

**Fraser Valley Area Council
Annual General Meeting Minutes**

2015-02-11

Rendezvous Restaurant
3280 Mt Lehman Rd, Abbotsford

Executive In attendance:

Brother Melvin Dureen – President, (USGE 20054)
Brother Antony Paller – Vice-President, (Agriculture 20044)
Brother Ken Easton – 2nd Vice-President, (USGE 2B086)
Sister Nancy Burton – Treasurer, (CSC RVP, NAPC Female Rep)
Sister Sue Wilmshurst – Secretary, (USGE 20091)

PSAC BC Regional Guests:

Luc Guevermont – PSAC Vancouver Regional Office
Jessica Kerek – PSAC Vancouver Regional Office

Membership Guests:

Kirsty Havard – USGE 20091
Kerri Grzechnik – USGE 20091
Deanne Davies – USGE 20091
Jayne Johns – USGE 2B086
Sylvia McDonnell – USGE 2B086
Celine Ahodekon – ~~USGE 20278~~ *USGE 20278*
Barb Turmann – USGE 20040

Meeting called to order at 5:05 pm
Quorum met

1. Welcome to members

A warm welcome was given to all attendees, by FVAC President Melvin Dureen and Luc Guervermont from the PSAC BC Regional Office, with a thanks to all the locals for their efforts in sharing the invitation to attend with their members.

2. Minutes from previous AGM reviewed

The minutes from last year's AGM, held on February 19, 2014 were reviewed and accepted.

Motion to accept as presented – Sister Sue Wilmshurst

Seconded – Brother Antony Paller

Carried

3. Presidents Report

President Melvin Dureen reported on some of the activities the FVAC has engaged in over the past year, noting that it has been a very busy year with bargaining and conventions. The FVAC experienced some challenges with our current bylaws, which prevented us from securing a delegate to the National Convention. There are portions of our bylaws that will need to be

amended in order to align them with the PSAC bylaws, and will be reviewed later during this meeting. President Dureen commented that it is a very busy time for Area Councils and their Locals. He urged the Local Executives in attendance to share information with their members and maintain communication with the FVAC to strengthen solidarity. Everyone was reminded that all General Meetings throughout the year are open for any members from Locals in the East Fraser Valley to attend. Invitations with the meeting dates and locations are provided to the locals in advance, and attendance is encouraged.

4. Financial Report

Sister Nancy Burton reported the FVAC bank balance to be \$1002.31 as of January 2015. It was noted that there were some outstanding receivables from PSAC National that have yet to arrive. Sister Nancy reviewed the 2015 budget (attached), which is in line with the 2014 budget and had no significant changes.

Motion to accept Financial Report as presented – Sister Jayne Johns

Seconded – Brother Antony Paller

Carried

5. Elections

Sister Susan Wilmshurst announced with regret that she must step down from the position as Secretary. As such, the position of Secretary for a 1 year term was added to the election call. Elections were facilitated by PSAC BC Regional Office representative, Luc Guervermont, with the following results:

1st Vice-President:

Brother Ken Easton accepted his nomination forwarded by Sister Jayne Johns and seconded by Sister Sylvia McDonnell.

Brother Antony Paller declined his nomination forwarded by Sister Sue Wilmshurst and seconded by Brother Melvin Dureen.

Brother Ken Easton was elected 1st Vice-President by acclamation, for a 2 year term.

2nd Vice-President:

Brother Antony Paller accepted his nomination forwarded by Sister Jayne Johns and seconded by Sister Kirsty Havard.

Brother Antony Paller was elected 2nd Vice-President by acclamation, for a 2 year term.

Treasurer

Sister Nancy Burton accepted her nomination forwarded by Brother Melvin Dureen and seconded by Brother Antony Paller.

Sister Sylvia McDonnell declined her nomination forwarded by Sister Jayne Johns and seconded by Brother Ken Easton.

Sister Nancy Burton was elected Treasurer by acclamation, for a 2 year term.

Secretary:

Sister Jayne Johns declined her nomination forwarded by Brother Melvin Dureen and seconded by Sister Nancy Burton.

Sister Sylvia McDonnell accepted her nomination forwarded by Sister Jayne Johns and seconded by Sister Sue Wilmshurst.

Sister Sylvia McDonnell was elected Secretary by acclamation, for a 1 year term.

6. Bylaw Amendments

Brother Melvin Dureen reviewed the sections of our current bylaws, which need to be amended to align with the PSAC National bylaws relating to Area Councils. Following the discussion, Brother Melvin Dureen agreed to draft the wording for the revisions and have been attached to these minutes. The bylaws noting the proposed amendments will be posted for membership review a minimum of 14 days in advance of the next General Meeting, at which time voting will take place.

Motion to table voting on bylaws to the next General Meeting – Sister Jayne Johns

Second – Brother Ken Easton

Carried

7. Bargaining Update

Brother Melvin Dureen provided an update on the bargaining discussions, stating the unwavering strategy of all bargaining teams is to stand together during negotiations, and maintain the collective agreement to not engage in any discussions surrounding sick leave. He said the teams enter and leave discussions together, and frequently meet with each other to discuss options and willingness to vote. Recent discussions forwarded by PSAC and the other bargaining teams have focused primarily on issues related to wellness, and amending language in the CA's around Work Force Adjustment. There is a commitment to try and provide updates earlier in the week, when negotiations are in session. All members are encouraged to review the PSAC websites regularly and share information with your colleagues.

8. Education Update

Jessica Kerek is the Acting Regional Education Coordinator while Janelle Ho-Shing is away. She advised that the TUB courses have been postponed to either late spring or early fall. There will be a Grievance Handling course in April in Abbotsford. Members are reminded to check the PSAC BC website for upcoming courses that may be posted for the Fraser Valley.

9. Round table

Brother Antony Paller provided an update from the CFIA bargaining team, stating the Treasury Board's offer of 5% each year is unacceptable, and they too refuse any discussions on sick leave.

Our Regional Mobilization Coordinator, Sister Kirsty Havard commented that the February 19th awareness initiative was well received at her local (USGE 20091), and reminded everyone to send in any photos they have of their monthly "19th" events to Patrick Bragg for posting on the website. She also reminded the members in attendance to assist with the ongoing Site-Mapping exercise, by encouraging their locals and colleagues to provide their work location, classification and home contact information to their Executive to prepare for the fast dissemination of information should that need arise.

Regional Office rep. Luc Guervermont reminded attendees the events focused on the 19th of each month are intended to bring attention to the October 19th election, and to remind all candidates we are standing together in solidarity. He encourages all components and locals to participate.

Sister Sue Wilmshurst thanked the FVAC for their support during her 1 year as Secretary, and said she will continue to assist where and when she can.

10. Next General Meeting

Date and location to be determined.

Motion to adjourn meeting – Sister Jayne Johns

Seconded – Sister Sylvia McDonnell

Carried

Meeting adjourned at – 6:57pm

Original signed by Melvin Dureen

Original signed by Sue Wilmshurst



President – Melvin Dureen



Secretary – Sue Wilmshurst

2015.04 08
Date

2015-04-09
Date