

BC GOVERNMENT RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

LANGLEY/SURREY BRANCH 2100

NOVEMBER 20, 2023

Langley Seniors' Resource Society, 20605 51B Ave., Langley, B.C.

1:00-3:00 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order/Introductions: 1:00 pm

Adoption of Agenda: M/S/C

Adoption of Minutes from OCTOBER 16, 2023: M/S/C

Speaker: Surrey Meals on Wheels Christine Morettin and Amy Morettin

- Established in 1970, has charitable status, volunteer drivers, 100 meals served per day, to seniors, home bound, surgery recovery, etc.
- Greatest challenges: inflation, especially for operating costs - food (3 times more than 2019) and mileage
- 84% of 10,000 seniors run out of money for food every month
- 15% of seniors in MetroVancouver are living in poverty
- How you can help: donations (to offset food costs), volunteer (for meal delivery), sponsor a senior
- Website: www.sndmow.com
- Costs \$9.95 per meal; \$10.50 per meal charged to clients
- Contract with Fraser Health, so meals are provided by a professional caterer, based on meals planned by a nutritionist. Offerings: allergies, vegetarian, gluten free, minced. Cannot accept donated food.
- BC Gaming funded historically, however, Meals on Wheels has a Fraser Health contract so BC Gaming cannot fund them now.
- 5 routes per day; 14-35 meals per route. 5 days a week. Set menu for every day of the month. Meal plan includes: entre (protein, carbs), vegetable, soup, dessert
- How does a person apply? Directly to Meals on Wheels. Or a referral from Fraser Health. Accepts everybody; not income tested.
- Fraser Health partially funds overheads and wages.

Reports:

President: Wilf Broderick

- BCGREA AGM October 18
 - o President Brian Green, 1st VP George Bowden, 2nd VP Patrick Harkness
 - o Survey – expect a survey seeking input as to the desirable number of delegates per branch. Two options: Option 1 = 2 delegated per branch. Option 2 = chair plus one delegate per 500 members.
 - o Branch leadership team encourages everyone to vote and recommends Option 2.
 - o Motion to elect the provincial treasurer and secretary did not pass

- Leadership team, November 8
 - December 11 social – entertainment by John Parsons, gift exchange, sandwich and dessert meal. No business at the event.
 - for the gift exchange, max \$15. If donating wine, put red wine in a red bag; white in a white bag. Wine must be purchased from a commercial source
 - Must let us know if you are attending.
 - Can we set up a donation box for the Food Bank? If yes, include information in the meeting notice.
 - Consensus that member donations collected at the December meeting all be given to the Surrey North Delta Meals on Wheels. Include information in the meeting notice.
 - June outdoor social – the leadership is not investigating holding the June social outdoors. However, if member/groups of members want to investigate (location, cost, liability insurance, etc.) the leadership team would welcome their insights
 - Walking group - requires all members to sign a liability waiver
 - Alternative meeting facilities – actively seeking different locations
 - Re - promoting other senior organization's activities. At this time, involvement is being left at the provincial level, to take the lead on any issues
 - January meeting is reinstituted– with a guest speaker

1st Vice President: Robin Rutherford – no report

Secretary: Carol Paulson

- sends out meeting notices and welcomes your feedback and suggestions
- Provincial BCGREA bylaws review is underway. 1st step is to Consolidate all the bylaw changes passed in the last 7-8 years. 2nd step is to amend a handful of urgent issues at the fall 2024 AGM. 3rd step is to do a complete bylaw review, consulting with all stakeholders including Branches, and converting the Bylaws to common language, for presentation at the AGM 2025

Treasurer: Lu Gaudet – no report

Membership: Janice Leonard

- 732 members, including 2 new, 3 deceased, 0 resignations, 0 transfers
- If you are not on dues check off, need to pay in January
- If you want to sign up for dues check off, contact the Pension Corp

Merchandising: Janice Leonard

- Samples available

Newsletter: Janice Leonard

- Welcomes your stories

Phoning: Chris Roberts

- Thank you Janice for phoning all the people on the very long old list

Good and Welfare: Surindar Angl – 4 cards were mailed out

Walking Group: Benita Antonio - no report

Convenor: Linda Mann and Christine Sereda - no report

Guest Speaker Committee: Darryl Walker

- January speaker: MedWatch

COSCO: Renee Poley and Margaret Mubanda

Canada Dental Plan – if you have current coverage, you are not eligible.

Recommend that anyone who does not have dental coverage apply via My CRA account or search for Canada dental coverage for the links.

Old Business: covered in above reports

New Business: none

Registration: Janice Leonard

Total: 41 members and 0 guests

Member Donation: \$32.00

Adjournment: 2:56 pm

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be the Christmas social December 11, 2023.

Reinstated January 15 meeting

Branch elections February 19

Approved 2024.01.15