

Victoria Regional Women's Committee

General Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2013

Attendance: Virginia Vaillancourt, Brenda Esplen, Jeannette Lum, Kay Ahmadi, Tammy Dickeson, Cindy Little, Leanne Hughes, Michelle Thompson, **PSAC Rep:** Rosemary MacKenzie

Teleconference: Deanna Kimball, Vanessa Miller, Ashlee Clarke, Kelly Megyesi

Virginia Vaillancourt called the meeting to order at 5.32 PM.

Introductions

Round table introductions of the members in attendance.

Review of September 18, 2013 Minutes

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

Motion: Virginia Vaillancourt made the motion to accept the previous minutes.

Seconded: Jeannette Lum.

Carried: Unanimously

Festive Meet and Greet- December 10, 2013

Virginia stated the event will be held from 3pm to 6pm at the regional Victoria office and Dave Jackson is organizing the event, but she will be on vacation and not at the event. All the committees on Vancouver Island have been asked for a donation to help fund the event and our committee has been asked for a donation of \$75 - \$100.

Motion: Leanne Hughes made a motion for a \$100 donation to be made for the meet and greet event.

Seconded: Kay Ahmadi.

Carried: Unanimously

Donation Request

Virginia advised the members that the Transition House is in need of 10 bedside table lamps as the ones they have are not working. The Transition House had put out a request for a donation so they could purchase those lamps, but they did not have any luck. Virginia stated as we have been collecting donations for them for the past five years and these lamps are urgently needed, she asked the members if we could purchase those lamps for them tonight so they can have them by tomorrow.

Motion: Virginia Vaillancourt made the motion that the Victoria Regional Women's Committee purchase 10 table lamps for a cost up to \$180.

Seconded: Jeannette Lum.

Carried: Unanimously

December 6, 2013 Candle Light Vigil

Virginia advised the members this will be the 5th year we are holding this event and we need to get more people to attend the event.

Speaker requests have been sent out to Mayor Fortin, Dianne Champlain, Victoria Police Victims Serves and Jim Sinclair. Bob Jackson will be attending the Vancouver event.

Donation request have been sent to the Victoria Area Council (they are donating \$200), Vancouver Island Human Rights Committee, the Youth Committee (they are donating \$70), to all local presidents, Labour Council, BCGEU and BC Fed. Also a request was sent to the BC Regional Council for a donation of \$500 to purchase taxi savers.

Advertising:

*We need more posters-Virginia will contact Patrick to see if he can print some more.

*An email was sent to a BCGEU contact in Vancouver and they will put our event on their website and send it to their members.

*A notice will be sent to the CUPW, C-Fax 1070, Time Colonist, A- Channel and Chek 6 news about our event.

*Our event has been advertised on Craig list, Used Victoria, Facebook, and other websites.

Cindy Little suggested we contact UVIC student organization and get them involved too - taking into account the recent attacks to female students at UBC.

Motion: Leanne Hughes made a motion that we put in a business card size advertisement in the "Coffee News" for two week at the cost of \$225.

Seconded: Jeannette Lum.

Carried: Unanimously

It was agreed that as a group the committee members would meet down town on November 30, 2013 from 10 to noon and put posters on poles that we are allowed, to get the message out about our December event.

Song

Discussed adding new songs to the event. A powerful song for our event is needed.

Event

* The Centennial Square is booked from 4.30 to 7.30 pm

*We will be setting up at 4.30 pm on December 6, 2013

*A information table will also be set up with information regarding different organizations.

*Tammy will be reading the names at the event

*Someone was hired to set up and play the music for \$50

*Event will run from 5.30 to 6.30 pm

*14 people will hold the pictures

Next Year

Will be the 25th Anniversary of the Montreal massacre.

Permanent Memorial Plaques

Virginia provided an update on the request for a permanent memorial. Members got to see what different designs of the plaques would look like. These designs were presented at the meeting that Virginia attended with the city on October 11, 2013.

The city brought in a councilor who was involved with the 1999 Vancouver "Marker of Change" memorial. The councilor listened to the proposal submitted, looked at the pictures and she put in a resolution to the mayor and council (GPC Committee) and they are meeting on November 7, 2013 and they will be debating the resolution of the permanent monument.

On November 14 at 7.30 pm, the mayor and council will be meeting and Virginia is submitting a request to speak in regards to the permanent memorial before they render their decision. It seems the councilor was against the bolder due to kids climbing over it and suggest we put a plaque on the wall. It seems there is a memorial wall somewhere in Centennial Square for fire fighter, but no one at the Women's meeting knew about this memorial or where it is located. Virginia sent a response to the Mayor and Council, stating we have not seen any kids ever climbing on a memorial boulder in Victoria. The City Parks and Recreation department is also looking at other sites where the memorial can be placed. Virginia stated that Centennial Square is the place we had proposed to place the memorial. If City of Victoria do not agree to our proposal, Virginia will be looking at contacting other municipalities.

Virginia stated the city has asked her to get letters support from different organizations within Victoria regarding our memorial plaque. She has contacted the Transition House, Victoria Women's Sexual Assault Centre; BC Fed and CPUW to get support letters. Virginia has already got a letter from Bob Jackson's office and read it out to the members in attendance tonight.

At our January 7, 2014 meeting we will be discussing the outcome of Virginia's meeting with the City of Victoria and we will choose a plaque and costs associated to obtaining the plaque. The monument company will need six weeks to prepare and age our bronze plaque.

Other

Bill C-4 and its implications on us: Please read up on it, discuss it with our members and contact our MP.

Notification was given out in regards to the PSAC BC Triennial Convention that will be held in Vancouver on April 25 to 27, 2014 based on Section 9 of the BC regional Council By- Law. At our January 7, 2014 meeting we will be choosing a delegate and an alternate to send to this convention as the Victoria RWC rep.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.06 pm