

BCGREA Branch 2000 Cheam View General Meeting

Minutes Dec. 17, 2024

1 Meeting called to order 12:05

2 A moment of Silence to honour and remember past members, friends and family, our military and those we rely on in emergency services. We shall not forget them.

Val Stephenson's husband passed away on Oct. 10th

Al Price's wife passed away on September 2nd

3 Grace – done privately by members

4 Opening Remarks by Chair

VP position still open – need to get more members involved in activities

First meeting: Gord Robinson, BC Corrections

Life members Rob Neumann, Val Stevenson, and Al Price were presented with a Life Member lapel pin.

Anybody wondering if they have been 20-year members should ask Rhonda Sexsmith.

5 Minutes of the Last General Meeting held on November 19th, 2024.

MOTION: Al Price moved, and Rob Neuman seconded that the minutes of the November 19th, 2024 meeting be approved. There were no discussions.

VOTE: Unanimously in favour. CARRIED.

6 Reports and Items for Discussion:

- a. **Chair:** Patrick Harkness handed out minutes from the table officers' meeting. Members will be surveyed to determine what activities they want from the organization. They must have a valid email address on file for this.

Members without DCO can now pay directly to the central office via e-transfer. Jodine has set up a system and will send them a message. They can still pay the branch if they prefer.

- b. **Vice-Chair:** Position open

- c. **Treasurer:** Brian Taylor – current balance: \$ 2236.65. \$5 was withdrawn for a paper statement by RBC

MOTION: Brian Taylor moved, and Rob Neuman seconded that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. There was limited discussion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

Patrick Harkness and Brian Taylor went to Vancity to set up an account named "Cheam Branch 2000 BCGREA." There is no monthly fee; up to 40 monthly transactions are free.

MOTION: Brian Taylor moved, and Hanne Gidora seconded that our Cheam Branch 2000 BCGREA authorizes opening an account at Vancity Credit Union. There were no discussions. **VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously.

At the June 2024 meeting, a motion was passed that the branch chair, treasurer, and secretary shall be signing officers for the branch account. Two signatures are needed to sign a cheque.

MOTION: Val Stevenson moved, and George Razzo seconded that Thomas Patrick Harkness, chair, Brian William Taylor, treasurer, and Hannelore Gidora, secretary, will be the authorized signers for the account at Vancity Credit Union.

There were no discussions. **VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Val Stevenson moved, and George Razzo seconded that Thomas Patrick Harkness, 6715 Henry Street, Chilliwack, BC V2R2C2, Chair of Cheam Branch 2000 BCGREA, be the controlling person for the account at Vancity Credit Union.

There were no discussions. **VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously.

WEBSITE: For the information of members, the BCGREA website address is www.bcgrea.ca

Pause for Lunch - 1220-1245.

d. Membership: Rhonda Sexsmith

Has not received a membership report; will contact Jodine. There has been no change from the last report. We have 205 members.

7 Old Business:

Call for a volunteer to fill the Vice Chair position

Call for ideas for guest speakers

8 New Business:

Bill Hannay raised concerns regarding GreenShield. There are lots of issues with highways guys. Pat Harkness advised contacting the pension corporation with any concerns.

Members were promised cheaper and better service when moving from Blue Cross to GreenShield. However, this is not happening because they have not kept up with the new fee schedules for dentists, ophthalmologists, and the such.

There was a suggestion to contact the provincial office to find out what other similar groups are using (e.g. Municipal Pension Plan is using Blue Cross)

Government dental plan: BCGREA members are ineligible as there is a plan available via GreenShield.

There was also a suggestion to bring up the issue at COSCO meetings.

George Razzo reported he got free hearing care through Worksafe due to the nature of his work.

9 50/50 Draw

1. Richard Porcina- \$12

2. Pat Harkness - \$12

10 Next Meeting date: Feb. 18, 2025

11 Meeting adjourned 13:15