

Victoria Regional Women's Committee

Annual General Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2019

Members in Attendance:

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| Nancy Sermons (Chair) | DCL 20500 |
| Colleen Girard (Vice-Chair) | UNDE 1008 |
| Kay Ahmadi (Treasurer) | UTE 2028 |
| Karolyn Jones | UCTE 20220 |
| Leanne Hughes | CIU 20042 |
| Kahla Lichti | UNDE 21016 |
| Kelly Sidhu (T) | Regional Women's Coordinator – BC PSAC Regional Council |

Meeting called to order: 5:47pm

Acceptance of the agenda

Motion: Nancy Sermons

Second: Leanne Hughes

Carried

Adoption of October 10, 2018 Minutes

Motion: Nancy Sermons

Second: Kay Ahmadi

Carried

President's Report

Colleen and Nancy co-presented an overview of last year's activities (see attached for Nancy's comments). In September 2018, Colleen stepped down to Vice-Chair and Nancy became Chair.

It was noted that after a year hiatus, the VRWC organized a successful December 6 Vigil. It was well supported by local Unions and community. A total of \$1,314 was collected by VRWC and donated to the Victoria Women's Transition House.

Colleen announced that she has accepted a staff position with UNDE in Ottawa and will be moving there March 2019.

Adoption of President's Report

Motion: Nancy Sermons

Second: Kay Ahmadi

Carried

Financial Report – 2018 Financial Statement

Kay provided an overview of the year's financial activities (see attached financial documents). VRWC's currently holds \$3,677.34 in checking account and \$138.91 in secondary account. The accounts are ready for audit and Nancy will confirm an auditor in the days ahead.

Adoption of Financial Report

Motion: Kay Ahmadi

Second: Nancy Sermons

Carried

Old Business

It was noted that PSAC regional Facebook page published photos of the Victoria Dec 6 vigil. Last year's speaker included Marianne Alto, Victoria Councillor; Elizabeth O'Brian, Victoria Women's Transition House; Colleen Girard and Nancy Sermons. Approximately 30-40 folks attended the vigil. A lot of work went into planning including designing, printing of ceremony handout, organizing coffee/hot chocolate, creative placement of lighted 'water jugs'. The ceremony included reading each woman's name, a short bio while a white rose was placed in front of the memorial.

It was commented that much of the vigil's success was due to the care and attention shown by Colleen and Nancy.

New Business

- 1) Following the attendance of CUPW 850's Secretary-Treasurer attendance at the December 6th vigil, a letter of support (attached) was sent to VRWC acknowledging our shared struggle to end violence against women. They included a \$100 donation towards local women's organizations that will be given to the Victoria Women's Transition House.
- 2) A letter from Victoria Women's Transition House (attached) thanking VRWC for recent donations was received by the committee.
- 3) Kay reported that a PSAC Brother in her local recently passed away. It was a sad reminder that PSAC members are eligible for free \$5,000 life insurance and \$5,000 accidental death and dismemberment insurance but members must sign up – enrolment is NOT automatic. To enroll: <http://www.coughlin.ca/psac-afpc/life.html>.

Nancy will ask Rosemary to send out via email an enrollment reminder.

Elections

Results are as noted:

Chair: Nancy Sermons

Nominated by Kay Ahmadi

Seconded: Leanne Hughes

Acclamation

Vice-Chair: Karolyn Jones

Nominated by: Nancy Sermons

Seconded: Kay Ahmadi

Acclamation

Secretary: Kahla Lichti/Leanne Hughes

Nominated by: Nancy Sermons

Seconded: Kay Ahmadi

Acclamation

Treasurer: Kay Ahmadi

Nominated by: Nancy Sermons

Seconded: Karolyn Jones

Acclamation

Open Discussion:

- This year is the Regional Women's Conference likely to be held in Fall 2019. Organizing and Resolution committees will be established in the months ahead. The Regional Human Rights Conference will also take place this year likely following the Women's Conference.
- The 2019 budget request is required to be filed by March 1, 2019. A review of the Dec. 6 vigil costs will likely result in an increase that will be reflected in the budget request. Please let Nancy know of any other events and associated costs for consideration in the budget no later than February 27, 2019.
- March 8 is International Women's Day. While it is coming up quickly, please send any thoughts for this year to Nancy.
- It was recognized that we will endeavour to ensure that next year's International Women's Day event is added to one of our mid-year meeting agendas.
- Appreciation of Colleen's union and her support of union women was raised. Colleen has provided mentorship and leadership over her years in the union, and her support of the VRWC has been deeply appreciated. We wish her the very best in her new union endeavours.

Meeting Adjourned.