

BCGREA – Victoria Executive Meeting
August 24, 2021 via Zoom
MINUTES

Present: Barbara Golder (Chair), Sarf Ahmed, Brian Green, Gerry Buydens, Valeska Campbell, Laura Lam, Terry Prentice, Sonja Ruffell, Marilyn Spencer, Tammy Welch, Vicki White.
ABSENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME: Chair Barbara Golder @ 10: 30 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **M/S Marilyn/Vicki Carried**

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the Executive meeting of July 20, 2021 were approved as submitted.

M/S Brian/Gerry. Carried

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PRIOR MINUTES:

- a) BCGREA Roles and Responsibilities Handbook revision – in process – upgrades to Barbara & Terry. No further progress last month.
- b) Victoria Branch 1200 Survey. Agreed that it will no longer be a regular standing item as all recommendations have either been completed or are part of the Branch's regular business and as such would be dealt as part of the business. Periodic review of the survey recommendations could be carried out from time to time as necessary.

5. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

6. DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

- a) Treasurer's Report (Tammy) (See attached budget).

Honorarium: Discussed and agreed that the honorarium for the 6 directors at large is increased from \$50 per year to \$100 per year starting with fiscal year 2021/22 payable together with other honorariums as a token appreciation. All Directors entitled to the increase abstained from the discussion and voting on the resolution.

Motion: 'Resolved that the honorariums for all 6 directors at large be increased from \$50 to \$100 per year with effect from fiscal year 2021/22 as a token

appreciation of their continued commitment to Branch operations’.

M/S: Brian/Sarf. Carried. Gerry, Terry, Laura, Vicki, Marilyn and Sonja abstained from voting.

Budget for Fiscal 2021/22: Tammy presented the budget for fiscal year 2021/22 which had been reviewed by the Finance committee and their recommendations had been included by Tammy. After discussion it was accepted as presented.

Motion: ‘Resolved to accept the Victoria Branch 1200 budget for Fiscal year 2021/22 ending on June 30, 2022 as submitted by the Treasurer on behalf of the Finance Committee. Said Budget to be presented to the membership at the next September 14, 2021 general meeting for approval’

M/S: Valeska/Sarf. Carried.

b) Membership (Valeska) (See attached)

Membership report was accepted as presented. It was noted that 25 new members had joined the Branch during the reporting period perhaps due to the new BCGREA website

c) Communications (email, newsletter) (Brian/Laura)

Brian and Laura presented the report on behalf of the communication sub-committee. Clarifications were sought on the timelines for submitting materials for E-Bulletins and newsletter and it was agreed to implement them for the coming year. These dates coincide with Executive meetings and General meetings. The idea is to have all approved information from executive meeting in the E-Bulletin.

Deadlines for materials to Laura:
month prior to General Meetings below.

Aug 24
Oct 26
Dec 21
Feb 22
Apr 26

Release of E-Bulletin: At end of the

Sept 14
Nov 9
Jan 11
Mar 8
May 10

Newsletter:

Deadline: Nov 9

Submission: Dec 1

This will allow mail to be received by mid-December.

Motion: 'Resolved that the schedule for submitting materials for the e-bulletin and newsletter as suggested by the Communications Committee be adopted'.

M/S Laura/Brian. Carried

Laura also shared a draft template for E-Bulletins and suggestions for posting information to the Branch's new website. Both were well received and the Board thanked Laura and the communication sub-committee for their work.

d) Provincial Report (Brian) (see attached)

Brian updated the Board on Provincial activities focussing on the upcoming AGM in October and vacancies for Table Officer positions. The Province is actively seeking nominations for various positions due to retirements.

e) Program (Gerry)

Gerry provided a verbal update. It was decided that there will be no in person general meeting of the branch for remainder of 2021. Matter will be reviewed later in the year for 2022. Speakers for September/October/November were agreed. Barbara and Gerry to finalize arrangements for the September Zoom meeting with Tom Vincent.

There was discussion on whether members of the Sidney branch should also be invited to attend Tom Vincent's presentation. It was decided that the presentation will be recorded and a link of the recording sent to the Sidney branch afterwards for their membership.

f) Telephone (Sonja)

No activity except to add one member with no computer to the telephone contact list.

g) Goodwill (Sonja)

4 condolence notes were sent to families of deceased members this month.

h) Social/House (Marilyn).

Christmas lunch at Vista 18 to proceed subject to public health guidelines.

7. PROJECT UPDATES:

- a) No draw for members gift cards this month. Next draw will be at September executive meeting.
- b) Photo contest for E-bulletin. Information about the photo contest to be included in the upcoming E-bulletin.

8. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:

No activity to report.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Provincial AGM -October 2021.

BCGREA Provincial AGM October 20th. Up to 6 members from the Victoria Branch can attend the AGM on October 19/20, 2021 in Richmond.

Also received a request from the Provincial Branch for anyone interested in being nominated as the Public Service Pension Plan to sit on the Board of Trustees.

Information: <https://pspp.pensionsbc.ca/joint-trust-agreement>

Motions for the AGM

The Board considered and approved the following motion for submission to the Provincial Secretary for discussion and approval at the AGM

Motion 1: "That the requirement of 70 days notice for any motion to be presented to the Annual Provincial AGM every year be reduced to 40 days in order to better accommodate Branch meeting schedules and take advantage of new technologies".

M/S Terry/Gerry. Carried

Motion 2: "Given there has not been an increase in annual honoraria for the Table Officers at the Provincial level recently, the Victoria Branch 1200 is proposing an increase of 50% for all annual honoraria awarded to Provincial Table officers in recognition of their increased workload and inflation."

M/S Gerry/Tammy. Carried. Brian Green abstained from voting to avoid any conflict as he is a potential beneficiary of the motion as 1st VP of the Province.

10. OTHER BUSINESS:

- a) E-Bulletin contents from other organizations.

A request has been received from former workers of BC Systems Corporation to include information about their upcoming reunion on the Branch website and e-bulletin. There was discussion about whether such requests should be entertained or not.

It was decided that only those requests will be entertained if it would assist in BCGREA's activities for recruitment of new members. Additionally any requests from organizations which BCGREA supports will be considered as well such as COSCO and National Pensioners Federation.

Organizers of the reunion for former BC Systems Corp employees have agreed to promote BCGREA and hence information about their re-union will be included in the e-bulletin and website until date of the reunion (Oct 2, 2021).

11. NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING:

September 28, 2021 at 10:30am. Barbara will not be able to attend. Sarf will chair. Location to be determined whether in person or a Zoom meeting. Volunteer board member is needed to take minutes of the meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT: **M/S: Terry/Gerry @ 12:40 p.m.**

Chair: Barbara Golder

Acting Secretary: Sarf Ahmed

____September 30, 2021_____
Approved Date:

