

General Meeting Minutes
Alberta-NWT Command, Lacombe Legion Branch No. 79
of the Royal Canadian Legion
October 5, 2023

Meeting was called to order by President Andy Gauthier at 7:00pm

Executive in Attendance: Andy Gauthier, President; Kathy Hobbs, Past President; Susan Churchill, First Vice President; Janet Hall, Second Vice President; Calvin Swarbrick, Treasurer

Executive Committee: Barbara Burnett, Lillian Gillis, Rick Grinham, Judy Lemieux, Arnie MacAskill, Lea Redekopp, Hannah Cucheran

Absent: Cherry Baird, Secretary and Shirley White

Additions to the Agenda:

- Nominations and Elections
- Heart and Stroke Foundation donation

Minutes from Previous Meeting:

- The minutes were distributed and the call for errors or omissions was given.

Motion of Acceptance:

Kathy Hobbs moved the minutes of the September 7 General meeting be accepted.

Seconded by: Barbara Burnett All members present approved this motion

CARRIED

Old Business Arising from the Minutes:

- a.) VVOC Flags of Remembrance
- A cheque in the amount of \$2500.00 was to be sent through the mail but has not been received as this date. The majority owing from the 2022 sponsorship in the estimated amount of \$24000.00 is to be paid by year end.
 - A lawyer was consulted regarding the contract the Branch signed with VVOC and he concurred that the money was definitely owed to the Branch.

Motion by: Calvin Swarbrick that \$400.00 fee for the lawyer be paid from the Sunset Account as the lawyer had already been retained for the campground issues.

Seconded by Susan Churchill. All members present approved this motion

CARRIED

Correspondence:

- a) A request for sponsorship for FCSS for the Senior Expo on October 23 and 24.

Motion by: Wes Hobbs that \$2500.00 for the Senior Expo on October 23 and 24 be donated from the Sunset. Seconded by Arnie MacAskill **DEFEATED**

**** We are not allowed to make donations from the Sunse account as per Executive guidelines.**

Motion by: Rick Grinham that we donate \$500.00 for the Senior Expo on October 23 and 24 from Pull Tickets.

Seconded by Sharon Pollard.
opposed

Majority vote approved this motion with two

CARRIED

b) A request for sponsorship from Lacombe Ringette.

Motion by: Susan Churchill that \$500.00 be donated from the Casino for Lacombe Ringette on October 23 and 24.

Seconded by Chris Contenti

All members present approved this motion

CARRIED

c.) Request from Lacombe Curling Club for the promotional signage bearing the Legion's name as sponsor.

Motion by: Calvin Swarbrick that \$210.00 be donated from the Pull Ticket Account.

Seconded by Hannah Cucheran
motion

All members present approved this

CARRIED

New Business:

- a.) Nominations on November 2 and Elections on December 7 - President Gauthier appointed Barbara Burnett to oversee the process.
- b.) Heart & Stroke Foundation

Motion by: Hannah Cucheran that we donate \$250.00 from Bingo.

Seconded by Suan Churchill.

All members present approved this motion

CARRIED

Treasurer's Report

Aug 2023 Accounts	Opening Balance	Deposits	Cheques	Closing Balance	O/S Cheques	Simply Balance	Savings	GIC	Total Funds
General	12209.41	7387.18	8136.41	11460.18	1169.93	10290.25	35842.84		46133.09
Sunset	12072.33	21930.30	21233.48	12769.15	364.08	12405.07	108997.15	247002.29	368404.51
Bingo	4461.71	0.00	936.89	3524.82	501.08	3023.74			2458.73
Pull Ticket	6479.89	2000.00	3051.73	5428.16	0	50428.16			4734.29
Casino	4262.35	1060.00	2212.09	3110.26	91.88	3018.38			3018.38
Totals	39485.69			36292.57		34165.60	144839.99	247002.29	426007.88
Poppy Fund	68190.99	0	20.00	68170.99	12564.00	55606399			55606.99

The new downstairs cooler came in and Comrade Swarbrick moved \$4000.00 from the General Savings account into the General Chequing account to cover the expense.

Question from Comrade Tchir as to how much had been spent to date on donations. The Treasurer did not have the final figure at this time.

Question from the Comrade Burnett regarding the \$3 000.00 donation the Ladies Auxiliary presented to the Legion for kitchen and stage upgrade. The Treasurer advised that the money is in the General Savings account. Comrade Burnett would like to see the utensils replenished as they seem to have disappeared over time. She did not wish to make a motion at this time.

Request from Comrade Pollard for an itemized financial statement, particularly regarding the Ladies Auxiliary donation.

Motion by: Calvin Swarbrick that we accept the quote from All Seasons have submitted a quote for snow removal for \$1552.00 for five months or \$290.00 plus gst per month

Seconded by Brian Brant.

All members present approved this motion

CARRIED

Motion by: Calvin Swarbrick that we purchase a blade for the campground Kabuto in the amount of \$2145.10 from UTV Canada.

Seconded by Susan Churchill All members present approved this motion

CARRIED

The Treasurer also announced that he had sold an old shed by the cookhouse, left over fencing from the Kanngiesser boat compound and old tractor for a total of \$4360.00

Calvin Swarbrick moved his report approved as presented. Seconded by: Rick Grinham

All members present approved this motion

CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Bingo: **Judy Lemieux** reported that there is a need for more callers and checkers.

The Bingo deposit for September was \$402.00

By-Laws: Lea Redekopp No Report

Campground: Susan Churchill

- It was a very trying camping season. The caretaker hired October 1, 2022 left the position on July 19, 2023. The Branch took over the administration and grounds maintenance in the campground on July 20.
- The campground Chair apologized to the membership for keeping the outgoing caretaker in the position for so long and fixed the issue by running the campground until new caretakers were put in place on Oct 1, 2023. The new caretakers are Darienne and Brian Drinkwalter.
- A full account of finances from this season will be reported at the next general meeting. The RCMP are investigating the monetary discrepancy caused by the outgoing caretaker.
- During our office time Comrade Hobbs and I found it took an incredible amount of time to oversee the opening of the gate. By emergency motion the Executive, on the recommendation of the Sunset Committee, updated the security entrance gate through the use of fobs/punch code for the lessees.
- We also discovered that sites within the campground were overbooked particularly on the August long weekend. We hope to resolve this issue with an online reservation system. Jamie Hobbs is assisting with the set up for this site. The three circles within the campground, Carrol, Proudfoot and Kanngiesser have been renumbered and now go from 1 -131. This should give visitors to the campground a easier way to find the site they are going to.
- The docks were brought in by Mr. Weiss last weekend.
- The Chairperson is meeting with the County on October 6 to discuss the dead and or dangerous trees in the campground.
- A thank you BBQ for all the campers and legion members who helped out this summer. A huge thank you to Charlene and Robin Wertz who cooked 75 hamburgers for attendees. Al Greenough cooked up a delicious chilli and Dan Skelton got us a bbq for the day. About 80 people attended. The cost was \$532.33.
- The washer and dryer in the residence is beyond repair. Three quotes were received from Home Depot, \$2195.00 plus gst, free delivery but no stacking kit; Lowes \$3633.00 plus gst and a fee for delivery and General Appliance for \$1999.00 plus gst. This motion to include a \$80.00 stacking kit fee and \$40.00 removal fee for the disposal of the old machines.

Motion by Susan Churchill that we purchase a new set from General Appliances in Lacombe for \$1999.00 plus gst. This motion to include a \$80.00 stacking kit fee and \$40.00 removal fee for the disposal of the old machines. Seconded by Sharon Pollard All members present approved this motion **CARRIED**

Casino: Janet Hall – No Report

Coffee Time: Shirley White (absent) No Report

Hall and Building: Andy Gauthier

- Upper hall bathrooms still have an issue with water running.

Honors and Awards: Kathy Hobbs no further report as this takes place in April and the new Past President will have that as their responsibility.

Lounge and Bar: Andy Gauthier

- Glass sanitizer was leaking and Brian Brant worked on the repairs.

Membership: **Kathy Hobbs**

- Currently we have 278 members in good standing.
- We have 69 Affiliate, 174 Associate 32 Ordinary and 3 Life members.
- Bringing back the Early bird draw saw the paid membership fees increase by 50% for the month of September. This year 84 members have paid compared to the 42 that had paid in the same time frame last year.
- September's early bird draw winner is Sandra Crooker.

Pull-tickets: Hannah Cucheran No Report

Poppy Trust Fund: Kathy Hobbs

- Next meeting is October 22 at 1:00 p.m.
- Poppy Campaign will commence after Andy and Kathy present the first poppy to the Mayor and County Reeve on Oct. 27 at 10:00 a.m. materials may then be distributed to schools and businesses. Kathy and Judy will be downstairs from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day from the 27th on except Sundays.
- Brian Brant will raise the Poppy Campaign flag on Oct. 27 and lower the flags on Remembrance Day
- Still need volunteers for Poppy routes in Lacombe 2, 3, and 4A.
- Mall volunteers are needed. This year we are planning to run from 10:00 – 1:00; 1:00 – 4:00; and 4:00 – 7:00 on Oct 28 – Nov. 4 and again on Nov. 10 at the Lacombe Centre Mall, Co-op and Lionel's No Frills.
- Although I had cancelled the tip tap machines, they still came in. Judy and I have ordered and received all other campaign supplies
- Arnie MacAskill and Cherry Baird will look after the distribution of materials to the schools as well as the Poster, Poem and Essay contest information. This year Senior grades have the opportunity to do a video for judging. I have asked Sparks to count out the poppies for the lunch bags that go out to the schools.
- Poppy boxes must be picked up and returned to the Legion at the end of the campaign (Nov. 14) with money being counted on Nov. 16 at 10:00 a.m.
- Irene Sissons and Rick Grinham oversee organizing colour parties and tours to the Lacombe Hospital, Lacombe Senior Home and Royal Oak. It was decided that we would not do school tours as we don't have enough volunteers to cover this area. Lea Redekopp, Brian Brant, Ed Pangle, Lillian Gillis, Chris Contenti and Calvin Swarbrick have so far volunteered for colour party.
- Barbara Burnett will organize the Pancake breakfast on Nov. 11
- Charlene and Robin Wertz will organize the luncheon downstairs. The prep work will be done Friday afternoon with Joann Swarbrick and Lillian Gillis helping out.

- We will attempt a potluck for the evening and Janet Hall has agreed to organize the kitchen crew for set up and clean up.
- Request from the morning cooks that the lounge should be opened at 11:30 a.m. for the kitchen staff from the breakfast and at noon for the public.
- The Lions Club will play during the Remembrance Day Ceremony with Jeremy Ganson playing Last Post and Rouse. So far, Barb Shepherd and Grant Creasey have agreed to be on the stage. The Red Deer Army Cadets will lead the colour party and dignitaries into the hall and help with the wreaths, etc. on Remembrance Day.
- Pam Klassen from the LMC has agreed that we can bring the wreaths and cenotaph over on Nov. 10 before 5:00 p.m. – Ed Pangle is in charge of that operation.
- The bursaries we applied for have not yet been approved but hopefully will come up at the Oct. Command meeting.
- This year you can visit Poppystories.ca on your smart phone starting Oct. 27. The Legion allows Canadians to scan a lapel poppy with their smartphone. With every scan, you'll be introduced to a fallen soldier with a story to remember.

Motions from General Account by Kathy Hobbs:

That we pay up to \$350.00 from General for the supplies for the Remembrance Day Luncheon.

Seconded by Joann Swarbrick. All members present approved this motion **CARRIED**

That we pay up to \$400.00 for the breakfast supplies for the Remembrance Day Luncheon. Seconded by Barbara Burnett. All members present approved this motion **CARRIED**

Poppy Trust Bank Balance as of October 5, 2023 is \$68 195.99

Motions made by Kathy Hobbs from the Poppy Trust Fund:

That we apply for funds for the Army Cadet Corp No. 1390 to purchase a new printer and cartridge set from Poppy Trust in the amount of \$839.94 under 403 ii g Cadet Support

Seconded by Rick Grinham All members present approved this motion **CARRIED**

That we apply for the lift inspection in the amount of \$444.15 under 403 ii J Accessibility Modifications

Seconded by Brian Brant All members present approved this motion **CARRIED**

That we apply \$100.00 for the bugler at the Remembrance Day Ceremony under 402 ii b

Seconded by Susan Churchill All members present approved this motion **CARRIED**

That we apply for up to \$230.00 for advertising for the Poppy Campaign under 402 I c

Seconded by Chris Contenti All members present approved this motion **CARRIED**

That we apply for \$220.00 for storage of poppy materials at the Branch under 402 I b

Seconded by Ed Pangle
approved this motion

All members present

CARRIED

Service Officer: Rick Grinham

- Has a veteran who requires assistance that he will be dealing with.

Sick and Visiting: Barb Burnett

- Trying to track down one member whom we haven't seen for awhile.

Social: Lillian Gillis – No report

Sports: Arnie MacAskill

- Drop in crib will start in the Lounge on Oct. 11. \$3.00 per participant per night.
- Looking at getting Horse Racing going on Nov. 1. More information to come.

Ways and Means: Lillian Gillis – No report

Adjournment: Motion by: Ed Pangle moved that the meeting adjourn at 8:35pm

Seconded by: Lea Redekopp

Winner of the meeting draw was Don Matheson