

BCGREA Branch 2000 Cheam View Executive Meeting Minutes for June 2022 was held via Zoom, Chilliwack; Friday June 17th.

- 1. Meeting was called to order** by Chair Gord Griffeth at 2:05 pm with 7 in attendance: Gord Griffeth (Chair); Peter Maguire (Past Chair); Patrick (Pat) Harkness (Vice-chair/COSCO rep./ provincial 2nd Vice-President); Brian Taylor (Treasurer); Richard (Rick) Porcina (Communications); Lynne Dennis (Membership); Dawn Stublely (Secretary).
Absent: Lynne Burger (backup Treasurer); Delores Hiles (Speaker Coordinator).

- 2. Opening Remarks by Chair** provided by Gord.

- Nothing at this time.

- 3. Minutes of Last Executive Meeting** The minutes of the executive meeting held May 13, 2022 via Zoom, were read by Dawn, accepted as read.

- 4. Reports and Items for Executive Discussion:**

Chair: Gord Griffeth

- Gord forwarded that since the executive meetings work so well on Zoom with less time etc. for travel and setting up meeting locations, we should continue with the Zoom format. All attending executive agreed.

Vice-Chair (and Provincial 2nd Vice President): Patrick Harkness

- The way it worked out this month the COSCO delegates meeting occurred last week which was well attended but no significant new issues to bring to exec.
- COSCO and Seniors Health and Wellness Institute (SHWI) are now attending in person senior's events. Pat attended one last Saturday in Burnaby and there were approximately 120 attendees with two good presentations, one on Dementia. One of the benefits of attending is networking. Through the Chair of BCGREA Abbotsford Branch, Pat met a representative of the Old Age Pensioners Organization (OAPO), Branch 173 Sardis and visited the facility in Sardis. It's located on the grounds of the Sardis Library and Twin Rinks. Pat was impressed with the very active members including one impressive social media guy that we might be able to contact as a resource.

Pats recommends that our Branch should attend other joint COSCO and SHWI functions to promote BCGREA membership and raise our visibility, even if we must pay for a table. We now have 2 banners we could utilize.

Treasurer: provided by Brian Taylor

- Brian forwarded the May financial statement to all branch executive by email.
- In Brian's absence at the May17 general meeting, Lynne B. attended as backup treasurer, collecting for lunches, 50/50 draw, ensuring sign in sheets completed and reported on the April financial statement. Thanks Lynne B.
- A portion of dues are owed to Provincial for those members still paying cash to Branch directly and not through direct withdrawal from pension. Brian will forward check for the outstanding amount once determined, to the Provincial treasurer.
- With our first invoice just received from the Curling Club, it was not included in the May statement. The room rental for May was \$150. 2 at \$75 unit price = \$150 plus GST 5%. (Regular rate \$125/hr). Lunches 16 x \$12= 192.00; each plus a 15% staff gratuity \$28.80. Lunches paid by members; tip paid by Branch. Brian will bring a check for payment to the General meeting on Tuesday June 21. Concern is also to have all invoices paid before our year end June 30. Perhaps we can pay after meeting for money owed for June 21 as our contact for curling club will be back from holidays. Peter will meet with our Curling Club contact to give him Brian's contact information. See more under past chair's report.
- Our Financial year end is fast approaching (June 30) and we need to secure two trustees that do not have signing authority, for one day work per year, to audit our books. Brian will include this request to attending members, in his report at the General meeting.
- Dawn confirmed with Brian that he has two working emails but prefers the gmail address. The original email will also work for him so no need at this time to change it with Provincial.
- (Secretaries note; With Lynne B. not going forward as executive, we will have to get new bank and check signee, removing Lynne B, but perhaps she might be interested in the audit with another member?)

Membership: provided by Lynne D.

- Membership is now 140 with one member deceased.
- In review of the membership list and dues paid to date, we have 10 members still owing for 2022 including some long-term members that haven't been able to be contacted (now in care facilities). Lynne will forward letters to each of them and see what the responses are. These are all members that do not wish

to have the automatic deduction from their pension and previously have always paid cash. (From which we then must forward the Provincial share back to Provincial).

- There is an outstanding issue of two members that have paid twice, once by cash in December and then after they signed up for the automatic pension deduction a second payment was taken. Brian will contact provincial treasure Johanna Morrow, to seek advice on how to sort out as it involves her as well in order to reimburse the members correctly.

Secretary: provided by Dawn.

- All emails received since the last executive meeting May 13, have been documented although only those needed for meeting reference have been printed out in entirety. Several emails of importance include May 20th from Al Coccola, chair of Retention and Recruitment committee to all branch executives, Gord also forwarded and Pat recommended forwarding to all member, Richard did Mar. 21 with a forward attached reporting how good the luncheon meeting went; BCGREA sent email regarding the AGM Oct 18+19 (see new business; and BCGREA to all members Essentials for BC's new standardized funding model for long-term care.

Transportation: provided by Peter

- Peter had one client for the General Meeting.
- Further inquiries by Pat, on the one member who had previously requested transportation assistance from Gord, is that she has moved into a care facility and her increasing mobility issues will now restrict her from attending meetings in person.

COSCO (Council of Seniors Citizens' Organizations of BC): provided by Pat

Cheam View Branch 2000 is an affiliate with the Council of Senior Citizens Organizations (COSCO). Before COVID-19, COSCO met monthly (2nd Friday) at the Hastings Community Centre, Vancouver, however, currently, meetings are being held virtually. See Link to COSCO (coscobc.org) on our website.

- See vice Chair report.

Communications/Web Branch Administrators: provided by Richard

- Richard will prepare and forward a General Meeting reminder for Tuesday June 21 and include the change to guest speaker, see Guest Speaker report. Dawn to forward information from Delores's text to Dawn this morning.
- Richard will bring bucket and 50/50 tickets to meeting on Tuesday.

Guest Speakers: provided by Delores Absent

- Delores advised Rick and Dawn that the previous planned speaker cancelled today but she has found a new speaker, Tara Goldstone of Griffin Security. Handouts may include Signs of Overdose; Overdoses are happening in your neighbourhood and how to talk to kids about drugs. Rick will include in his general meeting reminder to members.

Directors/Past Chairs: provided by Peter

- Peter will continue as our go between with the Chilliwack Curling Club since he has done an awesome job to date. Discussion resulted in executive agreement that we will cancel the September room commitment as we should stick with our 8 meetings per year. Two of the executives would have been unable to attend the September meeting if it was held. Executive agreed we were happy with the Curling Facility although there was some concern to venue once Curling resumes in the fall for a conflict in room with the observation area. The Curling Club seems ready to work with us and appears to have given us some grace in meeting length or a discount as to room charge on invoice.
- Peter on our behalf will book upcoming meetings of Oct. Nov and Dec. 2023 meetings will include Feb., Mar, April, May, and June.
- Meetings starting 11:30 am with break for lunch about 12:15 with the meeting concluding at approx. 2 pm.
- Peter will also provide Brian's email address, for forwarding invoices to and checks would be delivered to the Curling Club by Brian.

- **Chilliwack Curling Club**
45550 Spadina Ave., Chilliwack BC V2P 1V4.
Contact: Bruce Renwick, Manager 604 792 1572

5. Old Business:

- COSCO members including BCGREA Branches were urged to sign and send the petition letter to Premier Horgan and Minister of Health regarding the pay parking reinstated at BC hospitals and related health facilities. Dawn completed petition letters with Pat's assistance and Gord's approval which were forwarded by email to Premier Horgan and Minister Dix. We received an email response April 19, from the office of the Premier as reported last meeting and we have since received a similar response from the office of Minister Dix May 24. See below for content.
- The new banner appears to have a glitch in the fact that our requested addition of "Please Join" at the bottom of the banner makes the banner 7 feet tall, but the stand only allows for a 5 or 6 foot banner. Brian

supplied receipt information: Order # 4579081 April 22 for \$ 268.75. Pat will check with Staples for possible solutions.

- Outstanding: Updated Business Cards will be required when we return to any in person meetings, such as the AGM meeting, general luncheon even branch executive. Pat will check with Provincial to see if they provide Provincial executive with business cards. As well after elections if there is any changes to executive members.

6. New Business:

- Executive elections are due at the upcoming General meeting. Current executive with the exception of Lynne Burger who is declining, will consider another term although if there is any other interest by members, Richard (Communications), Dawn (Secretary) could use some relief. Peter as past chair, as nonelected executive member, will conduct the elections. Peter will review process in preparation, but it appears the main step is announced who is standing for each position, to ask three times if there is any other interest in each position. If not, declare that person elected. Even if no interest in main positions, encourage members to assist elected executive as a director. After the election, we will have to forward results to Victoria for any updates required. Insurance forms will also have to be updated and submitted in September as to any new contact information for executive or new executive members.
- Elections should be held at start of New Business.
- Lynne Burger should be thanked for her many years of service to the Branch executive.
- **The BCGREA Annual General Meeting (AGM) is to be held in Tsawwassen at the Coast Hotel Oct 18 and 19.** Branch 2000 is allowed to have 2 voting members attend with expenses paid by Provincial, in addition to Pat as he is covered as a member of Provincial executive. Executive members expressing interest in attending are Gord, Pat, Dawn, and Brian. The Branch will be responsible for the extra members' expenses attending as observers, unless they are invited for special meetings, which has previously occurred for Membership and Treasurers. **The deadline for registration is September 1, those attending should notify Kathytorhjelms@shaw.ca . Hotel reservations should also be booked as soon as possible 1 604 9438221.** This is important to discuss now as we don't have meetings scheduled for September as well as our October General meeting falls on October 18. **In the past executive have travelled to Tsawwassen right after the General meeting concludes. With the agenda unknown at this time, it's also unknown if this will work this year.**

7. Meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm.

**Next scheduled executive meeting to be held Friday Oct 14, 2022,
at 2 pm via zoom.**

Dear Dawn:

The Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, has asked me to respond to your email of March 17, 2022, regarding free parking at hospitals. I apologize for the delayed response.

Free parking helped us in many ways as we responded to COVID-19, but we also know that it has been creating significant access challenges as our health system restarted. Free hospital parking has made it hard for patients, staff, volunteers, and visitors to find spots, as non-hospital users took advantage of the situation to park for free while conducting business that was not hospital related. The Ministry has worked with the health authorities to examine parking services in health facilities in BC. As a result, the Ministry has reinstated parking fees in health authority operated facilities as of March 4th,2022.

Free parking at provincial health-care facilities will continue for patients receiving dialysis treatment or undergoing cancer treatment in acute-care programs. Also, parents or caregivers of all children staying in the hospital overnight will still be able to park for free. If parking lot users do not fall into these categories, financial hardship provisions also still exist and will be managed on a case-by-case basis by the health authorities. For additional guidance on this please contact the hospitals health authority parking administration directly.

I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,

Philip Twyford, CPA, C. Dir, MBA

Executive Financial Officer and Assistant Deputy Minister

Finance and Corporate Services

pc: Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health