

MINUTES - Central Okanagan Area Council Meeting

Saturday June 25 2016

IN ATTENDANCE:

Susan Yaciw
Darrel-Lee McKenzie
Linda Woods
Carolyn McGillivray
Michele Sibson
Joanne Hay
Robert Strang , PSAC(by phone)

MISSING:

Kelly Megyesi
Annette Hale
Joy Harrison
Joan Coburn
Shiv Reddy

REGRETS:

Maria Luiza Romano

NO Treasurers report but it has been noted that there have been difficulties with the transition to the “new” Credit Union. In anticipation of a resolution, Susan Y was given funds in the form of cheques from the Summerland Credit Union (previous banking) for deposit to the new account when established.

“Rand Formula” DVD was purchased by Darrel-Lee (\$20) from the History Museum for use by members

MOTION called by LINDA WOODS to reimburse Darrell-Lee the \$20 fee

Seconded by Joanne Hay

MOTION PASSED with all in favour

SUSAN YACIW and MARIA LUIZA ROMANO attended an Area Council Summit in January 2016

They reviewed the roles responsibilities and Bylaws of Area Council

MARIA LUIZA continued with the theme to build our communities and need to try to find out what the biggest issues are

There was an attempt to try to organize a baseball tournament for the August Long Weekend in Kamloops for BC Area Council Members – 6 teams from the Lower Mainland had signed up. Probably not happening due to conflicting events.

Area Councils were mandated to visit MP's -

LINDA WOODS and SUSAN YACIW did visit with Steven Fuhr (Liberal MP for Kelowna – Lake Country); They were impressed with the meeting as he seemed to be aware and prepped for their attendance. There is an intention to continue to meet with other MP's in the area as time permits

CAROLYN MCGILLIVRAY advised that she has contacted her local MP but at the time offices were still being set up. She was told that the front office staff will try to organize a meet. Carolyn also noted that the meeting Linda and Susan had sounded interesting – proud of the OKANAGAN “pushing back”. She was not comfortable wasting time and felt that it was good to set parameters appropriate to efforts spent for this volunteer activity. It was the 1st time ever that a “prefabricated” meeting was not OK – it all felt similar. This work at the last election was the start of a change – we pulled all together!

ROBERT STRANG commented that there were good ideas and the meetings started well in the Okanagan. Noted that Richard Cannings – NDP Penticton-South Kootenays was pro PSAC. DARRELL-LEE, CAROLYN and possible HAROLD would likely meet with the MP to discuss BARGAINING.

BC REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING IN APRIL 2016 –

Area Councils were encouraged to get out and monitor the meeting with MP's – Get more politically active!

Bob Jackson tasked Jamie Mills with coordinating a task force for Area Councils – helping them with ongoing activities and best practices

This was not communicated with the Region – ROBERT STRANG to follow up

BARGAINING UPDATE: just wound up. NOT going well. Treasury Board are not willing to move much – move on small items if PSAC removes other items. Currently there is a DEADLOCK and more meetings are set up for coming months.

CRA rejected the government offer – high turnout for voting ; CRA is now in an upcoming STRIKE position within a 60 day period; there is to be a meeting on June 30 2016 with PSAC National (it only takes 1 action in all of Canada to active STRIKE ACTION) – more news is expected within the coming weeks. This will be the first time PSAC goes into the process since the new rules – full scale action is not required to keep the Strike Action window open.

DARRELL-LEE asked for information about proposed actions within the area to allow other groups to support CRA – PLEASE REFER TO THE PSAC NATIONAL WEBSITE
Meetings with the Interim Commissioner until Aug 1 – no news except that the government continues to be difficult

FAQ: 100% members of the (CRA) UTE LOCAL turned out to vote

DARRELL-LEE advised that settlement is taking so long because CRA was one group that could deal with the government independently but the rules changed and the process is now the same as with other groups. REMINDER – It's been almost 4 years without a contract!!!

DISCUSSION about the local LABOUR DAY PICNIC Sept 5 2016 – 12 – 4 at Mission Creek Park in Kelowna –OPEN TO THE PUBLIC with FREE BBQ food

Suggestion was made that we have a “table” with SWAG from BCPSAC and that we participate especially because of ongoing negotiations and bargaining! (Susan Yaciw will invite Bob Jackson)

DARRELL-LEE made a motion to support the North Okanagan Labour Day event in the amount of \$100 – CAROLYN MCGILLIVRAY seconded the motion

Motion was carried – ALL in favour

ROUND TABLE:

JOANNE HAY – attended a CUPW meeting in May

Noted that there is a mandated review of Canada Post – Finding out what Canadians want from Canada Post, There is a council of people travelling across Canada to get this information. Francois Paradis (component president) with Minister Foote gave a joint union point of view to the group. A labour dispute/labour disruption was proposed . Possible LOCK OUT July 1.

CUPW is reviewing and exploring a “Postal Banking” proposal for rural communities – this has been shown to be profitable and possible!

LINDA WOODS is going to Bargaining in the upcoming weeks

She provided details about a fundraiser for the Compassionate Friends Group September 15, 2016. It will be a Steak dinner (with vegetables) at the Shannon Lake Golf Course in West Kelowna. She is requesting a donation for a raffle basket.

SUSAN YACIW made the motion to donate \$100 to the Compassionate Friends Group fundraiser for a raffle basket. Seconded by JOANNE HAY – Motion passed – ALL in favour

LINDA anticipates participating in some training in September for the Local – executive training (there are always distance and #'s issues to consider)

DARRELL-LEE discussed the JLP Understanding Union Basics training that took place in June – she was aware of 5 members of her Local that attended

MEETING ADJOURNED 10:37 a.m.

NEXT MEETING 10:00 a.m. Sept 5 2016 (before the Labour Day Picnic)