard** Janet Gaylord Owen Fitzgerald L & D: Ron Miller Poppy: H & P: Bill Beswetherick Exec: Chris Ormsby Exec: Bruno Mathieu Sgt at Arms: John Robertson Sec/Treas: Shirley Howard Manager: Ann DeWolfe

ABSENT:

Past Pres: Ray Foster 1st Vice: Anne Parker 3rd Vice: John Beddows Poppy: Wes Rideout Youth Ed: Service Officer: Alf Read Joanne Lancaster Exec: **Sharron Dorey** Exec: Kevin Offord

Sports: Carla Nelson

GUESTS:

Zone Commander: Rob Fernell Dep. Zone Commander: Don Corneil

Zone Commander, Rob Fernell addressed the General meeting. He stated that his reason for attending tonight's meeting was to do the annual inspection of our Legion's books and accounts. He praised our Manager for having everything ready and in order and that our books and accounts in accordance with By-Laws and Regulations. He stated that he has a positive report to send up to Command. Also to say it was great to have our Branch represented at District Poppy and Service Officer's Seminar in Smiths Falls. E-mail was sent out Oct 10th about the Ottawa Senators paying tribute to all the Veterans in Ottawa area and including District G. See the Branch President and his selection Committee for the selection of veterans to be able to attend. This Saturday and Sunday we will be back here at District Council meeting, and Comrade Rob has a few things he intends to bring up at this meeting.

Question for Comrade Rob: Can Legions across Canada donate funds to East Coast Legions? It is probably certain that many need assistance since the hurricane went through that area.

Response: Comrade Rob believes Legions can donate through their General account. He will check on that this week-end on Sunday at District meeting.

President Bob asked our 2 new members to introduce themselves. They are Patricia and Terry Hutchins. Tricia is the daughter of a Veteran.

Bob also has an Honorary member to acknowledge. His name is Chester and he is Bruno's service dog. Comrade Rob mentioned that at Ontario Command this year, there were 4 service dogs present. Ontario Command is addressing this year that all service dogs are allowed in the Branches as well as taking part in Service activities.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Errors or omissions: There was an error in the Executive meeting- Stated that the spreadsheet for Poppy information was from Cornwall when it was from Stephan Guy, Zone G5 Commander from Orleans. This has been corrected. Motion by Owen Fitzgerald to accept minutes as amended, seconded by Ed Harding. Carried. Motion by John Robertson, seconded by Bruno Mathieu to adopt the minutes from last General meeting. Carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

All Bob has at this time is a reminder that this week-end is the District Council meetings. Saturday is the Financial meeting and Seminar and on Sunday it will be the District meeting. Sunday the meeting will be here in the Webb Room. On Saturday, the meetings might be here in the Webb Room as well as there might be activities happening in other areas. Bob is planning on Saturday night to have a Ham dinner from 6PM to 8PM at a cost of \$20 per person. He will need 1 other person beside himself to help in the kitchen, 2 other people to serve and 2 or 3 people to help buss tables. Bill Beswetherick and Bruno Mathieu volunteered.

Comrade Rob stated that a notice went out to District Council that Gananoque was having a Ham dinner and he imagines that most of the Council will attend.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

General Account: \$119,144.13 Building Fund: \$74,329.99

Lottery: \$13,343.68

CORRESPONDENCE:

Thank you letter from Archdeacon Wayne Varley for inviting him to participate in our Legion's Memorial service for Queen Elizabeth II on Sept 19th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP: absent

YOUTH ED: absent

SERVICE OFFICER: absent

<u>LA LIASON:</u> absent <u>WEBSITE:</u> absent

SICK & VISITING: Owen Fitzgerald reported that Glen & Anne Parker have had Covid. Glen not over it as yet, but Anne testing negative but still feeling rough. Also he has been in contact with both Ray Foster and Wes Rideout. They are really not doing well.

POPPY: Owen Fitzgerald gave a short update on plans. Sign-up board is at the door. There are 2 different time slots for the teams. One at 9:30 to 12:30 and the second from 12:00 to 3:00. He has spoken with the LA to arrange a hot meal for the volunteers on Oct 29th. He plans on placing poppy boxes at 10 and maybe 12 locations.

Question from Bruno Mathieu: Is the Legion going to get the electronic poppy boxes?

Response from Bob: We have 1, which will be used here outside the Legion. The reason being is that WiFi is needed to provide hook-up for people to use their cards.

Pro: Janet Gaylord: one thing we were told is to make sure NO poppies are put on election signs. If you see any on election signs, inform someone on that team to have it removed. It is Legion policy to remain non-political. It seems that all of the Branches are getting back to the normal Remembrance Day programs, and we're commemorating "Homelessness" to reduce it for the Veteran population. There is different organizations, so if anyone is interested contact Janet for further information. Many Branches are doing things throughout the year to commemorate Remembrance not just Nov 11th. One is doing a motorcycle ride, another is placing banners of veterans. We will be present at Carveth this year for Remembrance Day service at 1:30 PM inside. You will have to arrive early for testing which takes 15 minutes and will have to wear a mask. Use the Front door.

The National Poppy campaign will start Nov 1st with the announcement of the Silver Cross Mother, and on Oct 28th the presentation of Poppy to the Governor General. Another thing of note, is that when we are taking bookings for our Legions, there is a conflict of interest because of an event that was taking place at one of the Legions in Quebec. That Legion's name is being brought into the conflict, so we are being reminded that we have our own Legion Principles to respect and uphold when taking bookings. Information is available in Resource Manual on website, legion.ca

Comrade Rob added that on Nov 4th, Branch 484, Mallorytown is doing their Road of Remembrance

Service at 11AM with the school children. If attending, you need to be dressed very warmly as there is nothing to block the wind along Highway #5. On Nov 6th, stop in at Kitley-Toledo as they are doing their Remembrance Day Service. He will get the date and forward it on to Janet for District B Veterans Service Park, Highway 416, Kemptville. Also Lansdowne's Service is going to be Nov 11th at 11 AM

SPORTS:

Carla Nelson was absent, but Comrade Bob reported that Zone Sports Meeting is being held at the Brockville Legion on Nov 24th at 7 PM. He is taking Carla to that meeting to help her learn what is expected and the procedures in choosing what the Branches select. They hopefully will also get all the dates of up and coming sports.

L & D:

Ron Miller has nothing to report at this time. Comrade Bob stated that he has been looking into some of the paperwork regarding how we run the kitchen. Also starting to review how we are set up for fire prevention, extinguishers etc. Bruno Mathieu has offered his assistance as he was a firefighter, fire inspector, fire chief in the military, and he said he could get the building plans for our Legion.

H & P:

Bill Beswetherick and Comrade Bob met with the plumber and had one meter disconnected. That disconnected meter will be removed. It will be a savings of approximately \$250. per billing period.

WAYS & MEANS:

Sharron Dorey's report given at the Executive meeting provided upcoming dates for dances and reminded everyone of the New Year's Eve party on Dec 31st and also that the doors will open 1 hour earlier that night at 7:30 PM. Admission is \$20 per person and there will be a light lunch.

H & A:

Bill Beswetherick reported that they will be doing the New Year's Levee, and they have already selected who they feel should be the Honouree of the Year. He doesn't think anyone will have any objections to the name announced at that time. They expect the MP and MPP to attend.

LA LIASON:

Since Wes Rideout's health issues, Alf Read has agreed to remain in this position.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS:

Shirley Howard reports she is working on the House Rules and that it will be a long process. Comrade Rob Fernell added that we are to make sure we use the proper forms. They keep changing the forms, so you have to keep going on the website and getting the updated forms.

SGT at ARMS:

John Robertson reports that we have a Colour Party for the District Council Meeting this Sunday, Oct. 16th. We also will be going to Carveth on Nov 11th. We have to leave here by the latest 1:30 PM because we have 15 minutes to go through Covid testing and we have to wear masks at all times. If there is a Covid outbreak, then the Service will not be held. We have a meeting on Nov 1st about the parade to the Cenotaph with John Beddows. The parade will be starting at the corner of King and Stone and marching down to the Cenotaph. After the Service, we will be coming back to the Branch.

BURSARIES:

John Robertson said that last year at Provincial Bursaries, it was the lowest. It was approximately 275 given out at \$1000. each.

GENERAL & NEW BUSINESS: From the Lottery Fund used for local Organizations Bill Beswetherick asked for a motion to donate \$200. to "Almost Home". This is like Ronald McDonald House. It is there to provide care and help for families in the Kingston and Brockville areas only, not nationwide. Bruno Mathieu made a motion to donate \$200. to Almost Home. Seconded by Ed Harding <u>Carried</u>. Bill also requested a motion for funds for 1 person from Triple A Hockey in Kingston. We have supported 1 individual for the past several years. Motion by Owen Fitzgerald to donate \$250.

to Triple A Hockey in Kingston. Seconded by Bruno Mathieu. Carried. John Robertson asked about the Bursary Donations given to District and Bill stated that it is to be presented this week-end at District Council Meeting here in Gananoque.

GENERAL:

Comrade Rob Fernell stated that there are 2 things he forgot to mention earlier. First of all, they are working hard at Zone to get the full number of delegates to Conventions. Br 92 with a membership of 200 plus, are allowed 4 delegates. The issue of cash has come up and he stated that on Saturdays all the workshops are free. On Sunday, when it's the main business, it costs \$20. For those who keep having questions, the place to bring them up is at Conventions. Zone Commanders and Deputy Zone Commanders are your voice and we go to District and they take it on up the line.

The last thing Comrade Rob wanted to say is that he will only be doing a 3 year term as Zone Commander. He has been approached by 3 or 4 past Provincial Commanders asking him to run for District G Command. If his name is put forward to run for District Command, he will let it stand.

Deputy Zone Commander Don Corneil addressed the General Meeting thanking Br 92 for their being there tonight. Certainly the paperwork was up to the level they were looking for and well beyond that. It made their job easier. They will be back here this week-end – Saturday and Sunday for Seminars and business on Sunday. Wishing everyone a very good week-end.

Motion of Adjournment by John Robertson, seconded by Owen Fitzgerald.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY/TRE