

**Minutes of General Meeting
Held at Branch 92
Tuesday, 13 September 2022**

Committee Members Present

President	Bob Howard	Executive Member	Sharron Dorey
1 st Vice	Anne Parker	Executive Member	Chris Ormsby
2 nd Vice	Janet Gaylord	Executive Member	Owen Fitzgerald
3 rd Vice	John Beddows	Executive Member	Joanne Lancaster
Sgt at Arms	John Robertson		
Secretary/Treasurer	Shirley Howard		

Absent

Past President	Ray Foster	Executive Member	Alf Read
Executive Member	Ron Miller	Executive Member	Wes Rideout
Executive Member	Kevin Offord	Executive Member	Bruno Mathieu
Sport Officer	Carla Nelson	Br Manager	Ann DeWolfe

Meeting commenced at 7 PM with Colour Party marching on the colours. The President reminded all that the minutes of Executive Meetings as well as the General Meetings are posted on the website by Anne Parker usually within 2 to 3 days after those meetings. The first order of business was the review and approval of the Executive Minutes of August 2nd 2022 as all members of the Executive had not read those minutes. Motion by Anne Parker and seconded by Joanne Lancaster to adopt the minutes as read. Carried. Minutes of September 6th Executive Meeting reviewed and motion by Bill Beswetherick and seconded by Anne Parker to adopt the minutes as read. Carried.

Business from these past minutes are as follows: \$3000.00 to the Homeless Veterans; The Sun Shade for St. Joseph's School and the Teddy Bear program that Police and Fire Services run. These will be brought up in New Business.

President's Report

The President reported to the General membership that Dan Beauchamp has officially tendered his resignation to the position of Sgt at Arms effective August 16th, 2022. Since John Robertson was the only other candidate at our Spring election, Bob has asked him to be our Sgt at Arms and John has accepted.

On Monday, Sept 19th 2022 we will have a memorial service at the Cenotaph for Queen Elizabeth II. It will be starting at 11 AM. We will require a Colour Party and a M C. There will be a laying of a wreath, and ceremonial music. There should be a post gathering at the Legion after the ceremony, with refreshments available. (the President

suggested Chili and buns). There is a copy of the directive from Command to all legions posted on the bulletin board.

The Bell lease is still up in the air. The President has reviewed the 3 areas that are not agreeable to Bell or Command and he hopes to put forward a proposal to both parties within the next 2 weeks in hopes to get the differences resolved.

October 15th and 16th is the District Meeting being held here at our Branch. The Ladies Auxiliary are having a District Euchre Tournament on Saturday, Oct. 15th as well. We plan on having Ham, roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables and a dessert for a meal on Saturday night, October 15th. It will be open for District members, Ladies Auxiliary Euchre players, Legion members, as well as the general public. Price will be set at \$20.00 per plate and we will need volunteers.

October 11th General Meeting will also be Branch Inspection night. Zone Commander and/or his Deputy Zone Commander will be here to do the inspection of the books and will probably stay for our meeting.

Reminder of the Celebration of Life for Diane Foster/Payette on September 24th 2022 from 12 noon to 3 PM and onward.

Also on Sept 24th there is a workshop in Brockville for Presidents and Secretary/Treasurer's which both Bob and Shirley Howard will be attending. They are hopeful that this will be over in time for them to get to the Celebration of Life.

Bob also wants to thank the following: Joanne Lancaster, Sheila Kenny, Debra Lloyd, John Robertson, Bill Beswetherick, Ray Foster and especially Peter, Tracey, and Bridget who helped with the Brunch last Sunday. The latter 3 people are not even members of this Branch.

During the discussion of the Memorial for Queen Elizabeth II, John Beddows offered to contact the local radio station to inform them of the Legion's plans and also offered to contact the Anglican Pastor to ask if they would be willing to participate in the Service. He felt that since Queen Elizabeth was head of the Church of England as well as having a very strong faith in the Anglican church, it would be appropriate. All members present agreed with this, if John can make these arrangements. John Beddows will let Bob know when he has this arranged.

Further directives from Command stated that all portraits of the Queen will remain in place until an official portrait of King Charles III has been issued. Also the Platinum Jubilee pin that was issued is to be removed from Legion uniform on the day after the Day of Mourning. A commemorative pin will be developed and will be issued with the directive of wearing for 96 days only. One day for each of the Queen's age. They will issue the start and end dates for the wearing of these pins when they standardized it.

Treasurer Report

Correspondence: The letter from Allison Hess, Education & Engagement Manager asking for a donation to their program at the Thousand Islands Playhouse. They plan

drop-in learning opportunities for retirees in the Fire-hall Theatre over the Fall and Winter. They are looking at doing movement/dance and fine arts (painting/drawing) for drop-ins. We sent a reply that with Covid-19 restrictions and the Branch being closed for most of 2 years, our fund-raising programs were halted. We are unable at this time to entertain any considerations of donations, but that we would keep them in mind should the situation change.

<u>Financial:</u>	Lottery Fund:	13,343.68
	General Fund:	119,144.13
	Building Fund:	74,329.99

Membership: Honours and Awards night is Sept 21st There are 34 recipients. Zone commander Rob Fernell will attend. Shirley Walker of the Ladies Auxiliary thought there would not be a problem providing a light lunch at cost that evening.

Poppy: Owen reminded the members he has spoken with that they are meeting this Friday, Sept 16th to go over where poppy boxes will be placed and how shifts will be worked out.

Lottery: John Beddows has nothing to report at this time

Youth Ed: Joanne Lancaster reported that they have received all materials for Remembrance Day programs at the schools and everything is on track.

PRO: Janet Gaylord stated she had already posted Command's requirements for the Queen's memorial.

Sports Officer: Carla absent but the President told everyone that Sports is a go again. We are now waiting for Provincial to determine their dates and pass them along to District. Then District will determine their playoff dates and pass those along to Zone. Then Zone will inform the Branches of the dates chosen.

L&D: Absent

Sick & Visiting: Ron Miller has a fall and was seen in Emergency. Reported by wife, Bev that there are no broken bones but he's quite bruised. He is at home and recovering. Pat Fitzgerald had a fall last week – she fainted. She is home and doing well. Will see her own doctor this Wednesday.

Karen Rideout is not doing well. Her mobility is very limited, and her health is deteriorating.

Veteran Services: Alf Read – absent

House & Property: Bill Beswetherick stated that the extra water meter will be removed within the next couple of weeks. It will cost about \$1500. to do this but will save us \$250. per month once it is done. Anne Parker is donating 2 signs for the Legion. One will say “True North Strong and Free” and hasn't come in yet. The other one is on sale down the street at half-price. The monies coming from Friday night darts.

Ways & Means: Sharron Dorey reported that the dance on Sunday Aug 28th was successful. She has a list of upcoming dances for Sept, Oct, (2), Nov (2) . Sharron is able to book a band from the Brockville area for \$500. They play “Fringe Country”. She put forth a motion to have a New Year's Eve Party this year. Motion seconded by Joanne

Lancaster. Carried.

Honours & Awards: There will be a New Years Levee this year.

Constitution & By-Laws: Shirley is working on updating the House Rules

Website: Anne reports everything going well, just a lack of items to post.

Sgt at Arms: John Robertson has his Colour Party for Memorial on Mon. Sept 19th and we will meet either at Branch or Cenotaph at 1030. Colour Party can march down the sidewalk to the Cenotaph. John Beddows will ask if the Town would like to have someone to attend. Schools could be asked if they would like to attend.

Manager: Ann DeWolfe absent. Her report is tabled until next month.

GENERAL AND NEW BUSINESS

Bill Beswetherick made a motion to donate \$3000. for the Homeless Veterans. It was seconded by John Beddows. Motion - Carried

Owen Fitzgerald reported that the Police and Fire offices in Gananoque have not gotten back to his calls regarding the Teddy Bear Program. Until we hear from them, we deferred his motion to next meeting.

John Robertson made a motion to donate \$2000. to the Bursary Fund. Seconded by John Beddows. Motion – carried with 1 negative vote.

John Beddows reported that the request from St Joseph School for donations for a Sun Shade was investigated by him and because of special drainage areas, the school is unable to plant trees. The school is running a donation program as well as canvassing parents of school children for funds. The motion was deferred but kept under consideration. Possibly we will revisit in the New Year to see how successful their fundraising effort have been to reach their goal of \$20,000

John Beddows reported that the Queen's Band that were to play at our Remembrance Day Service tore up the cheque that was given to them because the Covid-19 restrictions stated that they could not play at any functions. He is planning on getting this band for our Service again this year and is suggesting we pay them double the amount we tried to give last time. Mainly because they were so honest as to destroying that cheque. He is also hoping to enter into discussion with the Town as to having King Street closed for Remembrance day Service and is questioning why this is not always on the Town's Calendar.

President Bob Howard presented again the plaque to Janet Gaylord for her tremendous contributions to Youth Education.

Motion of Adjournment by John Robertson

Seconded by John Beddows

