

B.C. SENIOR LIBERALS' COMMISSION EXECUTIVE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, June 8, 2016, 1:15 pm

LPCBC OFFICES--#460, 580 HORNBY STREET, VANCOUVER, B.C.

Minutes of Meeting

1.0 Call to Order and Role Call

1.1 Present: David Wallace (Chair)

Gail Rochester Paul Stanwood Rabi Alam Jean Lewandowski
Luke Lewandowski Peggy Stewart Ken Halliday Judith Berg

1.2 Identify Members Participating by Telephone

Doug McDonald Christine Blackburn Judy Berg

LPCBC staff members Kristina Maria Cote, Senior Field Manager and
Francesca McDowell, Field Organizer were introduced.

2.0 Review and Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted as circulated with the additions of **5.11 Conduct of Conference Calls; change 7.0 to 6.0 and 6.0 to 7.0 Discussion Item: Pharmacare, Live-In Caregiver Program.**

3.0 Review and Adoption of the Minutes of the April 13, 2016 Executive Meeting

*It was moved by Paul Stanwood and seconded by Judith Berg that the Minutes of Executive Meeting of May 11, 2016 as circulated be adopted with correction to **4.3***

Action: Judy Higginbotham corrected to Judy Berg.

Carried

4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes:

4.1 Seniors' Liaison Ottawa

Ken Halliday reported that Deborah Schulte, Chair of the Seniors Caucus will be our Seniors' Liaison person in Ottawa.

4.2 COSCO (Council of Senior Citizens' Organization of B.C.) Update

See attachment #1 for Don Currie's report.

4.3 Caregivers Coming to Canada--Ministry of Immigration

Ken Halliday reported that the Ministry involved is the Ministry of Employment and that he will get a contact person in that Ministry. **Action: Ken Halliday**

See attachment #2.

It was moved by Doug McDonald and seconded by Ken Halliday that the SLCBC Executive create an ad-hoc committee to develop a background paper pertaining to the Live-In Caregiver program that can form the basis of a letter to the appropriate ministers in the Trudeau government, that will ultimately be supported by the SLC National Executive. Carried

It was moved by Doug McDonald and seconded by Ken Halliday that Doug McDonald be appointed chair of the ad-hoc committee and that Elaine Olson, Judy Berg, Jean Lewandowski and a representative of the Association of Caregivers and Nannies be appointed as members to the committee. Action: Doug McDonald Carried

4.4 Seniors Clubs--Update--Membership (Liaison)

David Wallace spoke to the importance of emphasizing that the Seniors Commission is a political organization--an organization of the Liberal Party of Canada. When anyone expresses an interest in forming a Seniors (Elders) Club, this information should be passed on to Judy Higginbotham.

Seniors Clubs--Update--Membership (Liaison) to be brought forward to next meeting.

4.5 Appointment of a New Senior's Rep, Nanaimo-Ladysmith Helen Shaw

It was moved by Doug McDonald and seconded by Judith Berg that Helen Shaw be appointed Senior Liberals' Commission of BC Representative for the riding of Nanaimo-Ladysmith. Carried

4.6 Web Master, Social Media Coordinator/Reporter

David Wallace reported that he has discussed with Luke Lewandowski the issue of the SLCBC website--**federalslcbc.ca**. Luke has recommended that he assume responsibility for set-up of website and that Jean Lewandowski be responsible for ongoing maintenance of the website. Luke further recommended that a blog be installed on website page. Jean stated that she will start by posting to the blog the Minutes of our Executive Meetings January to May, 2016 and she asks all to review the website and forward to her suggestions, comments and current items of interest to be posted to the website including any documents on Seniors Clubs. David Wallace thanked Luke and Jean for assuming the work involved in our website.

Action: Luke, Jean Lewandowski and All

5.0 New Business/Outreach Planning

5.1 President's Report

David Wallace reported that resignations have been received from Lisa Kallstrom, Riding Rep for Vancouver Centre and Darlene Hyde, Director at Large (Coquitlam).

5.2 Vice-President's Report--Delta Seniors' Week

See attachment #3. Rabi Alam reported that seniors groups in the Delta riding (North & South Delta, Ladner and Tsawwassen) are sponsoring a Senior Week June 6-12. With encouragement from our Riding Rep, Evelyn Funk, 12 Delta Elders are gathering friends and going to events on the Saturday and on Sunday to the Shriners Salmon Barbeque with the intent to establish new networks and reinforce existing ones.

Rabi also reported that the Delta Elders are planning for a townhall meeting during the week of November 7, 2016.

5.3 The Winnipeg Convention, May 26-28

David Wallace and Ken Halliday reported that the revised Liberal Party Constitution was passed by a sizeable majority. The Constitution will come into effect on January 1, 2017 and no action is required of us on this issue at this time.

Ken Halliday pointed out that the National Senior Liberals' Commission Constitution which was also passed at the Winnipeg Convention will be the basis for the bylaws that will come into effect January 1, 2017. At this point there is no reason to examine the provincial/territorial SLC Constitution. These can only be changed at a biennial convention.

As to EDAs, they will also be subject to LPC bylaws. Ken expects that the National Board of Directors will appoint a Committee comprised of people from across Canada familiar with EDA operations. Nothing needs to be done until a Committee and process has been identified.

5.4 Policy Chair Report "Winnipeg", Policy Development

Doug McDonald spoke to his report--see attachment #4.

5.5 New Constitution National & New Constitution SLC

See item 5.3 above.

5.6 By-Laws--Based on Current SLCBC Constitution

See item 5.3 above.

5.7 Senior Riding Reps Initial Responsibilities--Represent SLCBC to Your EDA & Encourage Formation of Elders' (Seniors') Groups

David Wallace stressed the importance of Senior Riding Reps working closely with the riding EDA and to concentrate on listening, encouraging and assisting seniors to participate in riding activities and to form Seniors (Elders) Club in the riding .

5.8 Directors at Large: If no Current Responsibilities Other Than EDA, What Would You Like To Do?

Deferred to next meeting.

5.9 Table Officers' Reports

Sharon Apsey, Director at Large Lower Vancouver Island, reported that she hopes to have a meeting with the identified Riding Reps from the three ridings--Victoria, Saanich-Gulf Islands and Esquimalt-Saanich-Sooke-- to get a plan organized hopefully for the coming fall.

5.10 Riding Reps Reports

Stephen Smith, North Vancouver, reported that at the first meeting of the new EDA a discussion took place on the idea of establishing a Seniors Club in North Vancouver. The preference of the executive is to make it a regional "North Shore" Club. He will liaise with the Riding Reps from West Vancouver, and Burnaby North- Seymour to investigate this possibility. He is working with the Membership Chair to get a list of senior members in the riding.

Diann Condie-Smallman, Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge, reported on recent EDA meeting held to select delegates for the Convention together with an update from MP Dan Ruimy and Khalida Ali, Dan's Constituency Office Assistant. Both Dan and Khalida are very enthusiastic and I feel confident that in the coming months we will have more happening in an outreach and building mode in the riding. Dan is very much out and about in the community whenever he is not in Ottawa.

Judy Berg reported that the Kelowna-Lake Country EDA will be hosting a full caucus meeting in July. There will be a reception and dinner with Laurier Club members and the caucus. Judy requested that handouts available on Seniors Clubs be forwarded to her.

Action: Judy Higginbotham

Evelyn Funk stated that the EDA in her riding was being asked to stage a townhall meeting and being asked to cover the cost of the meeting. Evelyn would like to know what is happening in other EDAs.

Report from Peggy Stewart--see attachment #5

5.11 Conduct of Conference Calls

Ken Halliday volunteered to draft a protocol for conduct of our conference calls at our Executive Meetings. This item will be brought forward to the next meeting.

Action: Ken Halliday

6.0 Adjournment and Next Meeting

It was moved by Rabi Alam and seconded by Jean Lewandowski that the meeting adjourn at 3:10 pm. and that the next meeting be held on September 14, 2016. Carried

Next Meeting: second Wednesday in September--September 14, 2016

1:15 to 3:15 pm, LPCBC Office, #460--580 Hornby Street, Vancouver, B.C.

7.0 Discussion: Pharmacare, Live-In Caregiver Program

On the discussion of Pharmacare, it was agreed to gather data and background information on existing models starting with Pharmacare in B.C. Jean Lewandowski will chair a committee composed of Gail Rochester, Peggy Stewart and Paul Stanwood to gather information and report on findings at next meeting. **Action: Jean Lewandowski**

Pat Kermeen noted that a national plan would save millions of dollars--to determine exact estimate, contact the Pharmacy department at U. Vic. A significant problem with Pharmacare in B.C. is that people do not know about it and everyone needs to sign up for it even if one is covered at work. All companies have limits and when one is over the limit, one needs to access the provincial plan. It takes a month or two to get on to the provincial plan, so one needs to get on the plan before one needs it. It should be noted that the Municipal Pension Plan has recently sent out notices to members that the Plan will no longer cover dental as of January 1, 2017.

On Live-In Caregiver Program, Doug McDonald is chairing a committee on this matter composed of Judy Berg, Elaine Olson, and Jean Lewandowski. The committee will report at the next meeting. See Agenda item 4.3 above. **Action: Doug McDonald**