

West Fraser Valley Area Council Minutes

Knight and Day Restaurant, June 23, 2014 at 6:00 PM

Present: Johann Ackermann- President (UTE 20029), Jeremy Amor – Vice President (UTE 20029), Angela Marafon (UTE 20029), Bob Jackson (PSAC – REVP/Local 20044), Richard Hyatt (UTE 20050), Michael Small (UTE 20029), Sandy Kincek (CEUI 20910), Phil Carriere (USGE 20011), Monique Bakker (UEW 20147), Melodi Dolinski (USGE 20011), Tracy Bestland (USGE 20011),

Guest: David Grant (UTE 20007)

Regrets: Jennifer Chieh Ho (UNE 20088), Heather Kenny (UTE 20029), Robert Strang – PSAC representative

Approval of the agenda: M/S by Richard/Monique to accept the agenda as amended - carried

Approval of the previous minutes: M/S Bob/Jeremy to accept the previous minutes as amended - carried

Financial report: updates since last meeting, a cheque was issued for Regina's retirement gift and we received dues from CEIU 20910 with \$10, 251 cash in bank. Outstanding dues for Agriculture 20044, UEW 20147 and if FNTSO is to affiliate that would be UTE 20007. Michael asked for a geographical listing of all locals that could potentially affiliate to our WFVAC residing or working in this area. Bob asked Michael to contact the regional office for this information.

Education officer's report: Jennifer Chieh Ho was unavailable to be at the meeting either in person or on the phone due to a personal issue. Nothing was reported.

Email communication, minutes of meetings, financial statements, agenda notices, reporting to REVP office: Angela asked if there could be some consistency with having the minutes, agenda, and financial statements being sent out together prior to the meeting. It was discussed that the minutes went out June 4th but no agenda or f/s and it is frustrating to get to the meeting and then have to read over documents. It was discussed that this could be added to the bylaws to have a permanent record as this has been requested in the past several times. Also a reminder about our obligations of sending the minutes (once approved) to the REVP office along with the required financial documentation (all is outlined in a document from REVP office)

Also, Angela requested to come up with one email addressing to be consistent and to ensure no one is missing from communications or incorrect email addresses being used and the list is up to date and not have anyone on the list that are no longer in the area due to WFA. The secretary, president and regional representative all have different email listings. It was mentioned that there was a correction made to an invalid email address and that no one was taken off the list unless they were asked if they wanted to be but this did not happen to one member and it is important to ensure accurate email lists. Bob suggested that Johann as the president, work together with the regional office to have one set up that can be used by all to ensure communication is accurate now.

ACTION: Johann will contact the regional office and set up a proper email listing as stated above, by the next meeting.

Meeting time change: There was some discussion at the March meeting about changing the times of the meetings from 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm but there was not a motion made to change it nor was there consultation to the entire council to request it. After much discussion as it appeared that only one or two people wanted it changed to a later time slot, that an email go out to all members for a vote for the next meeting date and time slot. There was discussion that there are only 4 meetings per year to attend, perhaps changing their schedule, request LWOP for a half hour in order to make it to the meetings, or relocating the meeting to somewhere else in the geographical area at alternating meetings could be considered. The 5:30 time slot had been working before so we need to look at options to consider everyone's needs.

ACTION: Johann will send out an email with dates and times to have the next meeting.

Political Action(s): We discussed the following points:

- 1- Municipal elections are coming up and if anyone wanted to speak to any of the candidates we should be asking them to attend our meeting.
- 2- PSAC and BC Federation has endorsed people seeking elections in the past and continue to do so now.
- 3- Bob stated that the Conservatives will try to float a surplus budget in May and then call an election sometime shortly thereafter. He noted it is critical for us to mobilize our members and make them aware of the issues including the services and cuts to public services.
- 4- Bob noted that there is a list on the regional website with a listing of some of the service cuts that we can use to notify the members.
- 5- The question was raised does PSAC fund any candidates by providing donations for flyers etc. The response was that it is more that they offer the services of some of the members of PSAC to be callers on their teams. However that is done all on the members on time.
- 6- Next Johann talked out the political action summit that was held in Richmond that both of Johann and Sandy attended. Sandy reported that they talked about suggestions on how to approach Members of Parliament in regards to a letter writing campaign and also meeting with the members and how lobbying should be done. Johann also indicated that they talked about using letters to the editor in particular on the day in which the media item came up and I also talked about media interviews and how to handle those when you're being interviewed by the media. Apparently PSAC has a package for meeting with MP's suggestions were to use flash cards to keep yourself on point, then they went into small group sessions to do some practice.

BC Convention: It was noted that Bob was re-elected and that Jamey Mills was elected as the alternate. Johann was elected as an alternate geographic coordinator however due to Jennifer being elected as the racially visible coordinator her position of the regional geographic coordinator for our area was relinquished and Johann sits in that position now. Bob recognized all of the hard work that Kristen, Patrick and Luc did for the regional convention. Bob noted that all of the regional conventions are completed except for Saskatoon.

CLC: It was noted that Jen's report has been emailed out and if anyone has any questions to email Jennifer or Johann.

ACTION: Copy of this report should be attached to the minutes when sending in to REVP office.

Surrey Pride Festival AND Fusion festival: It was noted that Jennifer is looking for volunteers for both of them there was discussion on the events and the success from prior years so that those who are present at the meeting today had an idea of what was going on in the past. No motion was put forth for funding either event.

Roundtable:

Phil will not be in town around the time of the Pride Festival. Bob talked about how important it would be for us to go back and get our members signed up to receive the information from the regional website. Monique talked about her local having a contact list to disseminate information. She also talked about how her office has lunch and learn sessions and finds that they are more useful in her local rather than evening sessions as most people are unavailable in the evening. Michael talked about his suggested by law changes and that they had been emailed out to the president. He talked about the two bylaw changes that he had suggested and asked that everyone review the bylaw changes before our next meeting which will be the annual general meeting in September.

ACTION: Johann to send out the bylaw changes to the council prior to the next meeting.

Motion to reimburse \$45 for day care coverage to attend this meeting: M/S Phil/Sandy - carried

Motion to pay for the food: M/S Michael/Phil \$191.29 - carried

Next meeting date and time to be determined by email vote The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.