General Meeting Minutes

February 2nd, 2022

1900 hrs.

RCL#54

Executive Present: Comrade President Brad, Comrade 1st VP Frank, Comrade Secretary Sue, Comrade Treasurer Paul, Comrade Sgt At Arms James, Comrade Interim Service Officer Phil

Members at Large Present: Comrade Adele, Comrade Louis, Comrade Pat, Comrade Julia, Comrade Todd.

Total Attendance: 22

Meeting Called to Order at 1910 hrs

Opening Ceremony

Comrade Sue read the Minutes from the last General Meeting and Motioned that the Minutes be accepted as read. Seconded by Comrade Phil, carried.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Comrade Jamie gave report of all account balances, upcoming expenses, incoming bills and loans. Detailed report attached.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Functions/Events:** Comrade Jamie reported we have ongoing Euchre, Cribbage, Casino Nights and Darts. Upcoming events include a Murder Mystery and Canada’s Funniest Comedy Night. We are researching re-instating Chase the Ace and have a merchandise only, minors allowed Bingo booked for February 26th.

**Membership/Awards:** There are new members but they are not in attendance tonight.

**Poppy Fund/Remembrance Day:** No report.

**Service Officer:** Position became vacant, Comrade Phil agreed to fill the position until another permanent Service Officer could be found.

**Sports:** Comrade Todd reported that COVID had shut down most sporting events. Friday night darts has continued producing good revenue.

**AGLC:** Comrade Sue reported we have reconciled all 50/50 and meat draws from last year and pulled new licences for January through March of 2022. We have submitted the forms for a licence to hold a bingo February 26th and we have received our Licence for the Casino February 14th and 15th and all positions are filled.

**Campground:**  Comrade Paul and Comrade Brad are meeting with the County on Friday to sign a new lease agreement. County would like a three year agreement at the current lease of $1 per year.

**Call for any other reports:** Comrade Adele requested more diligence in ‘signing-in’ protocol when entering the Legion.

**General Business**

**Class A vs. Class C Liquor Licence:** Comrade Frank explained that due to steadily declining memberships and business over the past few years, the Legion is experiencing higher than usual debt load. COVID regulations have compounded this problem. Membership dues and the number of regular members frequenting the Legion will not sustain us. Operating as a Private Club is no longer feasible, so the Executive has been looking at changing from a Class C to a Class A, Minors Allowed Liquor Licence. Comrade Frank explained the differences in the two licences and a lengthy discussion by the General Membership followed. Tabled to next Executive Meeting for further investigation.

**Bylaws:** The Executive has struck a committee to review, update and amend the current Bylaws. Discussion followed, Comrade Brad will bring amendments to the next General Meeting for a vote on approval.

**ANAVETS:** Comrade Frank explained that ANAVETS building has been sold and they are looking for a place to hold meetings and fundraising events. Members of the Executive met with ANAVETS in a friendly and compromising atmosphere. It was suggested ANAVETS could bring forward a proposal for sharing or renting/renovating space in the Legion. Discussion followed.

**New Business**

**Patio:** Comrade Frank presented an agreement with the City of Grande Prairie to lease a strip of property which would be 12 to 14 feet wide and run the length of the building outside the windows on the East side. This would be a concrete outdoor dining patio complete with fencing and storage shed. The cost is $1/year under the agreement that if we leave the building we return the space to its original condition. Comrade Frank motioned we accept a 5 year lease under the above stated conditions, seconded by Comrade Phil, carried.

**Meat Draws:** Comrade Brad said there has been some discussion regarding the perceived value of prizes in the Meat Draws. In the past we had to make our own selections from a Chain Food Store, but Comrade Jamie has arranged with Blackman’s Butcher Shop to pick up $200 worth of locally sourced meats for $125, chosen by the supplier. This has provided us with much higher quality meats. Discussion followed. Asked for show of hands to continue with Blackmans offer or return to picking selections of equivalent value, resulting in majority showing for continuing with Blackmans offer.

**Cadet Report:** (missed in early report session) Comrade Julia reported the Cadets are not holding in person events due to COVID, but are meeting virtually. See attached report for further details.

**Social Media**: Comrade Frank reported that there have been negative public comments appearing made by Legion members on Social Media. If you have a concern or question regarding any posting, event or issue involving the Legion, please bring it to Comrade Brad or Comrade Frank for resolution. Posting negative comments on Social Media only hurts the reputation of the Legion.

**Spring Rally**: Comrade Brad reported that we will be holding the District One Spring Rally on April 2nd, 2022 and we need volunteers to assist in various positions. All members participating must wear a uniform, however, the Legion blue shirts are acceptable. Discussion followed.

Motion of Adjournment made by Comrade Frank, seconded by Phil

Closing Ceremonies

Meeting Adjourned at 2022 hrs.