

Victoria Regional Women's Committee

General Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2014

Attendance: Virginia Vaillancourt, Brenda Esplen, Jeannette Lum, Kay Ahmadi, Leanne Hughes, Michelle Thompson,

Teleconference: Vanessa Miller, Connie Gress, Kelly Megyesi, Darlene Stevens

PSAC Staff: Rosemary MacKenzie

Guest: Tammy Dickeson

Virginia Vaillancourt called the meeting to order at 5.40 PM.

Introductions

Round table introductions of the members in attendance.

Review of November 5, 2013 Minutes

A review of the previous meeting minutes took place at this time.

Motion: Jeannette Lum made the motion to reimburse Virginia the difference to purchase the 10 lamps as the cost was more than \$180.

Seconded: Leanne Hughes.

Carried: Unanimously

The following adjustments were also made to the minutes - under attendance removed the name Meghan and add Kelly's name.

Motion: Virginia Vaillancourt made the motion to accept the previous minutes with the amendments made to the attendance as noted.

Seconded: Kay Ahmadi.

Carried: Unanimously

Treasurer's Report

Brenda provided a summary for the committees' chequing and equity accounts.

December 6th Event Debrief

This year was the coldest we had since we started and the frames our brothers kindly made for us broke due to the wind and need to be fixed. We had a good turn out and there were two different media teams there, but Virginia could not do a live interview as we were in the middle of our event when they wanted to go live. Virginia talked to them before the event so they would do a briefing on the web.

Tammy asked if for this year's event we can time the media so Virginia can do a live broadcast as it is an important event. Virginia stated the media is already aware but as this year's December 6th event falls on a Saturday, the truck light parade is being put on at the same time as our event.

We may need to change the time of our event. Virginia is looking in to who is the organizer of the truck light parade so she can find out when they are doing their event and so we can adjust our time accordingly.

Donations

The donations received for December 6, 2013 was outstanding - we collected \$1,720 in donations. We received donations from the BC Regional Council, Vancouver Island Human Rights Committee, Victoria Labour Council, the Commissionaire's union in Victoria, BCGEU, CUPW and the Vancouver Island Youth committee. Virginia also received a cheque from the Coast Guard and Victoria Area Council.

We were able to help out three women's organizations in Victoria.

The Victoria Sexual Assault Centre got \$500 in taxi savers.

For the Women's Transition House we spent \$620 to purchase 6 radio alarm clocks, 12 pillows, and pajamas for women, babies and youth, games, 2 boxes full of non perishable food, lots of toiletries, socks, hats, gloves, scarves, etc.

For the Sandy Merriman House we purchase \$600 worth of non perishable food items and laundry soap.

Proposal for Permanent Memorial Plaques

Tammy attended the meeting that Virginia had with mayor and council. At one of the meetings, the councilor put in a resolution to the mayor and council (GPC Committee) to have the city staff look at a spot for the monument and gave Virginia five minutes to speak about the motion before they voted on their decision- the motion was passed and mayor and council approved our permanent monument. Virginia is working with Parks and Recreation

department, the city and a few other groups to pick out locations for the monument. We can not place our monument in Centennial Square as it is used as a place which covers history for Victoria.

The areas that have been suggested for our monument are:

- * St. Anne's Academy- this is PCC land, therefore city would have to help Virginia make a motion to them.
- * Pioneer Square
- * Cridge Park
- * Cridge Centre
- * UVIC, Camosun College or Royal Roads; which would require separate process for approval
- * Irving Park

Virginia stated she would like to keep the monument in the City of Victoria. Preferably downtown so it is accessible to all visitors to the city. The members discussed the areas suggested and decided they would like to place the monument in Pioneer Square.

Also the councilor that Virginia is working with at the city asked her to put in a motion to the city of Victoria to make a proclamation regarding December 6th. At the event the councilor spoke and on behalf of the Mayor and city gave Virginia a framed copy of the proclamation marking the December 6th event. We also got a thank you card from the Sandy Merriman house for the donations provided.

Delegate to the Triennial Convention

Michelle Thompson and Kay Ahmadi put their names forward. Kay was elected as the delegate and Michelle as the alternative.

Motion: Leanne Hughes made the motion to destroy the ballets.

Seconded: Jeannette Lum

Carried: Unanimously

Motion: Jeannette Lum made the motion for the \$200 registration fee for the delegate or the alternative to attend the convention be paid by the Victoria Regional Women's Committee. Also if at a later date a request is submitted to cover the loss of salary for Friday April 25, 2014.

Seconded: Michelle Thompson

Carried: Unanimously

Resolutions for Convention

Virginia asked if any of the members had resolutions they would like to put forward for the convention.

Virginia stated a few of the resolutions have gone to the previous conventions, where we have asked the women's group to have the priority of each convention/conference for each region to come up at the triennial but it keeps getting defeated or shoot down on the bases that we can not dictate to the resolution committee on what they can set as a priority. If any of the members are interested in discussing resolutions the area council and human rights committee will be meeting next week to discuss resolution.

Connie stated she was looking at the previous resolutions that were submitted by the women's committee - one regarding the childcare, but she cannot see anything about what happened to it when it hit the floor. Virginia stated she will find the info on what PSAC has done regarding childcare nationally.

Kelly advised the members that at the last triennial convention some of our priority hit the floor and were passed and we now have more women on the floor; which will help. The national women's conference prioritized the resolutions that will go forward to the next triennial. For example they worked with all the provinces to make sure the childcare resolution would come on the floor and get passed.

Connie asked a question regarding the protective reassignment resolution - what impact will the new bill have on that resolution. Virginia stated she will bring this up at the next BRUSH conference call.

Connie asked about the resolution to revise or request that the travel directive be updated or revised. Virginia asked Connie to send her some information regarding this and she will look into it for her.

Virginia advised the members she would review the resolution she has, as there were a few things she noted and will send the members an email so we can vote on them, so they can be forwarded to the triennial committee.

March 8th Event

Virginia mentioned last year we spoke about having a craft day. There is a ceramic store that is owned by mother and daughter and they have a store in Sidney and one in Langford. We can do paint your own piece during the day (business hours) or a private function in the evening after the store is closed. The members said they would like to the evening event.

Motion: Jeannette Lum made the motion that the Victoria Regional Women's Committee pays the first \$20 per person for the International Women's Day event and the members pick up any additional cost on their piece.

Seconded: Michelle Thompson

Carried: Unanimously

Other

Rosemary advised the members that she purchased a tin plaque of "Rosie the Riveter" at a craft fair which she will put up in the office for the regional women committee.

Plaques

Virginia advised the cost of the two plaques we chose would be \$2602.40 for the main plaque and the smaller one would be \$648.60=\$3250 + tax + approximately \$120 installation. Virginia asked PSAC BC REVP to cover the cost of the logo. Rosemary will look into finding us a bolder - [30 x 46 x 6]

Virginia is hoping to have the motion finalized with parks and the city, so by June all the media can start. Virginia asked if anyone is artistic and can help design a poster for this year's event - if not she knows of a graphic designer she can ask for help and request PSAC BC to print the posters.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.30 pm