

BRANCH 92 EXECUTIVE MEETING AUGUST 1st 2023

ATTENDEES:

Bob Howard	President	Anne Parker	1 st Vice
Janet Gaylord	2 nd Vice	Kevin Offord	3 rd Vice
Alf Read	Service Officer	Owen Fitzgerald	Poppy Chair
John Beddows	Executive	Dan Beauchamp	Executive
Joanne Lancaster	Youth Education	John Robertson	Sgt at Arms
Shirley Howard	Secretary/Treasurer	Ann DeWolfe	Br. Manager

ABSENT:

Mary Alguire	Executive	Chris Ormsbee	Executive
Wes Rideout	Past President	Ron Miller	L & D
Bill Beswetherick	House & Property	Carla Nelson	Sports

Minutes of July 4th Executive Meeting were reviewed and discussed with no errors or omissions noted. Motion by Owen Fitzgerald to adopt minutes and seconded by John Robertson. Carried.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS: Bob Howard stated that he did take the \$30.50 donation to the Gananoque Food Bank. Also regarding the concerns over the Wreaths, he has information of what they are made of, and that there are no chemicals in them.

We are having a Legion Service for Tom Tindal on Saturday, August 5th in the basement of Grace United Church, not the Sanctuary, at 1130 AM. Full Dress Uniform. Anyone interested in attending, please be at the Legion at 1115 AM and we can all go together. We will have a colour party and are organizing the "The Last Post and Reveille" for the service. Colour Party consists of John Beddows and Shirley Howard, and they are to be at the Church for 1030 Friday, August 4th to review the order of the Service.

The next item is the Dedication of the Memorial Stones at Carveth, on Wednesday August 16th, 2023 at 1030 AM. Colour Party will be Full Dress Uniform, others attending can be in Summer Dress if they wish, but it's nice to be in Full Dress.

The YIPI's (Youth in Police Initiative) are doing a bottle drive on August 8th with all proceeds going to the Ontario Special Olympics. After some discussion, John Beddows made a motion to donate \$100. to the YIPI's drive. This was seconded by Alf Read. Ann DeWolfe will phone to get information as to whom the cheque should be made out to, rather than donating cash. Motion was carried.

Zone G2 Council meeting is August 20th at the Kitley/Toledo Legion, at 10 AM

We have the paperwork for the Ottawa Senators "Honouring Veterans Program".

BILL BESWETHERICK: health update as we know at this time. The doctors have done tests and have found he needed stents, but unfortunately, they would be too close together and function properly. So By-pass is next on the agenda, but only after they resolve the fluid on his lungs and his stomach concerns. They have sent him home for now and are hoping they can schedule his surgery for the end of August. He has handed over to Bob all his information and work on the Poppy campaign as well as the information he has been working on for the New Year's Levee. It was also brought up as a reminder that Bill is quite a private person and screens all his phone calls. Alf Read has talked with Veterans' Services and with Sandy Beswetherick about providing help with usual maintenance tasks such as grounds-keeping and states that's taken care of now. Also Alf is looking into any medical devices that might be needed post surgery to be made available for Bill's use.

Kevin Offord sent an e-mail regarding possibly using space in the Legion on a Sunday afternoon for the Pipe Band.

Kevin was present and stated that his thought was offering training in the Gananoque area and be there if anyone would like to come and talk with Band members. John Beddows made the motion to offer space in the Legion for the Pipe Band's usage with the condition that is the space is otherwise booked, the Pipe Band would go to another area in the Legion. If all space in the Legion is booked, then they would have to defer to another date. Dan Beauchamp seconded this motion. Carried.

Alf Read brought up the discussion from last month of the video of "The Battle of Britain" and the possibility of showing this during Legion Week in September. Alf said he has the video, uncertain if it is VHS or DVD. Bob mentioned that he will talk to the people at the Museum about the Links Trainer and Owen has offered to accompany Bob as he has some contacts there. Offer greatly accepted.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Shirley Howard has been following up on the suggestion of investing some of our monies into a GIC as well as contacting a Financial Advisor. She is currently awaiting a response from the Financial Advisor as to whether the Investment Firm can accommodate our request, which is approximately \$50,000. that can be withdrawn if absolutely necessary at any time. Regarding a GIC, the Bank has stated we need 2 signers and at present she is not one of the signers due to a possibility of conflict of interest with her relationship to the President who has signing authority.

STATEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

LOTTERY FUND; \$ 11,029.40

GENERAL FUND: \$108,602.30

TOTAL REVENUE \$11,410.06

TOTAL EXPENSE \$14,996.35

NET INCOME \$ - 3,586.29

Ann DeWolfe responded to Bob Howard's question of amount of loss for the year \$ - 14,000.

John Beddows thanked the Treasurer for looking into investments, and she stated that when she heard back from both parties, she will e-mail the Executive with the Information. Any action will have to go the General Meeting prior to being acted on.

Also Shirley informed the Executive that Jerry Witkowicz will be doing the Branch Audit on August 15th this year.

Motion to adopt the Financial Report as briefed - John Beddows. Seconded by Anne Parker. Carried
When the shovel hits the ground, The Bell Tower will bring in \$1,200. each month. This will not happen this year, hopefully it will happen next Spring.

CORRESPONDENCE: We have received a request for donation to "Almost Home" and also a request for a donation to "Homes for Heroes" after a brief discussion these requests will be tabled until September's meeting.

We have received a letter from Carla Nelson tending her resignation from the position of Sports Officer.

SERVICE OFFICER: Alf Read reports that he has opened 1 more file, closed another. Other than that, there's not much activity underway. He's preparing a report for the Service Officer for the Zone and sending it via e-mail on Wednesday August 2nd. He does this every 6 month.

POPPY CHAIR: Owen Fitzgerald offered preliminary plans for Poppy Campaign – September 20th he would like Bob Howard, John Robertson and himself to visit locations he has listed in town; Oct 20th he plans to post the Poppy Sign-Up sheet; Oct 21st he would like to put the boxes in the stores with himself, Bob and John. Regarding Nov 11th, unsure if the tap box will be available. Nov 15th he would like to arrange to pick up the boxes from the business in town. He is asking John Beddows as Mayor if it would be possible to have the use of the coin counter at the Town Hall again this year. It made everything much easier last year. Also Kevin Offord stated that since Bill Beswetherick's health is a factor, he will volunteer to help Owen with the Poppy Campaign.

SGT. at ARMS: John Robertson asked Kevin Offord if a piper would be available for the Lament on Saturday, Aug 5th for Tom Tindal's Service & Kevin said Highland Games are on, so no one is available. Also after discussions at the Bar, he has decided to hold a Robbie Burns Day again next year (Sunday January 21st 2024).

John has contacted the woman who teaches the Highland Dancers, and they are happy to come here again. John plans to have a Basket to be raffled off, also he has a large picture of Robert the Bruce which he got from Bill that he can sell tickets on. He also has a picture of the Battle of Culloden.

YOUTH EDUCATION: Joanne Lancaster & Sharr on Dorey are voicing concerns over who they need to be in contact with since Bill is not available. Bill always gave them their mail and saw that they got the monies needed. Bob offered his and Shirley's assistance as well. We will muddle through.

Kevin Offord: has nothing to report at this time.

PRO: Janet Gaylord offered a reminder that any plaques or trophies that we have won, need to accompany teams to events.

DAN BEAUCHAMP: He has made an offer to do a presentation during Legion Week of his "Quilt of Valour" to one of our members. After some discussion the date will be September 12th at the General Meeting.

JOHN BEDDOWS: 1. reported that as a consequence of the renovations at the Town Hall, 4 maple trees that the Legion planted have been removed & 2 of them were dated 1919. There will be a letter from the Town inviting the Legion to plant replacements. (hard sugar maples)

2. RCL has in the past has supported veterans, he wonders if our Legion might offer to the veterans from the Ukraine, support they will need to live, as they are broken from this conflict.
3. John is a member of "The American Canoe Association" and they own an island in the St. Lawrence called Sugar Island, since 1902. There is a War Memorial on this island for veterans of WWI and Lt. Col Britton's name is on this plaque. There are both Canadian and American names As far as John knows, no one has ever laid a wreath and he is asking if we would consider doing this, this November 11th

MEMBERSHIP: Anne Parker wants everyone to know that National Legion Week will be permanent and will be everywhere and not just in the Branch. It was designed to educate the public about the good work Legions do for the communities. It serves to attract new members, sign up new volunteers and get more traffic to the Branches. It is also the 150 yr anniversary for the RCMP. Wes Rideout is going to have a day where he promotes the RCMP. Owen Fitzgerald is also going to have a Day to promote something. Anne was thinking that we could do some kind of promotion for our volunteers that if they recruit 2 or 3 people, they get a special notepad with pen that will have the Legion Crest, address and phone number on both. To place an order it might cost upward of \$250. for 100 of these and might take 3 weeks for delivery. It was suggested that Anne get quotes from 3 different companies. Motion made by Anne to make \$300. available for these books after she receives the 3 quotes, and approval from the President. Seconded by Owen Fitzgerald. Carried.

BRANCH MANAGER: Ann DeWolfe reported that the Fun Golf Tournament on Aug 5th is sold out. 60 coming back to the Branch. Ernie Dickson is going to run a "Meat Draw" on Aug 25th Doing a BBQ steak, corn, & potatoes. Swish fixed the glass washer. Got the part in. We were quoted \$1000. and when it came in it was almost \$2300. but they gave it to us at \$1000. as that was what we were quoted. The fridge is working again, food back in it. But he says no one to touch the thermostat. If it freezes up again, he will look at the thermostat.

MEETING ADJOURNED

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY/TREASURER