

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Algonquin Valley Branch Held at Royal Canadian Legion Deep River on Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Branch Annual Meeting (BAM)

Vice-President Vickie Hulley welcomed everyone to the Algonquin Valley Branch Annual Meeting (BAM) held in-person at the Royal Canadian Legion, Deep River. Following the formal, meeting Bill Bishop, made a presentation on "Caregiving".

Vickie Hulley called the BAM to order at 12.57 pm and presented the current slate of members of the AVB Executive:

President – Ken McDonald
Vice-President – Vickie Hulley
Secretary - Ela McDonald
Past-President – Paul Ballantyne
Membership-Secretary – Mary ter Huurne
Treasurer - Julie Mallory
Director - John Allen
Director – Bill Turner
Director – Leo Buckley

1. Establish Quorum

With 23 Branch members in attendance, the Vice-President, V. Hulley declared that the meeting quorum requirement (2x9 executive members +5) was met with 24 members in attendance..

2. Approval of the Agenda

The vice-president invited additions to the proposed agenda.

Motion 2022 - 01: Moved by Paul Fehrenbach and seconded by Peter Wegner, that the proposed agenda be adopted. **Carried**

3. Approval of 2021 BAM Draft Minutes

The Vice-President invited comments on the draft minutes of the last AVB BAM, held at by Zoom on April 14, 2021. No changes to the minutes were proposed.

Motion 2022 - 02: Moved by Charles Langlais and seconded by Paul Fehrenbach, that the draft minutes of the 2021 AVB BAM be approved. **Carried**

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4. Business arising from the minutes

There were no follow-up actions from the last BAM.

5. Reports

a. President

The Past-President, Paul Ballantyne remarked on behalf of the President, Ken McDonald absent for being in contact with covid-19 that the following activities were initiated, organized or participated in:

Retention and recruitment of members - are difficult processes. Our capability and capacity to engage our members is hampered by the large geographic area of the branch. Using the post office to inform members costs over \$1500 for each attempt. CNL employees are no longer contributing to PSSA pensions and are no longer a source of members; Garrison Petawawa is now the single largest source. In addition to the advocacy offered, there are many benefits to being a member by taking advantage of deals offered by preferred partners such as travel and medical insurance through Medoc, Johnson insurance for home and vehicles, and cheap phones through Simply Connect. The Ottawa Branch is receptive to having us attend their zoom presentations.

Communication - with our members is difficult, postage is an expensive option, we only have 40% of our members email addresses, and we lack contact information for 3% of our membership.

Finances - are deep in the black for without being able to hold in-person activities, we are underspending our budgets and have had to send back excess funds

Other items of interest and concern

Optometrists – still an issue of coverage for seniors as negotiations continue.

Phoenix payments – still affecting members as the aftermath of botched payment of wages continues to be sorted out. The National Office has helpful resources.

Personal Meetings – with the pandemic we have not been able to meet in person; this BAM is the first of hopefully better opportunities to engage our members

Relationship with National Office - excellent; they are responsive to our inquiries

PSHCP – negotiations are still ongoing to improve health benefits – we get better benefits but it will come at a higher cost. The key item driving up our premiums is the over-subscription of drugs

Outreach – is a process to connect with politicians. It is an ongoing exercise and will continue into the coming provincial election

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Presentations-

- AVB retained a Branch license for Zoom meetings which has allowed virtual presentations to be made
 - May 18 - "Estate Planning"
 - June 22 - "Choosing an Executor"
 - August 24 - "Probate Explained"
 - February 23 - "Aging Gracefully - Living at Home"
 - March 31 - "Understanding Wills"
- Renfrew County Legion Branches were supported on Remembrance Day
- AVB Report was prepared for Winter issue of SAGE just delivered
- As well, AVB reports were placed in Spring and Fall 2021 issues of SAGE

Future presentations / events:

- May 17 "My Health"
- August 28 – Picnic (Hopefully with no lockdown)

Communications with members is via:

- Sage magazine
- E-mail blasts
- Local Newspapers
- National Website and AVB website

b. Membership

Membership Secretary, Mary ter Huurne, presented AVB membership report for 2021–2022. Membership attrition happens with death, departure from the region, or withdrawal: increases are through transfers and public service retirees from

- 1,931 members (down ~200 in two years)
- 1,244 memberships
 - 687 double memberships
 - 557 single memberships
- Concerns:
 - 3% of members have no mailing address on file
 - 46% of memberships have no email address on file
- Positive news:
 - New members in 2021 trending up – 89 new members in 2021 compared to 208 new members in previous five (5) year period
- The members live in
 - Deep River (25%)
 - Pembroke (25%)
 - Petawawa (19%)
 - Petawawa (19%)
 - Renfrew (5%)
 - Chalk River, Eganville and unknown (3% each)
 - Ontario and other provinces (17%).

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c. Treasurer

The Treasurer, Julie Mallory, reviewed the finances

- Excess funds of \$32,131 were returned to National Office in 2021. These funds had resulted from under spending in previous years and reductions to our Reserved Equities as voted on at our 2020-21 BAM.
- No changes to current Reserves have been proposed for 2022. Reserves will remain as they are currently reflected at \$29,500.

The Reviewed Financial Statements for the year 2021 showing a Loss of (\$25,190.41) was presented as established by the return of excess funds. See **Attachment 1**

Motion 2022 – 03 by Judith Clothier and seconded by Mary ter Hurne, that the financial statements for the year 2021 be accepted as presented. **Carried.**

The Year 2022 Budget showing a balanced budget with \$14,600 of revenues and expenses was presented.

Motion 2022 – 04: by Charles Langlais and seconded by Judith Clothier, to accept the Balanced Budget. **Carried**

Julie Mallory thanked Dave Raman for reviewing the 2021 Financials of the AVB. His efforts were well appreciated. Julie Mallory called for a volunteer to review the 2022 financials.

Motion 2022 – 05 by Paul Fehrenbach and seconded by Peter Wegner to have Dave Raman review the 2022 AVB Financial Statements. **Carried**

d. Communications

In the past year, a Communications Committee under the direction of Vickie Hulley was formed to examine and improve the means to communicate with members.

Highlights:

- The Branch Communications Committee was formed in July 2021.
- First order of business was to create a Terms of Reference for the Committee. This Terms of Reference was approved by the AVB Executive on September 14, 2021.
- The Committee has prepared a series of information articles that will be published in the local newspapers in the near future.
- Produced and coordinated advertising for Zoom programs and the BAM.

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6. Election of Officers

Paul Ballantyne in his duties as Past-President, introduced the proposed slate for the AVB Executive for 2022-23 with the term of office in parentheses.

Paul Ballantyne called for nominations from the floor for the vacant positions.

President - Vickie Hulley (1 yr)

Vice-President - VP1 - Vacant (1 yr)

VP2 - Vacant (2 yrs)

Past-President - Ken McDonald (1 yr)

Secretary - Vacant (2 yrs)

Treasurer - Julie Mallory (1 yr)

Membership Secretary - Mary ter Huurne (1 yr remaining)

Directors - Bill Turner (1 yr remaining)

Nancy Gleason (2 yrs)

Debbie MacDonald (1 yr)

Vacant (2 yrs)

Motion 2022 – 06 by Paul Fehrenbach and seconded by Charles Langlais to accept the proposed AVB Executive for the coming year. **Carried**

7. Vision for the future

The newly elected president, Vickie Hulley, emphasized that the National Association of Federal Retirees has a

Mission: “to protect the benefits and to promote the interests of retired federal employees”; and a

Vision: “Federal public sector retiree benefits are maintained or enhanced over time”.

8. New Business

Volunteer Help Group

Vickie Hulley described the need for members to assist the AVB Executive with communications, program development and events

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Volunteers to staff AVB booth at Petawawa Spring Showcase (April 29- May 1)

The Petawawa Showcase will be returning after being suspended by the pandemic. Volunteers will be needed over the three days to operate a booth; Peter and Pat Wegner volunteered as did Julie Mallory. Leo Buckley will each out to others to help with the duties.

Provincial Election Advocacy Help Required

The upcoming provincial election will allow the Branch to make the candidates aware of the needs of all seniors in Renfrew County, not just those who are members of the Association. These needs include long-term care, housing, and health related concerns.

Program feedback from members

Vickie Hulley sought feedback from the members present. Ken Philipose remarked on advocacy efforts. Paul Fehrenbach thanked the members of the executive who had served the Branch and helped to keep all informed of activities undertaken by the Branch.

9. Adjournment

Motion 2022 – 07: by Gerry Frketich and seconded by Ken Philipose to adjourn the BAM.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Vice-President: Vickie Hulley

Acting Secretary: Leo Buckley

Vickie Hulley

LP Buckley

Following the formal meeting a presentation on "Caregiving" by Bill Bishop was made. Bill explained how he come to be involved; how trends in caregiving had changed, the staggering costs and efforts associated with caregiving and how rapidly caregiving was evolving. He ended his talk by emphasizing the need for all of us to be prepared for the impact it would have in our own lives.



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Attachment 1 AVB Income Statement

	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	Proposed 2022 Budget
Revenue				
Fees - Branch	0	0	0	0
Fees - National (incl. per capita & CC fees)	\$14,154.31	\$14,100.00	\$14,080.03	\$14,100.00
Fees - Adjustments	\$420.49	\$100.00	\$-60.83	0
Interest	\$425.62	\$500.00	\$466.67	\$500.00
	\$15,000.42	\$14,700.00	\$14,485.87	\$14,600.00
Expenses				
Branch Meeting Expenses	\$226.00	\$250.00	\$226.00	\$250.00
Branch Information Sharing		\$2,000.00	\$2,735.74	\$2,500.00
Phone / Internet	\$321.49	\$325.00	\$321.49	\$325.00
Stationary / Supplies		\$150.00	\$73.45	\$150.00
Bank Charges / Returned Cheques	\$48.00	\$100.00	\$48.00	\$100.00
Branch Membership Recruitment & Engagement	\$337.87	\$4,000.00	\$847.50	\$1,000.00
Branch Volunteer Support & Engagement	\$49.70	\$350.00	\$327.46	\$100.00
Branch Financial Management	\$73.22	\$75.00		\$75.00
Branch Governance/ Branch AGM	618.11	\$600.00	\$814.73	\$1,200.00
Reg/Dist/National Meeting Expenses		\$250.00		\$3,700.00
Meals & Events LESS Ticket Sales		\$5,500.00	\$1,625.51	\$4,100.00
Community Activities	\$1,000.99	\$1,100.00	\$525.00	\$1,100.00
Miscellaneous (non-operating)			\$32,131.40	
	\$2,675.38	\$14,700.00	\$39,676.28	\$14,600.00
	\$12,325.04	0	\$-25,190.41	0
Earnings (Loss)				
Earnings (Loss) excluding non-operating				

Attachment 1
AVB Balance Sheet

	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2021 Actual
Assets			
Assets - Chequing	\$27,157.36	\$11,000.00	\$17,980.48
Assets - Investments	\$45,397.57	\$29,500.00	\$29,568.67
Assets - Other	\$3,970.63	\$3,800.00	\$3,846.83
	\$76,525.56	\$44,300.00	\$51,395.98
Liabilities			
Liabilities - Accounts Payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Liabilities - Future Year Fees	\$1,194.16	\$1,100.00	\$1,254.99
	\$1,194.16	\$1,100.00	\$1,254.99
Net Assets	\$75,331.40	\$43,200.00	\$50,140.99
Reserved			
Reserved Equity - Defense of benefits (National)	\$13,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Reserved Equity - Facilities	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Reserved Equity - Other	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Reserved Equity - Advocacy		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Reserved Equity - Equipment		\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Reserved Equity - Special Events		\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Reserved Equity - Recruitment/Communications		\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Reserved Equity - Training/Succession Planning		\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
	\$42,000.00	\$29,500.00	\$29,500.00
Unreserved			
Unreserved Equity	\$21,006.36	\$13,700.00	\$45,831.40
Earnings (Loss)	\$12,325.04	0	\$-25,190.41
	\$33,331.40	\$13,700.00	\$20,640.99
Total Equity	\$75,331.40	\$43,200.00	\$50,140.99