

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, BRANCH 115
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING – 21 MARCH 2018**

Present from Executive:	Eric Connor	President
	Peter Mansell	Past President
	Michael Elliott	1 st Vice-President
	Lise Bernier	Secretary
	Ted Poulin	Treasurer
	Bob Beck	Membership Chairman
	Barry Rowland	Executive officer
	Bruce Ruiter	Executive Officer

Regrets:	Rod Hodgson	2 nd Vice-President
	Albini Leblanc	Service officer
	Jay De La Durantaye	Curling Liaison

Sergeant-at-Arms	David Hatch
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1. The meeting was called to order at 19:03 h and was quorate.
2. Review of the Agenda:
 - a) It was clarified that there will be no welcoming ceremony/initiation for new members. Approval of the Agenda with the noted correction moved by **B. Rowland** and seconded by **B. Samson**. **All in favour.**
3. Review of Minutes of the last General Meeting (17 January 2018):
 - a) Errors or omissions: In relation to 6d) Treasurer Report, 2nd bullet point, it was clarified that the accrued Hydro bill is a liability.
 - b) Approval of the Minutes with the noted correction moved by **D. Hatch** and seconded by **B. Beck**. **All in favour.**
4. Business arising from minutes:
 - a) In relation to 7c) New Business: It was reported that the House Rules were revised to take into account suggested changes related to head gear. The modifications were read to members.
5. Correspondence:

The list of correspondence received between 17 January and 21 March 2018 was attached to the Agenda. There were no questions relating to the correspondence from the Members.

6. Committee Reports

a) President:

- Members were informed that J. Hughes is retiring at the end of the month and that we are in the process of advertising for a new Branch Manager. Once a candidate has been selected, he/she will be introduced to the Membership. Joan was presented with a gift and flowers at the St. Patrick dinner to thank her for her years of service.

b) First VP: Regrets.

- Members were reminded that the Farmer's Market is coming up soon. The market did very well last year and has generated between \$3000 to \$5000 each year. G. Foliot has been helping for many years with the market but he is now retiring. As a result, we are looking for 3 volunteers to help. Anyone interested is to contact M. Elliott accordingly.
- The first VP took this opportunity to thank G. Foliot for all the help he provided with the management of the Farmer' Market over the years.
- Members were informed that the document supporting the grant for the cenotaph refurbishment was being finalized and that, overall, it seems that we could justify a surplus of ranging between \$3000 to \$5000. In light of this, the 1st VP made a motion that part of the surplus be used to put a gas fireplace in the Lounge. The motion raised concerns with several members that pointed out that donations were made with the intent of benefiting the veterans. It was felt that the surplus should be used to this effect rather than for building improvement. As a result of the lack of consensus, the motion was dropped.

c) Second VP: Regrets, no report.

d) Treasurer:

- Members were explained that we adjusted our accounting system to an accruing method, which means that we are recognising our expenses when they are incurred, not when they are paid. These adjustments are in accordance with the recommended accounting system.
- Last year, the purchase of couches was made on a 36-month payment plan. The invoice has now been paid in full.
- Explanations of the Balance sheet were provided to members (current assets versus fixed assets, accrued expenses, accrued revenues. Notes are provided on the financial statements to provide additional information.
- Clarifications were provided in regards the Membership fees (curling fee accrued over 7 months, per-capita tax portion going to Dominion Command and leftover membership portion staying with the Branch)

- Revenues and expenses (liabilities) were reviewed. Note 4 relating to the cenotaph was clarified as some donations came after closing of the financial year. Some other donations were made for specific purposes and those are classified as restricted donations.
 - Income statement: For the first time, the financials list the wage for bartending. Page 4 provides a summary of the meals (revenues and expenses).
 - Because of the extensive changes made to the accounting system it is not possible at this time to provide comparative statements with previous months of with last year.
- e) House:
- The electrical circuits in the Lounge were done but an additional one is needed in the bar area.
 - All the emergency sighs in the building have been changed
 - The lights on the mural have been installed but an additional one was requested for the handicap parking space.
 - New LED lights have been installed in the kitchen.
 - The cracks in the foundation have not been repaired yet.
 - One pug in the basement still need repair.
- f) Bar: No report
- g) Membership:
- It was reported that 372 members had paid their membership dues in date of the March General Meeting.
- h) Welfare:
- Cheques of \$2000 were handed out to each of the Lakeshore and Hawkesbury hospitals at the St. Patrick dinner.
 - Another cheque of \$2000 will be delivered soon to the Manoir Cavagnal.
 - Other cheques were sent to the RECL and Old Brewery Mission by the Poppy Committee.
- i) Service: Regrets, no report.
- j) Entertainment: No report
- k) Curling:

- The curlers held a couple of drives to recruit new members, one of them having been quite successful. Another recruiting drive is planned for the near future.
- The membership this year has been very good with the Junior curling program being full.
- The closing of the season is scheduled for 19 April 2018 for the day curlers and 21 April 2018 for the night curlers.

1) District:

- The next District meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 24 March in Lachine for the District elections and we are allowed 6 members.

7. New Business:

- a) The current Membership Chairman (B. Beck) will be moving away leaving the position vacant. A potential replacement was suggested but the position will be posted to give the opportunity to all members. B. Beck was thanked for his work as part of the Executives.
- b) Members were informed that the Friday night meals (excluding summer BBQs) will go to an outside caterer. The meal and the menu will be posted soon. This topic raised a lot of questions and concerns and clarifications were provided accordingly by the Executives.

8. Adjournment was moved by **B. Rowland**, seconded by **M. Elliott**. **All in favour.**

Meeting adjourned at 19:56 h

Date of next Executive Meeting: **18 April 2018 at 7:00 pm**

Date of next General Meeting: **20 June 2018 at 7:00 pm.**

L. Bernier
Secretary, Branch 115