

**BCGREA – Victoria Executive Meeting  
February 22, 2022  
Zoom Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Barbara Golder (Chair), Sarf Ahmed, Valeska Campbell, Karin Heimlich, Laura Lam, Terry Prentice, Marilyn Spencer, Vicki White

**Joined Later:** Gerry Buyden

**Regrets:** Brian Green, Sonja Ruffell, Tammy Welch, Kathy Weisgarber

1. CALL TO ORDER: 10:32 a.m.
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:  
**Motion (#1):** To approve the agenda. **M/S Vicki/Terry Carried.**
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:  
**Motion (#2):** To approve the Executive minutes of February 22, 2022 . **M/S Valeska/Terry Carried.**
4. BUSINESS ARISING:
  - a. BCGREA Roles and Responsibilities Handbook revision
    - Ongoing; should be finished by May meeting
    - Physical and on-line copies should be available.
    - Procedures will be separate from positions.
    - Barbara will distribute position descriptions for feedback by March 15th.  
**ACTION: Set aside time in March meeting for feedback on position descriptions and again in April.**
5. CORRESPONDENCE:
  - Attempting to track down people from returned mail.
6. DIRECTORS' REPORTS:
  - a. Treasurer (Tammy): See report attached to file copy, "Statement of Operations for the Month Ending February 20, 2022."
    - No discussion
  - b. Membership (Valeska): See report attached to file copy.
    - Membership total as of February 18, 2022: 1935
    - Noted there were quite a few obituaries over the last month.
    - Dues collection, receipts and logging for 2022: process is continuing for our cash pay members, which total approximately 130 members. Valeska discussed the amount of work involved in collection of dues by cash. Barbara felt this warranted further discussion but noted the Treasurer should be present.  
**ACTION: Set time aside on next agenda for discussion regarding switching to direct deduction payments only by 2023.**

- c. Communications (email, newsletter) (Laura): See report attached to file copy.

E-bulletin:

- The Lunar New Year greeting appeared in the last E-bulletin.
- Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations (COSCO) Liaison volunteer information will be in the March/April E-bulletin.
- E-bulletin feedback: A member commented they enjoyed the font, content, and format.

Website:

- Photo Contest entries now posted on the photo gallery with thanks to Josie at Provincial office.
- Updated to add Knowledge Network's BC: An Untold History, COSCO Conference Website link and Stay on the Road workshop invitation.

- d. Provincial Report: (no report)

- Affinity Partners Review: Sarf has been co-opted to work on the project. There is a meeting in mid-March to determine how to review.
- Recruitment & Retention Committee: Barbara said she is willing to attend meetings until the general elections in May. There is an upcoming meeting in Prince George.

- e. Program (Gerry): see Program schedule attached to file copy.

- March 8: CRA presentation: the usual presenter is Karen Martin, but the presenter for this year has yet to be confirmed.
- April 12: Daralynn Wei, Orderly Affairs (funeral, estate, house planning for the long term) confirmed.
- May 10: Dwight Owens, Ocean Networks Canada confirmed.
- Barbara mentioned that we need to start think of ideas for fall programming.

- f. Telephone (Sonja): See report attached to file copy.

- No discussion.

- g. Goodwill (Sonja): See report attached to file copy.

- No discussion.

- h. Social/House (Marilyn):

- Cards were ordered. These should be enough to last until the end of May.
- Barbara asked about a location for the summer lunch for members on June 12.

**ACTION 1: Locations to be explored**

**ACTION 2: Discussion about subsidy for meals to be added to next agenda.**

7. PROJECT UPDATES:

- a. February \$25 Gift Card Draw: Barbara drew 5 numbers using a random number generator from the member spreadsheet provided by Valeska. The draw winners were:

- Joanne Glover
- Jenny Hie
- Lloyd Klaassen
- Roderick Mann

- Robert Ravey
8. NEW BUSINESS:
- a. Election Planning
    - Valeska asked that when elections information is printed in the E-bulletin that the Membership direction's position be posted as available in case someone is interested. Valeska advised that if no one came forward she would continue in the position.
    - ACTION 1: Next E-bulletin to include Election information.**
    - ACTION 2: Barbara will ask Linda Snider to conduct nominations at May meeting.**
  - b. Flowers for ill members
    - A member asked why flowers are not routinely sent to ill members. Discussion on policy/cost: Treasurer not at meeting but Sarf said that this would not be practicable due to the expense. Barbara said when people have done work/volunteered the expense is not unreasonable. In terms of goodwill, get well cards are reasonable for the general membership.
  - c. Planning for in-person meetings
    - COVID restrictions are starting to ease and we should be looking for meeting space in case the BCGEU office is no longer an option. Barbara noted non-profits are often offered discounted rates and there are notes about when we previously looked into this.
    - ACTION: Marilyn to explore in-person options for meetings.**
9. OTHER BUSINESS: (11:30 a.m.)
- a. Guest: Al Coccola, Chair, Recruitment & Retention (R&R) Committee, to discuss creation of a new branch for Western Communities
- Al discussed growth statistics for Greater Victoria areas:
- The western communities are growing fast. The 2016 census showed a 32% growth in Langford with similar growth in Sooke and Metchosin.
  - Lots of members are not affiliated and a new branch may attract more retirees if there is an active branch in the area. It could bring in new people, younger people.
- Al has been busy promoting a new branch.
- He is looking for people willing to help.
  - On April 12th Al booked a table at G.R. Pearkes Arena for a 55+ lifestyle event (<https://55pluslifestyle.com/victoria>). He asked if someone from our branch would attend and also if the Victoria branch would be willing to split the \$395 cost between the Province (R&R committee), Sidney and Victoria branch.
    - It was noted that April 12<sup>th</sup> is the same day as our general meeting.
    - Financial discussion deferred as Treasurer not in attendance.
  - The R&R Committee has been made aware of Al's efforts.
  - The Chair of the Nanaimo Branch agreed to write a letter to members and transfer funds to a new branch. Al asked if Branch 1200 could write a letter to members.
    - Discussed a notice in an upcoming newsletter with Al's contact information after the entire executive has a chance to discuss the information fully first.
  - Al is hoping to include a pamphlet in the next communication from the Pension Board.

**ACTION 1: As creation of a new branch would impact Branch 1200 finances, The Treasurer should be present for discussions. This topic will be added to the next meeting in March.**

10. NEXT EXEC MEETING: March 22 at 10:30 a.m. (Zoom)

11. ADJOURNED at 12:15

---

Barbara Golder, Chair

---

Karin Heimlich, Secretary