

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION KINGSWAY BRANCH #175
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING
TUESDAY 18 AUGUST 2020

The President opened the meeting by ritual at 7:00 p.m. Comrade Fecteau chaired the meeting.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Comrades Wills, Kuerver, Forner, Wills C, Deugau, Earles, R. Torrie, Wiebe, Huziek, Fecteau, Criss, Werner

Guests:

Excused: Comrades: O'Brien (personal), Hunter (vac), Ferguson (sick), Kerel (sick)

Absent:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>LAST POST</u>	<u>DECEASED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
JASMIN, Lise	75		31 July/2020	

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING DATED: 21 JULY 2020

Motion: To accept the minutes was made by Comrade Forner

Seconded by Comrade Kuervers

ERRORS OR OMISSIONS:

BUSINESS ARISING:

Motion: To adopt the minutes was made by Comrade Earles

Seconded by Comrade Deugau

CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE: Comrade Forner reported: As per the presented Financial statements. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Kuervers

CARRIED

WAYS AND MEANS: Comrade Criss reported the following: received approval for \$4,000 from New Horizons grant to purchase 4 new laptops. We were turned down for the CIP Project base grant as we did not have matching funds to apply to it. CFEP grant will be due in September so will be working on that Will also apply for the CIP small fund grant, even though we are low priority still have a slight chance.

Been following up on doing an online 50/50. If successful will be going to online raffles over the COVID era and possibly continuing after that. Do have a few new raffle ideas in the works catered more to our members so stay tuned as they become available.

The BBQ chicken dinner has 40 tickets sold for Friday night and 18 for Saturday night.

Bingos are going as well as to be expected for what has been going on with COVID. Still looking for volunteers for bingos. For those that wish to volunteer please contact myself Steve Criss at 780 278 1263 or by email at steve.criss@kingswaylegion.ca I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Earles

CARRIED

MEMBERSHIP: Comrade C. Wills reported that we have 1211 members

Ordinary	Associate	Affiliate	Life Members
473	391	321	25

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Wiebe

CARRIED

NEW MEMBERS: New applications: 5 0 Transfers: 0 1 Reinstatement: 1

New

Ordinary

Wreen, Andrew

Associate

Wiebe, Ashley

Affiliate

WIRACHOWSKY, Jeannine
ANDERSON, Gerald
PRESTON, Debbie

Reinstate

WALSH, Todd

For a total of 6

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Deugau

CARRIED

Motion: Comrade C. Wills moves that we accept these individuals for processing into our Branch.

Seconded by Comrade Deugau

CARRIED

PUBLICITY: Comrade Wills reported I am behind on the website, however, it will be updated by tomorrow. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Forner

CARRIED

SPORTS: Comrade Ferguson was absent due to illness. Comrade C. Wills read her report. I have submitted the Host Information Sheets to the District Commander at which time he replied letting me know that the Command Sports are on hold again for the time being. He will keep me posted. I still need to submit the map and hotels to our information sheet. As soon as I am able, I will get these to the District Commander.

Had a meeting with the Friday Night Shuffleboard President on Saturday August 15, 2020 to address her concerns and issues. Comrades Fecteau and Kuervers were in attendance with me. Thank you, Comrades. I so move the report.

Seconded by: Comrade Torrie

CARRIED

Addendum to Comrade Ferguson's report, Comrade Kuervers reported the Friday Night Shuffleboard stated they do not mind the boards the way they are, and we concluded the meeting.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Comrade R. Torrie reported I have received no complaints. All I am hearing is that it is cold in the Canteen, even though the air conditioning is correct. Broke another belt on the tractor, but we believe we have the issue solved and will put on a new belt Thursday.

Working on the rose bushes as the trees are interfering with them. The landscapers planted them to close to the cement. Landscaping that was originally completed had to live there for 2 years, once the 2 years is up and if the plants die, we don't have to replace them. I so move my report.

Seconded by: Comrade Deugau

CARRIED

HISTORIAN: Comrade Deugau reported: The British Commonwealth Training plan is partially up. A few more things must be added. Comrade Kuervers and I are working on a display for October – January 2021. 408 Squadron is possible for January 2021 onward. I so move my report.

Seconded by: Comrade Earles

CARRIED

SICK AND VISITING: Comrade Hunter – No Report

ENTERTAINMENT & SPECIAL EVENTS: Comrade Huziek reported: On July 28, we began streaming NHL Hockey games during our hours of operation. Crowd participation for these events has been minimal.

Aug 7, 2020 Pasta Dinner was successful with approximately \$1,200 Gross Revenue. Our entertainer for Aug 7 live streamed his show during the Dinner Hour. He donated his time to Kingsway Legion. The event was well received for what it was, but it was evident the crowd missed the interaction with the entertainer. There were technical issues with the picture and sound.

Our next event is a Parking Lot dance on either Aug 27 or 28. Music by Vinyl Country. The proposal has been submitted to AHS. We should get a reply back by Aug 19 or 20.

As of July 31, 2020, all Tribute Concerts have been refunded with maybe the exception of a couple of ticket holders that want to exchange them for the next show.

Our next ticketed event will be held on Sept 11 and Sept 12. The RJ RADIO SHOW. The Canteen table plan has been re-visited to accommodate the Social Distancing requirements. Our October event has a Hypnotist scheduled for 1 night and a DJ "BEST BY REQUEST" night for the second date on the weekend. A Proposal has been submitted to AHS. Results due back Aug 20. Dates will be finalized once approval received from AHS.

It is strongly felt that we have the correct procedures in place to hold events such as our Tribute Concerts. I will approach AHS again to seek their permission after Aug 22.

During the week of August 24, I will begin signing up the Canteen Bands for 2021 calendar year, if the restrictions are lifted. I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Criss

CARRIED

POPPY: Presented by Comrade O'Brien - No report

POPPY TRUSTEE REPORT: Comrade Wills reported: The Poppy Fund current balance is \$953,153.00. We have supported 95 clients so far this year, handed out \$9520.00 in food vouchers, \$200.00 for medical (specifically ear tests), \$3021.00 for miscellaneous travel and travel emergency, rent \$24,794.00 and Legion and outgoing donations \$14852.00. We have supported 8 clients for total \$8000.00 in bursaries.

Command has approved us with moving forward with ad mail for the campaign. We are on our way for the Poppy drive this year. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Torrie

CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS & BYLAWS: No report

Comrade Wills stated that, we need to need request an amendment to the bylaws for this year due to the Covid19 pandemic. If we don't, no member will be able to meet the criteria for joining the executive.

NOTICE OF MOTION:

Preamble: Due to Covid19, we were not able to hold meetings in Mar, Apr, May, Jun, or Jul. In addition, all Area and District Rallies were cancelled for the year. As a result, none of our branch members will be able to meet the criteria for the upcoming election.

Currently our Bi-laws read:

Article VI, 6.3

(g) Except for new transfers any member aspiring to run for office on the Executive Committee must have attended a minimum of four (4) Branch General Meetings during the 12 full calendar months preceding the October General Meeting in the year of the election.

Motion:

I motion that we excuse the article for this year and amend the criteria to be:

(g) Except for new transfers, any member aspiring to run for office on the Executive Committee must have attended a minimum of two (2) Branch General Meetings during the 12 full calendar months preceding the October General Meeting in the year of the election. In the event that we are not able to hold other General Meeting this year due to Covid19, that the Executive will remain in place for other year.

HONOURS & AWARDS: Comrade Fecteau reported: Since the opening of the Branch 1 June, I have seen many volunteers putting in a tremendous number of hours to ensure that we are in compliance with the AHS regulations for Covid-19. What I do not see is recommendations for awards for these dedicated volunteers. Our comrades just take it for granted that they are giving up their valuable time for something to do. They are giving up this time for the betterment of the Branch. Come on comrades lets show them that we appreciate their efforts by sending me a small write up recommending them for recognition. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Torrie

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE: No report

CADET LIAISON OFFICER: Presented by Comrade Criss – No report

SERVICE OFFICER’S REPORT: Comrade Earles reported: I have assisted three Veterans with five initial disability claims and completed one request for assistance from the Poppy Fund.

Comrade Earles – Vets Villa – they are having a problem with their sewer line; it has been quoted a cost of \$20 – 25,000 for approximately 100 feet. I so move my report.

Seconded by: Comrade Forner

CARRIED

Motion: Client Assistance Request Client 175-19-045, Section 401 – Support to Veteran and Family \$300.00 in grocery cards.

Seconded by: Comrade Torrie

CARRIED

SGT-AT-ARMS: Comrade Kerel – No report

MANAGER’S REPORT: Comrade Werner reported:

From Wedding Wire, we have had 123 people ask for information since Jan 1 but we have only had one person to call back.

The Five (5) bay Buffet Table we are looking at, asking price is \$8180.00 new and \$3000 for used (220 volt). What we really want is a volt new.

The insurance is due on October 1, and Ron is aware of this.

Comrade Kuervers moved the report.

Seconded by Comrade Criss

CARRIED

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT:

Our new App Get In The Loop has reached 64,062 subscribers, but the results have been none to minimal at best. It is our intent to drop this subscription. Our image and branding are still a problem in our effort to attract the younger demographics. Currently, I think it best that we continue to view the legion for what it is and make it a much more viable place with the crowds we do attract and get more of these to attend.

Friday Afternoon Food and Drink specials have good results for July.

Our attendance for the month of July is at 1275 people(300/Week)

I will post a new skin on our Billboards to advertise the RJ RADIO SHOW.

Our Video Project is postponed until later 2021 due to COVID concerns. We are instead being invited to 30 second free commercials for the Legion on TANG RADIO.

Canteen tables have been reset to Social Distancing requirements. We should observe the seating plans that have been set up. In the event of Sports Events such as Darts, we can remove or temporarily reset the tables to accommodate the event and place back after the event.

Our ticketed events will be pre-sold on the "Bubble or Co-Hort" concept and the seating requirements will be adjusted accordingly.

I recommend that we save all the rectangular tables in the Canteen for future use in the Ballrooms. The table design is better suited to provide the social distancing we need for Covid and for better facility utilization for our concerts.

Our new tables will be delivered on August 24th, in the Maple Leaf Room. We can store the large round tables in the storage room and set up the new tables. The new tables will make it easier to set up according to AHS for any functions. I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Earles

CARRIED

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Comrade Wills reported:

Motion: I move that we allot \$570.00 for the standard ad that we put in the Military Service Recognition Book.

Seconded by Comrade Kuervers

CARRIED

Comrade Wills advised the Executive his feelings about the membership attending Executive. Unless you submit a request one week prior to the meeting and it is approved you will not be able to attend the meeting.

During the General Meetings we open the floor for the Good and Welfare this is specifically for the membership to express their views or bring up items. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Kuervers

CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS:

Comrade Kuervers reported we re-signed the mortgage, as discussed at the last meeting. We were not able to negotiate a better rate but we still received a much better rate the pre covid.

We were able to increase the overdraft, we added the old overdraft to the mortgage and increased the overdraft by double. It is not our intent we do not use the entire overdraft.

Comrade Wills reported we are due for a letter of authority, as ours expires in January. We will be applying for a new letter of authority as soon as possible.

Hours – we are not getting the number of people we thought would be coming back to the Legion. We are still at 40 mark on average per day, 55 – 60 on a Friday night. Saturday is very low, especially after the meat draw. There is no one here in the evening.

I do not think we should change the hours at all. Hopefully in September, people will be coming back, we are starting our Pool, Shuffleboard and Dart teams in September. But all teams must abide by AHS rules, social distancing and masks must be worn.

Comrade Wills has suggested that we attach a copy of our reply to the Friday Night Shuffleboard to these minutes, so that members can see we did not ignore them we answered their complaint.

The Veteran's Association Food Bank, Comrade Wills discussed this with Command and this was their response. The Veteran's Association Food Bank is a Calgary organization which we do not encourage engagement with. Unfortunately, key players in the said organization were responsible for accusing the Legion of many falsehoods in the media, removing confidential information from the Calgary Branch Poppy Office and used the Legion Poppy Campaign to gardening funds by which misrepresenting themselves. We did not take legal action due to cost of litigation. So, based on that statement we will not be dealing with Veteran's Association Food Bank.

Camera's – Comrade Kuervers reported we have 3 camera's that are down at least 2 for positive are down the 1 in the ballroom may be repairable. I have a quote for \$295 each from a reliable company, they are prepared to come in and quote the entire system after the fact, so it would be the same camera's we hope to buy.

Motion: Comrade Kuervers spend up to a \$1,000 to replace the damaged cameras
Seconded by Comrade Earles

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD & WELFARE OF KINGSWAYS BRANCH # 175

Comrade Wiebe has officially retired. I did have the names of a couple of members who are ill but unable to visit because of Covid19.

Comrade Criss – we need the Executive members to volunteer to work the table. Our volunteers are constantly reassigning up for shifts. I feel Executives should show that we are there for to do our hours as well.

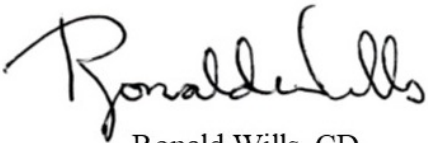
Comrade Kuervers – I want to say “Thank You” to all the executives for their help in keeping the Legion going. Especially our President, Comrade Ron Wills for the hours not only in the Legion, but for the hours at home spent researching and finding funds for this Legion to keep it running.

We are looking for volunteers for the BBQ dinner on Sept 11th and 12th.

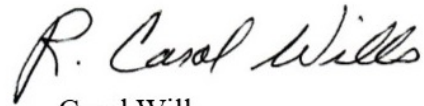
Motion: To adjourn was made by Comrade Torrie

The President closed the meeting by ritual.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.



Ronald Wills, CD
President
Kingsway Legion Br. # 175



Carol Wills
Executive Secretary
Kingsway Legion Br. # 175

July 22, 2020

Good day members of the Shuffleboard League,

I am writing to you in response to the letter dated 9 July from Marge Wyatt in concerning the movement of one shuffleboard table, after it was discussed during the Executive Meeting on 21 July 2020.

Let me first state that this decision was made by the Executive, with no input from any of the three shuffleboard leagues. The decision to move the shuffleboard was based on a couple of factors:

1. There has in recent years, been a growing concern by shuffleboard players about the pool players continually using the shuffleboard tables as a place to lean despite many requests not to do so;
2. The Friday Night League has expressed their concern about the location of the table used for collecting admission fees for the Friday Night Dance and how it limits their movement;
3. The impediment of other Legion members trying to get to the bar when entering the canteen; and
4. In accordance with AHS Guidelines regarding COVID19, we are not allowed to use both tables (as they were located) at the same time.

The Executive did not make this decision lightly.

On a trial basis, we decided to move one table in hope that it would eliminate these issues. In December 2020 or January 2021, a decision will be required as to the whether or not to keep the current setup, change it back to the way it was, or relocate the tables elsewhere. If social distancing rules are still in place, the decision will be delayed accordingly.

I would now like to address some of Marge's comments/concerns in the letter.

Marge mentioned that sitting together was a benefit that would be lost if the tables are kept the way they currently are. In accordance with AHS Guidelines during the COVID19 emergency, we are restricted to a maximum of six people to a table and those members sitting at the tables must be a minimum of 6' from other tables. That means we need a clearance of 10' between tables to meet that requirement, and the canteen has already been adjusted for this. Based on the guidelines, your group will need a minimum of four tables. We acknowledge that this will make communicating with anyone that is not at the table next to you very difficult, however, due to the circumstances, all of our sports leagues and the members themselves will be forced to adapt. When we are able to return the canteen to the normal configuration, we will continue to reserve tables for your use.

It was also identified that it would make the Draw Master's job more difficult. Based on standard Legion Shuffleboard sports practices, we do not understand your concern. Normally, the players would still be sitting at the table until their name is called. The players then go to the respective table and begin to play. Once the game is over the players report to the Draw Master with their score or loss/ win status.

In addition, you also mentioned that “for the last several years enjoyed the comraderie of sitting near each other and having a lot of fun. This is hard to do when we are not in the same vicinity. Couples sit together but do not play as partners so splitting up the shuffleboard table play times would certainly not be doable.” The league would still be sitting together or as close as they can within the AHS restrictions.

You should also know, that in an effort to increase attendance, we have also moved Fri/Sat night dances to the Maple Room. This is due to reports from the staff and the executive that members are coming to the dance and leaving because there are no available seats. Once again, this is contingent upon COVID19 restrictions being lifted and will be considered on a trial basis. In the event that the Maple Room is already booked for a function that can help the branch raise additional funds, the dance move back to the canteen for that night. As a side benefit, the admission table will not be required, allowing for easier movement by shuffleboard players.

We know that the change was a bit of a shock but we are asking that you give the new layout a try before condemning it.

In addition, in an email addressed to Gary Forner, a member of the Executive, dated 17 July 2020, Marge stated “**If the relocation of one of the boards stays as it is, there will be no league in the future.**”

As for not renewing your membership in December if the layout is not returned to the previous configuration, you should know that that is your decision, but we will not be making decisions about our Legion based on threats, but as a matter of business and safety for all members.

It is our belief that the benefits of being a Legion member would outweigh any minor frustrations you may feel on this matter. If you wish to discuss this further, we encourage you to contact the undersigned at your convenience in writing.

Yours in comradeship,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald Wills". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'R'.

Ronald Wills, CD
President
Kingsway Legion Branch # 175