

B.C. SENIOR LIBERALS' COMMISSION EXECUTIVE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, September 14, 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: Rabi Alam (Chair)

Gail Rochester Jean Lewandowski Elaine Olson Stephen Smith
Luke Lewandowski Peggy Stewart Ken Halliday Alan Lowe

1.2 Identify Members Participating by Telephone

Doug McDonald Christine Blackburn Helen Shaw Judith Higginbotham
Sharon Apsey

Many apologies to those calling by telephone that the correct phone number was not given to you prior to the meeting. In future a check will be done with LPCBC staff as to the current phone number prior to the Agenda being sent out.

1.3 *It was moved by Ken Halliday and seconded by Helen Shaw that a Letter of Thanks for his tenure as President be sent to David Wallace. Carried*

Action: Ken Halliday, Rabi Alam, Gail Rochester

2.0 Review and Adoption of Agenda for September 14, 2016 Meeting

The Agenda was adopted as circulated with the additions of 1.3 Letter of Thanks, 3.1 Omit, 7.1 Defer, 7.2 Defer, 7.3 Defer, 7.4 Omit, 8.3 Omit, 8.5 Defer 8.7 Gail Rochester to report.

3.0 Review and Adoption of the Minutes of the June 8, 2016 Executive Meeting

It was moved by Ken Halliday and seconded by Luke Lewandowski that the Minutes of Executive Meeting of June 8, 2016 as circulated be adopted with correction to item 4.6, page 3, 5th line should read "Jean stated that she will start by posting to the web".

Carried

3.1 President's Report, Tri-Cities/Maple Ridge Visit of Min. Marc Garneau

Omit

4.0 Report on the State of the By-Laws and New Constitution

Ken Halliday spoke to the bylaw submission by the SLC and the Timeline for the Bylaw.

See attached Bylaw Submission by SLC

See attached Timeline for Bylaw

Ken Halliday reported that he anticipates receiving a draft bylaw in October for our input. There will be a relatively quick turn-around on input so each Section may have to call a quick meeting to gather input. To help the process we will circulate the matters (subjects and not the exact wording) that will be included in the Procedure Manual beforehand. The bylaw together with the Manual will reflect the Commission's role. The bylaw drafters may eliminate some of the working we propose for the bylaw and that will probably mean we will include the deletions in the manual.

Ken Halliday and Luke Lewandowski discussed the idea that our current website be eliminated and replaced by a linkage to the National SLC website which will offer much less functionality. Ken will be pursuing this matter further. **Action: Ken Halliday**

5.0 Vice-President's Report--Meeting with the Hon. Carla Qualtrough

Rabi Alam reported on recent townhall meeting with Minister Qualtrough in the riding of Delta. The Minister and her colleagues are in the process of engaging in a series of town hall meetings with client groups like Seniors to start conversations on effectiveness of programs and services , and new issues that require attention. The Minister outlined current main activities of the government and emphasized the necessity for all ridings to get preparations underway for next election in 2019. She commented that the Government is very aware of seniors and the necessity of spending money on seniors' issues. She stressed that government wants to know what is working and what is not.

Rabi Alam stated that our Commission has 1) a job to do to build grassroots input from town halls to connect with seniors and possibly build group/ clubs of seniors and 2) to determine how we go about preparing for next election. **(Note: be sure to read item 8.1 in these Minutes).**

Sharon Apsey and Helen Shaw stated that there is no appetite for forming senior group/club in their ridings.

Doug McDonald stated that first and foremost the EDA is the centre focus of any riding. Doug proposed a sub-committee be formed to look to the future as to how our Commission will work with EDAs in a more collaborative manner. Ken Halliday stated that this action should be brought forward in 4 months after the whole bylaw issue is resolved.

Action: Gail Rochester bf Agenda Item 4 months

6.0 Report and Many Thanks to the October 1 Senior's Day Lunch Organizers

Gail Rochester reported that to date 9 people have signed up for the luncheon. It was decided to send an email blast to seniors in Vancouver Quadra, Vancouver Centre, Vancouver South, Vancouver Granville, West Vancouver/Sunshine Coast/Sea to Sky Country, North Vancouver and Burnaby North-Seymour inviting seniors to the luncheon.

Action: Gail Rochester

7.0 Business Arising from the Minutes:

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

Deferred.

7.2 Seniors'/Elders' Clubs *Update, Membership (Liasion)Tri-Cities

Deferred.

7.3 Club Kits

Deferred

7.4 Appointment of New Riding Rep for Courtenay-Alberni

Omit

7.5 Appointment of Director at Large/Webmaster

It was moved by Ken Halliday and seconded by Elaine Olson that Luke Lewandowski be appointed Member at Large/Webmaster.

Carried

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Rabi Alam and Luke Lewandowski will work with LPCBC staffer, Kristina Marie, on content of an email to be sent to all seniors in BC with a link to our Commission website.

Action: Rabi Alam, Luke Lewandowski

8.0 New Business/Outreach Planning

8.1 Delta Elders' Event South Delta November 10, 2-4 pm

Rabi Alam announced a townhall meeting to be held for seniors on November 10, 2-4 pm in south Delta. Attending will be the provincial Minister responsible for seniors, the Mayor of Delta, Liberal MP the Honourable Carla Qualtrough, together with academics and professionals in the field of seniors' issues. The focus of the discussions will be programs and services for seniors.

Rabi will send to Gail and agenda for distribution to BCSLC Executive and Riding Reps in the Lower Mainland. This will be an opportunity to recruit new Liberal supporters and to collect names, addresses, telephone #s and emails for Liberalist database.

Action: Rabi Alam , Gail Rochester

8.2 Policy Chair Report--Committee Formation

Doug McDonald reported that as the LPC is developing a new, more open and ongoing policy process that will allow greater engagement by Liberal supporters and their communities, it has become timely to move forward on creating an SLC BC Policy Committee to consider the most appropriate means of engaging with senior liberals throughout BC.

The first step in this process is considered to be the preparation of Terms of Reference and a work plan. Toward this end, a core policy committee has been created to develop such terms of reference. This core committee presently consists of myself, David Wallace and possibly Don Currie.

At the meeting Peggy Stewart expressed interest in joining the committee.

Action: Doug McDonald, Peggy Stewart

8.3 Riding Rep's Initial Responsibilities, represent SLCBC to EDA and Encourage Formation of Elders' (Seniors') Groups

Omit

8.4 Table Officers' Reports

Jean Lewandowski reported that during the summer the following additions were made to our website **federalslcbc.ca**: LPC website colours of red and gray; upcoming events on sidebars of pages; all of the Executive and Riding Reps were contacted to determine if they wished to be included--some of the Executive included their pictures and bios; several Riding Reps are profiled; all of the Executive Meeting minutes for 2016; "get involved" drop down includes a link to LPC site of events in your area (search by postal code); "issues" drop down now includes Constitutions, Retirement Security, Electoral Reform, Supporting Caregivers, Pharmacare and President's Report; "events" drop down includes club information from the Delta Liberal Elders and the Kelowna-Lake Country Club including its very thorough proposal document; "BC Team" drop down includes our BC MPs, the LPCBC executive and the BC Federal Liberal Council; and a blog.

Jean thanked all who contributed information and positive feedback on the site and urged all to continue to provide her with feedback. She asked us all to have a look to see what a talented Executive and Riding Reps we have. She pointed out that several of the links to the LPC website give one the opportunity to "Make Your Voice Heard" and "Rate This Policy". Jean plans to add more including veterans pensions and services.

8.5 Draft Work Plan

Alan Lowe volunteered to work with Jean Lewandowski on this item which will be brought forward to a future meeting. **Action: Jean Lewandowski, Alan Lowe**

8.6 Riding Reps Reports

Judith Berg reported that the initial meeting of the Seniors Club for the riding of Vancouver, Sunshine Coast, Sea-to Sky Country is booked for Tuesday, November 22, 10:00 am to 12 noon at the Silk Purse Building, 1570 Argyle Avenue, West Vancouver. Local MP, Pamela Goldsmith-Jones has been notified. The EDA for the riding is in agreement that the initial meeting will not be inclusive of the total riding. For this initial meeting the EDA will take responsibility for communication to West Vancouver, Bowen Island, and Lions Bay. Possible expansion to other areas of the riding such as Sechelt and Gibson at a later date. The riding EDA does not wish to combine with the two North Shore ridings.

See attachment Saanich for report from Christine Blackburn, riding of Saanich-Gulf Islands.

See attachment N. Van for Stephen Smith's report, riding of North Vancouver.

See attachment Helen Shaw for her report on riding of Nanaimo-Ladysmith.

See attachment Elaine Olsen for her report on Live-In Caregiver Program.

See attachment Sept. 14 for Judy Berg's report on Ad Hoc Committee, Live-in-Caregiver Program.

8.7 Resignation Pearl Fraser, Riding Rep Victoria

Gail Rochester reported that Pearl Fraser has resigned as Riding Rep for Victoria, as has Allan Pratten, Co-Rep, for riding of Saanich-Gulf Islands, as has Barb O'Neil, Co-Rep, for riding of Courtney-Alberni, as has Godwin Eni for the riding of Vancouver South.

Sukhdev Aujla of Edmonton has been appointed to our Executive as National SLC Director, Canada West.

9.0 Discussion Items: Pharmacare

In reference to the Policy Resolutions that were passed at the Winnipeg Convention, May 2016 (distributed to Executive and Riding Reps on Sept. 15, 2016), Doug McDonald stated that the National Policy Secretary, David Hurford, notes that one of his duties is to ensure that the LPC and the Liberal government follow-up on the implementation of these priority resolutions. In this regard, he is seeking participation by the PTAs and Commissions that put forward these resolutions to further the implementation of them.

We of the SLCBC currently have two working groups; one focusing on the need for changes to the Live-In-Caregiver program which falls under the Temporary Foreign Workers Program, and a second one related to Pharmacare. To date we have not reached out to the sponsors of the related resolutions to determine how we might collaborate, but this will need to happen once it is clear which resolution the SLC wishes to pursue.

10.0 Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 3.21pm. **Next Meeting, Wed. Oct. 12, 1:15-3:15 pm, LPCBC Office, #460 --580 Hornby Street, Vancouver.**