

North Vancouver Island Area Council Minutes of Meeting

Date: February 17, 2018

Location: ABC Country Restaurant in Nanaimo

Present: George Pattern, Richard May, Bert Farwell, Christine Walker, James Little

Meeting was chaired by Richard and called to order at 10:00 am.

James addressed the meeting and spoke about a planned rally in Vancouver to protest the Phoenix pay system problem. He encouraged Vancouver Island union locals to participate in the event. Richard pointed out the logistical problems in organizing an off-island event for island locals as well as the associated transportation costs. Richard then announced that locals in the Nanaimo area would be planning their own protest rally by the war cenotaph across from the Front Street Government building in downtown Nanaimo. Bert Farwell announced that the Victoria area locals would also be planning a rally to protest the Phoenix pay system in Victoria although the plans were not finalized.

Bert moved that the North Vancouver Island Regional Council should provide up to \$500 to support the planned rally. The motion was seconded by George Pattern and carried unanimously.

James spoke to the meeting concerning a plan by PSAC to hold a plant-gate event outside selected federal government offices to demonstrate the union's concerns over the Phoenix pay system failures and to provide information to workers as they arrive at their workplace. The event was to be attended by HR staff and Phoenix "champions" who could offer advice to affected workers.

Bert addressed the meeting and described his experience as a participant in the Pay Advocacy Training course for Phoenix champions. He recommended that local unions and shop stewards refrain from filing grievances on every level of the pay process, as it tends to slow things down to the detriment of the worker. Richard moved to accept Bert's report, seconded by George and carried unanimously.

George spoke to the meeting and mentioned the difficulty in receiving bank statements in a timely manner. Previously, bank statements were sent to the mailroom at the Pacific Biological Station but due to the partial closure of the mailroom and limited service, statements were lost or discarded. James suggested that the mailing address for bank statements should be changed to the PSAC union office at 1497 Admiral's Road in Victoria. The motion was moved by George, seconded by Christine and carried unanimously.

James began the nomination process to elect new executive members to the North Vancouver Island Area Council. James outlined the rules for election of officers; term limits on positions and voting procedures and called for nominations to commence. James called for nominations to the position of President. Christine Walker was nominated by Bert but declined. Further nominations were called. Richard May was nominated by George and seconded by Bert to the position of President and accepted. Receiving no further nominations, Richard May was declared President by acclamation. Next, nominations were called for the position of Vice-President. Christine Walker was nominated by Richard and seconded by Bert and receiving no further nominations Christine was acclaimed Vice-President. Vanessa Miller was nominated by Richard and seconded by George to the position of Secretary. No further nominations were made and Vanessa was acclaimed Secretary. Finally, nominations for the position of Treasurer were called. Richard nominated George Pattern; seconded by Bert. No further nominations were made and George was acclaimed as Treasurer. Elections to the executive of the North Vancouver Island Area Council were concluded with the following results: Richard May (President), Christine Walker (Vice-President), George Pattern (Treasurer) and Vanessa Miller (Secretary).

No further business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 11:45am with no date set for future meetings.

Faithfully recorded on February 17, 2018 by George Pattern.