

**Victoria Regional Women's Committee
Annual General Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2014**

Attendance: Virginia Vaillancourt, Brenda Esplen, Jeannette Lum, Kay Ahmadi, Vanessa Miller, Collen Girard, Patricia Ganczar, Florence Raffaelli

Teleconference: Deanna Kimball, Connie Gress

Regrets: Kate Breckon

Virginia Vaillancourt called the meeting to order at 5.45 PM.

Introductions

Round table introductions of the members in attendance.

Review of May 14, 2014 Minutes

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

Motion: Kay Ahmadi made the motion to accept the previous minutes.

Seconded: Collen Girard

Carried: Unanimously

Treasurer's Report

Brenda provided a verbal financial summary of the committees' chequing, saving and equity accounts and advised the members that the \$100 we had voted to donate to the Vancouver Island Human Rights committee for their pride parade was never issued and would be issued today.

Motion: Virginia Vaillancourt made a motion that we close our saving account and transfer the funds from that account to our chequing account.

Seconded: Jeannette Lum.

Carried: Unanimously

Motion: Jeannette Lum made the motion to accept the verbal financial report provided by the treasurer.

Seconded: Vanessa Miller

Carried: Unanimously

Motion: Virginia Vaillancourt made a motion further to information from REVP office to remove Rosemary MacKenzie's signing authority from our accounts.

Seconded: Vanessa Miller

Carried: Unanimously

2015 budget

Events	\$850
Conferences and Conventions	\$500
Donations	\$400
Meetings	\$300

Motion: Kay Ahmadi made a motion to accept the 2015 proposed budget of \$2,050.

Seconded: Jeannette Lum.

Carried: Unanimously

2015 Event Planning

Participate in the Aboriginal Sisters in Spirit Walk

International Women’s Day

October History Month

December 6th Candlelight Vigil

Virginia stated she has submitted a request and spoke with the Regional Education Officer to see if they can put on a course for our brothers to learn about women in history, women in labor movement and issues we face and get them to help us in our fight. REO will get back to Virginia.

Elections

The chair of the meeting was turned over to Deanna to run the elections. Virginia stepped down as Chair of Committee to focus on her position as the BC Women’s Coordinator.

Chair	Vanessa Miller
Secretary	Florence Raffaelli
Treasurer	Kay Ahmadi

Motion: Jeannette Lum made a motion to destroy the ballots.

Seconded: Patricia Martin

Carried: Unanimously

October History Month

Virginia advised the members that the event will be held in this office and it is open to both sisters and brothers to come in and learn about the history of women in the labor movement. Our next meeting will be held on October 9, 2014. The poster will be sent out next week and we will display on the wall a history of women in the labor movement and discuss Childcare Campaign.

25th Anniversary Event for Victoria RWC

Virginia advised the committee members that November 7, 2014 will be 25 years since the Victoria Regional Women’s Committee was duly constituted. Virginia indicated she has sent emails to the national and region to obtain any information on the Victoria Women’s Committee, history of the committee, but was advised all documents have been destroyed. National has not been able to locate anything at this point.

Connie and Vanessa are the organizing committee. Connie advised the committee that they could try to get a MLA to talk about political action and childcare. Vanessa said we could get Carol James and arrange a potluck for that evening.

Connie asked if we could get some funding from the political action fund. Virginia said if they plan the childcare kitchen table conversation, there is a budget for that, she needs Connie's and Vanessa's plan and cost so she can submit it to the national and get it approved.

December 6th Planning

This year is the 25th anniversary of the Montreal Massacre. The Victoria Regional Women's Committee held their first Candlelight Vigil on the legislative grounds in 2009. Virginia advised the members that a year and half ago she submitted a business proposal to the city of Victoria to install a permanent memorial for the anniversary and recently it was approved. This will be a place where women that are facing violence on a daily basis can go to and potentially get some strength and hopefully one day get out of the situation which they are in. A business proposal was submitted to the REVP office to request financial assistance with the event.

Virginia has been working with the Coalition for Gun Control out in Montreal for the last five years and originally we were going to get Anne-Marie Edward's mother to come out but due to age, she has respectfully declined. Virginia spoke with the Coalition and they put her in touch with the sister of Maud Haviernick (one of the victims) Sylvie and her brother Laurent. Virginia has been communicating with them for the last eight months and Sylvie has arranged for her brother to be a guest speaker at our event this year. The proposal to the REVP office was to get funding to cover his airfare and accommodation and help pay for the monument. Originally we had enough money put aside for it but due to the cost of the other events we do not have enough money. Virginia will be sending out donation request letter to all locals & committees next week, so she can get in touch with Laurent to finalize his attendance.

Virginia is also writing a letter to the general manager of one of the large hotels in downtown to see if she can get them to comp this room for us or give us a discounted price.

The posters for the event have already been done and ready to go to print. We now need to pay to print them. The pamphlet has been updated to show the location of the venue and we are now working to get the time due to the truck light event that is on the same day. Virginia has contacted the event organizer to see if they can delay, change, move the event and they advised her they cannot, therefore we need to hold our event earlier (i.e. 4pm) so it is finished before the truck lights event goes past our location. Committee agrees to send pamphlet and poster for printing so we can start the distribution.

Childcare campaign – Kitchen Table Conversations

Nationally they are doing a rethink childcare campaign. You can check it out at www.rethinkchildcare.ca. Each Women's coordinator and women's committee across Canada is to be working on kitchen table conversations around the Rethinkchildcare campaign. Virginia will be working with members in Nanaimo to help put on an event in their area and maybe our

November 7th event could be utilized to provide info on the campaign but the goal is to get the word out and make it an election issue for 2015.

Term of Reference

Virginia is working with the subcommittee and is looking for a volunteer from Victoria to sit on the subcommittee, which is meeting in Vancouver meets on September 18, 2014. Connie volunteered to be on the subcommittee.

Round Table

BCFED Human Rights and Women's Rights Standing Committees - There will be a weekend CoDev-organized retreat with partner Guatemalan women's rights and musical activist Sandra Moran on Gambier Island September 26-28, 2014.

4th Annual Childcare Policy Conference – Will be held in Winnipeg on November 13 to 15, 2014 and Virginia will be attending the event on behalf of PSAC.

Fall and Winter Education Schedule – Now out and on the PSAC website.

Deanna administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected executive.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm