

# BCGREA Branch 2000 Cheam View General Meeting Minutes for February 2020, held at Canton Gardens, Chilliwack; Tuesday Feb. 18, 2020.

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1. **Meeting was called to order** by Gord Griffeth, Chair, at 12:00 noon with 27 in attendance.
2. **Moment of Silence** to honour and remember past members, friends and family; our military and those we rely on in emergency services. We shall not forget them.
3. **Grace** was given by Joe Hahn.
4. **Opening Remarks** by chair Gord Griffeth.
  - A warm welcome to new member Fred Smith, retired from the Ministry of Forests.
  - The new banner for our branch is displayed by the sign in desk, BCGREA Branch 2000. Looking good.
  - The Provincial position to oversee the operation of the Central data base to communicate between membership and pension position, has now been filled. After a selection panel interviewed three candidates, Josie Byington of Victoria was offered and accepted the contract.
5. **Minutes of Last General Meeting** held Dec. 17 at Canton Garden were read, by secretary. Request for any Errors and Omissions was made, MSC to accept (Delores Hiles and Anita Hahn) Carried.

## 6. Reports:

**Chair:** provided by Gord Griffeth.

- With the change to earlier AGM dates in the fall, a reminder to members that any items for that meeting will have to be brought to executive prior to our summer break.

**Vice-Chair:** Patrick Harkness

- Nothing at this time.

**Treasurer:** provided by Lynne Burger.

- Reviewed the details of the December and January bank statement. Current balance \$2,667.44. Financial Report MSC to accept as read (Peter Maguire and Val Stevenson) Carried.

- Lynne reviewed the Christmas luncheon cost; Members paid the usual \$12 per person, and the branch funds covered the additional \$8 per person, as the actual turkey dinner cost was \$20 per person. (Secretaries note: A great deal for attending members and their guests, considering the BCGREA membership fee is only \$20 per year.)

**Membership:** provided by Lynne Dennis.

- Membership for Branch 2000 is at 152 members.
- New member: Ron Slaney, Coast Bus; David Lies, Corrections; Lucy Stad, Ministry of Forestry etc.; Brenda Knapp, Ministry of Human Resources and one member deceased, Adrie Schaap, Corrections.
- The February Newsletter is out and will be on our website in addition to copies being available at the sign in desk today. It contains lots of pictures from our Christmas luncheon.

**Secretary:** Dawn Stublely.

- Dawn will report back on our new service provider, Trip Merchant, at our next meeting.

**Transportation:** If you need a ride to meetings or if we can assist in any way, please contact Chair and transportation coordinator Gord Griffeth at 604 793-3301, or any of the executive.

- Nothing at this time.

**COSCO (Council of Seniors Citizens' Organizations of BC):** COSCO website [www.coscobc.ca](http://www.coscobc.ca) The BCGREA is a COSCO affiliate and meets monthly at Hastings Community Centre, Vancouver. Branch 2000 contact: Pat Harkness.

- Pat attended the COSCO meeting on February 14 which mainly covered elections with an additional 45-minute presentation from the local MLA from Vancouver-Hastings, the Hon. Shane Simpson, to report on his work as Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. On the election results, previous President, Gudrun Langolf stepped down and a new president Sheila Pither, was unanimously elected. See COSCO website for an updated COSCO committee listing. Speaking as the outgoing president, Gudrun commented that the highlight of her term was the creation of the new Office of Senior Advocate and their resulting work and publications in Advocacy.
- The bi annual two-day COSCO convention, planned for Oct 4 and 5, 2020 in Richmond, is having problems with obtaining the required funding, so may or may not proceed.

**Communications/Web Master:** Rick Porcina.

- Website is up to date.

**Guest Speakers:** facilitated by Delores Hiles.

- Delores announced that the guest speaker she hoped to have for March isn't able to attend so our March speaker is to be announced.

**Directors/Past Chairs:** Peter Maguire.

- See New Business.

**7. Introduction of Guest Speaker:**

- Our own Vice Chair and Branch 2000 COSCO representative, Pat Harkness, introduced himself and in his role as COSCO Seniors' Health and Wellness Institute workshop presenter gave us his third Workshop on **ADVOCACY**. How to be an effective advocate.
- Whether you are advocating for yourself or someone else, important skills, strategies and practical suggestions were presented with the use of a power point type presentation.
- See [www.seniorshelpseniors.ca](http://www.seniorshelpseniors.ca) for the COSCO workshop listing

**8. Old Business:**

- See previous reports.

**9. New Business:**

- Our new banner will be put to good use at the upcoming preretirement seminar being held in Chilliwack, June 4. One of many to be held in the lower mainland.
- Yes, we received a cost of living increase in January but did other increases like Green shields wipe it out?
- Peter M. as past president was asked by executive at the last meeting to look into current Branch Bylaws and Administrative procedures. The Branch bylaws were signed off November 18, 2003 by the President of the time, D. Silas. There have been two amendments since then. These procedures and amendments will be posted to our Branch website.
- Email received from Provincial reminding members that a BCGREA membership entitles members to discounts on hotels, car parts, paints, to name a few. See the main Provincial Website for details.
- Gord concluded the meeting with a joke.

**10. 50/50 Draw:** the winning ticket for \$21.50 was won by Donna R. Congratulations

11. Meeting adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

The next executive meeting date March 13, 2020 at the Chilliwack Library; General meeting March 17, 2020 at Canton Gardens.

**Cheam View Branch BCGREA #2000  
Financial Statement Dec. 2019**

<b>1. December Opening Balance</b>	<b>\$ 3,119.37</b>
<b>2. Income</b>	
a) November Interest on Dec. Statement	\$ 0.03
b) 50/50	37.00
c) Collected for meals	420.00
d) Dues 5 @ \$20	<u>100.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 557.03</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 3,676.40</b>
<b>3. Expenses</b>	
a) ck#0036 COSCO Dues	\$ 70.00
b) ck#0038 Jannine Myra Xmas Bonus	40.00
c) ck#0039 G. Griffeth - Banner	158.99
d) ck#0040 Canton 37 meals including guests	<u>740.00</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 1008.99</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 2,667.41</b>
<b>4. Confirmed Bank Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,667.41.</b>

**Cheam View Branch BCGREA #2000  
Financial Statement Jan. 2020**

<b>1. January Opening Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,667.41</b>
<b>2. Income</b>	
<b>a) Dec Interest on Jan. Statement</b>	<b><u>\$ 0.03</u></b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ .03</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 2,667.44</b>
<b>3. Expenses</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 00.00</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 2,667.44</b>
<b>4. Confirmed Bank Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,667.44.</b>

- **No luncheon meeting in January**