

Royal Canadian Legion Br. 208 Wiarton
General Meeting Minutes for May 8, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Heide Arnold, Roger Parsons, Don Freeman, Louie Kuca, Paul Hawkey, Brian Thompson, Sandy Freeman

Regrets: Dean Weir, Tim Langridge, Gord Allen

1. Meeting was called to order by the President at 7:35 p.m. with eight General Members in attendance.
2. Opening Ceremony was performed and Rev. Smith gave a prayer.
3. President's Opening Remarks – Heide thanked everyone that came out to the meeting, as there were very few members present.
4. **GM039/14** Motion to Deviate from the Agenda was made by Comrade J. Ward.
5. Ceremony of Admission of New Member Carie Ann Keenan was performed by President Heide Arnold and Membership Chairman Paul Hawkey.
6. **Adoption of Minutes:**
 - GM 040/14** Motion to accept the General Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2014, as presented, was made by Comrade J. Bell; seconded by Comrade S. Smith; motion passed.
 - GM041/14** Motion to accept the Executive Meeting Minutes of May 1, 2014, as presented, was made by Comrade J. Ward; second by Comrade J. Bell; motion passed.
7. **Business arising out of previous minutes:** nothing.
8. **Treasurer's Report** – Comrade Paul Hawkey presented his report and reviewed the issues faced this year and explained that the Unclassified column applies to the cost of goods sold \$108.96.
9. **GM042/14** Motion to accept the Treasurer's report made by Comrade J. Bell; seconded by Comrade J. Ward; motion passed.
10. **Correspondence "in and out" of branch** - Notice - Paisley Legion BBQ Roast Beef dinner to be posted; 42nd Grey & Simcoe Foresters, Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corp invitation to their 116 Annual Review, June 10th Owen Sound; The Vet Gazette received and put out; Ministry of Citizenship & Immigration sends us info on the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship – nominate a deserving citizen; Canada's D-Day Tribute Campaign – donate \$500 and have your name put on a Tribute Marker at Juno Beach to commemorate the 70th Anniversary.
11. **Business arising out of correspondence:** There was discussion around donating \$500 towards a Tribute Marker at Juno Beach.
 - GM043/14** Motion by Comrade S. Smith to donate \$500 to a Tribute marker at Juno Beach for the 70th Anniversary ; seconded by Comrade Roger Parsons; motion passed.
12. **Committee Reports:**
 - **Bar Chair** – Chairperson L. Kuca – much better year of sales; atmosphere is getting better; thanks to all the volunteers who helped in the bar. Effective May 16th – any non-member must donate \$2 every time they come into the bar, even if they are guests of a member. Comrade Louie stated that we will need volunteers to help enforce this initiative. We must raise money to help pay our entertainment costs. Please contact him if you are available to help.
 - **Lotteries & Nevada** – Chairperson B. Thompson – Meat draw and 50/50 lotteries were held most Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. Many adaptation's and modifications took place this year with several hard-working members and executive managing the events. Nevada

break-open ticket sales were made available each Wednesday and Saturday. Improvements to this fund-raiser are on-going.

- **Entertainment** – Chairperson B. Thompson – music jams were held most Wednesday afternoons and dance bands most Saturday afternoons, weather and holidays permitting. Karaoke was held once a week, first on Saturday nights and later moved to Friday nights. Special entertainment events took place during Legion week and on Ground Hog weekend. A New Year’s Eve dance with Rudy and Jean was a great success, again.
- **Youth & Education** – Chairperson B. Thompson – Poster and Literary contest had a large number of posters submitted to Br. 208 with a very limited number of essays and no poems. Six entries advanced to Zone with Tehya Leonard placing second there. The Public Speaking contest was held on Feb 23 at Br. 208. There were 6 speakers from Grades -1-3; 3 speakers from Grades-4-6 and 3 speakers from Grades 7 -9. The winners advanced to Zone competition in Chatsworth on March 2, but no one advanced to District competition
- **Track & Field Report.** Branch 208 sent 7 athletes to the meet in Kincardine on June 15, 2013. Competitors represented the Branch well. Branch 208 again this year sent, the second highest number of athletes to the meet.
- **Public Relations** – Chairperson D. Weir – in Comrade Dean’s absence, Comrade S. Freeman reported that there is a PRO meeting June 7 in Harriston at 9:30. June 21 we are invited to participate in a Parade in Tobermory for Chi-Cheemaun Festival. Al Redick will be looking for people to carry flags and march. Please contact him if you are available – transportation can be coordinated.
- **TOD** – Chairperson D. Weir – no report available.
- **Cenotaph/Lawn Bowling** – Chairperson D. Freeman thanked the many volunteers who helped with planting flowers and bulbs at the Cenotaph. Thanks to Comrade Al Redick for getting the flag and rope back up and thanks to the people who helped him. Thanks to Comrade Heide and the Fire Department for getting the flag replaced on the front of the Legion building.
- **Poppy** – Chairperson D. Freeman thanked all the volunteers who gave their time to help sell Poppies. He was new in this role and it was made easier with all those members who came out to help. We have been able to give financial help to some local veterans and Comrade Don also wanted to thank our secretary for her assistance.
- **Membership** – Chairperson P. Hawkey reported that our membership is now 211 with our new member Comrade Carie Ann Keenan. Still 42 members haven’t renewed; 12 probably will not, so there are 30 we are hoping for. Letters have been sent by Dominion Command to encourage them to rejoin. Comrade Paul informed us that Veteran Ken Wilson was hit by a car, but seems to be coming along. He is 88 yrs old, wheelchair bound and was just confirmed as a member last month. Comrade R. Parsons wanted to know if there is anything we can do to help, but Comrade Paul thinks that everything is okay at the moment.
- **Honours & Awards** – Chairperson T. Langridge was unable to attend, but Comrade S. Freeman indicated that the Volunteer Dinner has been booked with the L.A. for 17th of June. The membership board by the side entrance needs updating and it appears that Comrade Ruth Ann Allen’s name is still under the Treasurer’s Title. Comrade Dean will make up the new names and fix the board. We are hoping this can be done before June 1st. Comrade T. Langridge also wanted to thank those executive members who helped him this year, as all this was very new to him and he hopes to be able to continue as Chairman next year.

- **L.A. Liaison** – Chairperson T. Langridge – no report
- **Property** – Chairperson J. Quantz’s year end report was attached to agenda.
- **Sports** – Chairperson R. Parsons attended the Zone meeting in Paisley with upcoming Branch 208 events of Team darts Oct. 5 and a Darts Tournament May 31, which Kelly Abbott is running; 0900 for registration; if you have never played darts, come out and give it a try.
- **Seniors** – Chairperson H. Arnold – reported that there is a Seniors Fair on May 15, 2014 starting at 10 am to 4 pm at Branch 340 in Pt. Elgin.
- **Service Bureau** – Chairperson G. Allen – unavailable.
- **Finance** – Chairperson S. Freeman – her year end report was attached to the agenda. There was brief discussion on replacing flag pole with prices ranging from \$550 to \$1500. There is one telescoping type of pole that has a lanyard so we can lower the flag and further details will be forthcoming. Comrade L. Kuca asked if we could replace or repair the shed at the Cenotaph. Comrade Sandy pointed out that the shed is made of concrete block and cannot easily be taken down. The roof and doors do need replacing. There is currently \$3541 in the Nevada account which can be spent on Cenotaph needs, but not sure if this applies to the shed. There should also be Lottery money from the last license to donate, but a list of the donors was not available at this time.

13. **Adoption of Committee Reports:**

GM044/14 Motion was made by Comrade J. Bell to accept the committee reports as presented; seconded by Comrade James Bell; motion passed.

14. **Old Business** –

- By-Law Regulation Submission – Comrade S. Freeman reported that copies of the original Bylaw submission and Ontario Commands reply was attached to the agenda. Members are asked to review this and come back to the next General meeting in June where we will review the changes. There were four minor changes (wording) and five changes that require member input, amendment and a vote. Resubmission must be made by June 30,2014.
- Communications/Website update – Comrade S. Freeman reported that the website was being completely refurbished with a new look and it should be live shortly. The new site will be easier to move around and find information. Membership application form will be available to be filled out and submitted online.

15. **New Business** –

- May 9 – Honour our Troops Return from Afghanistan – H. Arnold – a program has been set up and members can gather at 1:00 pm with a march up the sidewalk to the Cenotaph for 1:15 with a Minute of Silence at 1:30 p.m. Announcements were placed in all the stores in Town and it was put on the Legion and Chamber of Commerce website.
- Presentation from First Vice-President B. Thompson to President Heide Arnold thanking her for her year as President with a gift presentation.

16. **Tabling of Notice of Motion** – President Heide Arnold stated that a Notice of Motion is hereby given that the attached Branch By-Law Amendments will be presented at the next meeting of the Branch, for consideration, discussion and a vote for acceptance.

17. President Heide Arnold passed the President’s Gavel to the new First Vice-President L. Kuca, in President Bill Chamberlain’s absence. President H Arnold requested that First Vice-President L. Kuca pass the gavel along to New President B. Chamberlain.

18. **GM045/14** Motion to Adjourn was made by Comrade J. Bell; seconded by Comrade James Bell.

19. Closing ceremony was performed by President Heide Arnold, at 8:37 p.m.

Next Executive Meeting: June 5 , 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Next General Meeting: June 12, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.