

**ALBERTA ELKS ASSOCIATION
MID-TERM MEETING
JANUARY 16 & 17, 2016
CAMROSE ELKS LODGE**

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** – President Keith McKinnon called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.
2. **Roll Call** –
President Keith McKinnon, 1st Vice President Lyle Ozouf, 3rd Vice President Vic Schmidt, Esquire Darren Scott, Inner Guard Barbara Evans, Chaplain Merv Sagert, Chair of Trustees Leonard Shain, Judiciary Chair Nick Henger, Judiciary Member Ken Fedoruk, Judiciary Member Jim McLeod, Advisory Committee Chair Duane Romuld, Walk for Children Chair Diane Wilson, Website Chair Rick Doell, Foundation Secretary Treasurer and Acting Association Secretary Lynda Petten
3. **Introduction of Past Presidents in Attendance** – Leonard Shain, Jim McLeod, Nick Henger, Ken Fedoruk
4. **Minute of Silence** for Departed Members was held.
5. **Welcome from the Host Lodge** – Gerry Czapp, Camrose Elks #70
6. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**
 - a) Pre-conference
 - b) Post-conference
 - c) Conference Calls
Moved by Barbara Evans/Lyle Ozouf to accept the minutes of previous meetings as noted. CARRIED
7. **Financial Report**

Comments expressed as follows:

 - Conference Expenses – have the district deputies and committees been coded to the wrong area?
 - Hotels booked but not used – funds have been recovered.
 - Question regarding \$907.20 has been recovered but still showing up in balance sheet – need to clarify.
 - Twelve lodges still have dues outstanding.
 - Expense statement – deficit because of Oil Kings Hockey – still waiting for revenue so should balance when all funds received.

MOTION: Moved Leonard Shain/Vic Schmdt to approve the financial report as presented. CARRIED

8. Correspondence

A card from Medicine Hat Lodge was given to Nick Henger for forwarding to Bob Manning's wife.

9. Officer Reports

a) President – Keith McKinnon

- Completed seventeen visits and three district meetings to date
- Most Lodges are having membership problems as to how to get the members to meetings
- Some Lodges are so far behind in their books that they are paying for deceased members
- Itinerary is out but Beaverlodge has been removed and replaced with Dawson Creek
- Membership problems – give Kelly Sanford and Leonard Shain's names for help
- Royal Purple Lodges in Keith's district have closed but those members have joined other Elks or Royal Purple Elks Lodges

b) Immediate Past President – Blaine Kyle – not in attendance; no report

c) 1st Vice President – Lyle Ozouf

- Brother Leonard Shain and Vic Schmidt and District Deputy Diane Wilson and myself attended the November 15th meeting at the Heartland Lodge. We gave them some direction about the paperwork that had to be completed and were assured that this would be done. Brother Vic and I again attended their meeting on January 4th, 2016 as Grand Lodge had contacted President Keith. This time we were successful and they managed to get the proper paperwork done that evening. Hopefully this has been sent to Grand Lodge. Their quarterly dues will be sent when the Treasurer returns from holidays at the end of January.
- I was also informed that my home Lodge, Edmonton #1, was remiss with reports from 2013/2014. I helped them with this and the paperwork was supposed to be sent to Grand Lodge immediately.
- Attended the Memorial Service in Barrhead on December 6, 2015. This was also attended by Westlock, Drayton Valley and Edmonton #11. Canadian Royal Purple Edmonton Lodge #22 were asked to attend and participate in the Memorial Service which was a very nice addition to the service. About 70 people attended.
- I travelled to Edson Lodge on behalf of President Keith on January 12th. They are still operating with nine members. Five or six Royal Purple will be joining them as soon as they close their accounts and

transfer their money to the Elks' accounts. They meet at 2:00 pm on the second Tuesday but will accommodate at later time if necessary. They are going to try to resurrect the Snow Golf on a smaller scale (mini-golf). Affiliation fees have now been paid.

- d) 2nd Vice President – Ron Townrow – no report
- e) 3rd Vice President – Vic Schmidt
 - Attended Heisler initiation on November 12th where seven new members were initiated. The North Central Degree team were aided by the Breton Patrol team. Approximately 45 people took part in the ceremony followed by lunch and hospitality.
 - Attended the annual Memorial Day hosted by Barrhead Elks #332. This is an annual event paying respect to members of local lodges who have passed away. This event was co-hosted by the Royal Purple Society with approximately fifty people in attendance. Supper and refreshments followed.
- f) Secretary Treasurer –
 - President Keith reported that Don Rush is slowly working to get caught up.
 - He will be off work for at least two months but will be able to focus on Association duties
 - Has given notice of resignation effective June 2016
- g) Chairman of Trustees –
 - Reported that along with Darren Scott, they had audited the books. There are a few questions regarding conference expenses for hotels and the amount for District Deputy elect expenses. Committee expenses that are recoverable expenses is coded under Other Conference Expenses. The expenses recovered from Noel Pell and Robert Larson should be on the same line.
- h) Esquire – Darren Scott –
 - Have attended Grand Lodge Convention in Whitehorse
 - Helped with Heisler initiation
 - Attended Provincial President's visits in Drayton Valley and Breton Royal Purple Elks
 - Attended Lyle Anderson's funeral
 - Attended Association conference calls and Forward Planning calls
- i) Inner Guard – Barbara Evans –
 - Attended GL Convention
 - Stayed in touch with DD and attended district meetings
 - Working with the local lodge to get it back on track
 - Darren Scott and her working with ritual; letters going to all lodges for feedback

- Royal Purple Elks and Elks will need to be kept separate as the rituals are so different
- Merv Sagert questioned if title changes would eventually happen but we cannot force them to do Elks ritual. Brother Jim McLeod stated Grand Lodge is looking at the ritual but Royal Purple Elks were told they could use whatever titles and rituals they wished.

j) Tyler – Kelly Sanford – no report

k) Chaplain – Merv Sagert –

- Has sent out several cards both for sympathy and get well
- Merv to send a note to Lodges to let them know the process for getting a card from the Association sent out.

l) Historian – Victor Laird – no report; will only attend if requested

MOTION: Moved by Vic Schmidt/Darren Scott to receive the reports. CARRIED

MOTION: Moved by Leonard Shain for a recess at 9:32 a.m. CARRIED

The Meeting re-convened at 10:00 a.m.

10. Committee Reports

A) Judiciary – Nick Henger –

- Main focus has been attendance at conference calls for Foundation and Association
- One resolution has been prepared from Foundation for conference
- Dates for conference in 2017 – lodge hosting cannot hold the conference during regular week as the lodge is booked. If we will let them change the date, they can have the facility. There is nothing in the Bylaws saying conference has to be the first week in June so there is some leeway for Lodges wishing to bid on conference as long as the meeting is held in June.

b) Inter-district Visitations – Merv Sagert

- Requested a deadline for these visitations and was informed the calendar year as had been previously set.

c) Travelling Gavel – Kelly Sanford – no report

d) Publicity – Kelly Sanford

- As Kelly was absent, Leonard Shain presented the report prepared by Kelly.
- Calgary Hitmen game - was suggested that all in attendance in our group wear purple. Duane Rumold felt that the issue be considered.

This will be brought to the floor at conference. The Hitmen/Oil Kings game will also be discussed at Conference.

- Edmonton Oil Kings – need a great number of workers for the 50/50 and other planned activities; have only sold 200 tickets out of 500 to date - need a real push on the sales; this game is a Saturday afternoon game but still having a tough time to sell the tickets/get volunteers. A Lodge can buy tickets for inner-city children. President Keith indicated that the Oil Kings game was brought to the floor at conference and was supported by the membership. If not successful this year, it will be dropped. Leonard indicated that he could find volunteers outside of our own organization but questioned the need to go outside our own organization to get helpers for our own fundraising project.
- Keith read the letter from the Hitmen Foundation that showed their appreciation to the Elks.
- Members questioned whether they could buy the hockey sweaters. Contact Kelly Sanford for information.

e) Community Service – Darren Scott –

- Letter ready for District Deputies and Lodges to emphasize the reports be submitted immediately following a District Meeting This will be stressed in the meeting with the District Deputies.

f) Advisory Committee – Duane Romuld –

- Not much has been done as members away on vacation; do have list of items which will be dealt with on a conference call; report will be turned in before conference

g) Sports –

- Curling being held in Heisler this year
- trying to maintain a “community interest” that will not cost the Association anything; please pass on to your Lodges\Lyle Ozouf will be representing President Keith

h) Forward Planning – Darren Scott

- Reported the Committee have held a number of phone conference calls and looked at a number of communities. A lot of these have seen a decline in membership of local organizations and as a result the Committee have narrowed their search down to Lethbridge to see the possibility of getting a lodge re-started in that area.
- The focus will be on the College with assistance from Brothers Felt and Romuld as well as the District Deputies in that area. Further information will be provided at Conference.

- i) Membership – Leonard Shain –
- Brothers Lyle Ozouf and Vic Schmidt went to Edson 2:00 meeting which is contentious as other members cannot attend due to work commitments
 - .Brothers Leonard Shain and Lyle Ozouf attended a Leduc meeting to discuss membership. There is serious work to do with the Royal Purple Elks issue.
 - Grand Leading Knight Dennis Ellingboe requested help for his Lodge. Waiting for a list for the Royal Purple Elks lodges in Dennis' area (Hythe) so visitations can be made.
 - Will continue to work with those Lodges that have been identified and hopefully by June we will have some positive results.
 - Slave Lake is being visited by the President this week as well as Valleyview. There are some issues with AGLC in Slave Lake due to the fire.
- j) Foundation – Don Borrowman –
- Raffle is going well with all books out now
 - Brother Lyle Anderson passed away and Teresa Greig from Drumheller Lodge coordinating
 - Float has cost some money and would like Association to consider cost-sharing with Foundation to keep it viable
 - Reported the mid-term audit had been completed
- k) Walk for Children – Diane Wilson –
- Could the walk be changed in some way to accommodate our older members as well as younger children. Yes – improvising means we can continue with the walks.
 - South zone is still vacant. Schools have to be approached and we also need Elks representatives to walk with these children.
 - Can we change the date? There are no specific dates written down. It is up to the Lodges when they want to do the walks.
 - Hand-outs, ie teddy bears/shirts/etc. should be re-considered - the school will make the decision how to hand out the prizes.
 - North Zone contact Roxanne Potter (Rycroft)
 - North Central Zone – Edmonton Royal Purple Elks have shown interest and will confirm in February
 - South Central – Bill Clancey – Olds Lodge hosting
 - South Zone - vacant

MOTION: Moved by Barbara Evans/Vic Schmidt that the Walk for Children be organized with a local school in Hanna for Thursday of the Conference. CARRIED

- l) Patrol and Ritual –
 - Barbara Evans and Darren Scott have been working on the ritual.
 - Rules for Ritual Competition will be sent out soon, including current rules with a note that these will be changing in the future.

- m) Habitat for Humanity – Ken Komarnisky –
 - Nick Henger reported that Ken has had no further inquiries; Habitat in Edmonton are building an apartment; Lacombe is receiving a triplex and Calgary.
 - This committee was put in abeyance and would only be resurrected if there is a need.

- n) Website – Rick Doell –
 - Maintaining and updating the website as information is received and continue to look for ways to improve. Has made changes to the layout in an attempt to streamline the content.
 - The Foundation has just added a “Donate” form to the website. Rick is now researching at adding a “Donate Now” button to the website.
 - Send feedback to Rick so he can use that for upgrades. If you find a website with a format that you like, pass that along so he can look at incorporating it into our site.
 - Leonard Shain indicated that there are bursaries through the Government wherein students get credit for helping out.

MOTION: Moved by Leonard Shain/Barbara Evans to receive the reports as presented.
CARRIED

- o) Other - Brother Leonard Shain was presented with a Provincial President Certificate and jewel (albeit a couple years late).

Meeting recessed for lunch at 11:52 and reconvened at 12:55.

1:00 P.M. STARS PRESENTATION – Maureen Henkel, Fund Development Officer

Hand-out documents e-mailed to the Association Executive and District Deputies for their information prior to any decisions made regarding our involvement with STARS.

- Celebrating 30th anniversary and transported 30,000 patients in that time; only critical patients flown
- 75% of Alberta operating budget is done through fund-raising; remainder from Alberta Health Services
- Have a 3 mobile units to help rural patients; replacing current helicopters with bigger/faster units that can carry two patients at once
- Have motorhomes out in the communities for education purposes – 298 communities last year were reached

- Fly at night with night vision goggles; especially necessary for flying in the mountains; pilots must have 3000 hours flying time before they become qualified to fly STARS helicopters
- \$30 million is the Alberta budget mainly raised through fund-raising – eg. STARS lottery, calendar sales, etc.
- Elks have donated \$202,000 to STARS
- See the hand-out for items necessary wished for the helicopters
- Funds raised in Alberta stay in Alberta; \$11 million raised from the lottery each year; Calendars raise approximately \$1 million
- STARS have worked with communities doing many fund-raising events – car shows, etc.
- What can we as Elks do to help STARS – suggested about \$100,000 for equipment
- Looking for ways to help promote Elks in the communities by doing projects that will help STARS. If STARS helps get our name out, we can help you. If a lodge put on a fund-raiser, would STARS send personnel to attend to answer questions. Yes – Maureen plus a pilot. Do you have a data base so that an event in an area can be promoted? Yes – they can do that, they can accept the funds but these funds must then stay with them. They prefer to do the registration only so funds raised stay with the Elks. They would not do individual letters but can do using an e-mail database.
- Hanna Elks have contributed about ¼ of a million dollars over the years to STARS.
- If we purchase a piece of equipment, would we be allowed to put our logo on these? With moving to Saskatchewan and Manitoba space on the helicopter is limited. What about a specific piece of equipment – must be conscious of the weight but if small and light weight, possibly could be considered.
- What about sponsorship on the calendars? If this was the project we picked, this would work. Many of the people working in the kiosk were not from a service club. If the Elks took this on as a project, they would be able to wear regalia as well as wear some form of identification from STARS.

Leave with Kelly Sanford for now - the purpose of the presentation was to get the lodges thinking about a different idea for fund-raising. District Deputies could take to the lodges for discussion at their district meetings.

Maureen stated the report was a draft report and we need to come up with some ideas to take back to STARS for possible implementation. This could be a project similar to what we did for ISTAR. We could do advertising to lodges, pool all the money and then make a presentation to STARS.

Information to be distributed to Association Executive and District Deputies – they are **not to share with the lodges** right now but provide feedback to their liaison officer. Executive will discuss at pre-conference and once a decision is made, we will proceed with this one way or another.

9.n) Website – continued:

- Google Analytics could be used as a tool to get information regarding site user, etc. Rick does not feel that the Executive should be using the website to find information for forms, etc.
- With Google Analytics, each individual has an account. No matter where you are you can get access to the information. Brings everyone into the same arena.
- Communication is a big issue in our lodges. How do we get the message to the lodge members to be more effective?
- We need to figure out how to use our technology and the expectations by being universal for everyone.
- This will provide all lodges with an account with a free website. Web pages can be created with the free template.
- Able to share with people and control access to that information
- Google Drive – Rick has set up Association, Foundation and District Deputies with accounts already.
- As a group (community), certain elements (protocols) would need to be set up
- Updates to the groups must be done by the administrator; decisions would need to be made regarding what information would be forwarded when executive changes are made
- How do we communicate this to the lodges? Needs input from some users to showcase at the conference.
- “Donate Now” button – what is the cost – 3.5% per transaction; using this company, we do not have all the administration fees
- If a Lodge does not have a computer – Chromebooks can be purchased by each lodge for approximately \$250.

11. Steering (District Liaisons) Committee Reports

a) District #1 – Barbara Evans

Maintained contact with the District Deputies; reports are being sent in; no major issues reported back; fall meeting was well reported on; both will be in place for next year.

b) District #2 – Blaine Kyle

District Deputy has completed all the first visits. She is unsure of when the spring district meeting would be held.

d) District #3 – Barbara Evans – see a) above

e) District #4 – Merv Sagert

Has requested agendas for meetings; received from Diane Wilson but not Zane Clark; concerns re Leduc Lodge and forms for Royal Purple Elks – they are hostile; Lyle Ozouf will deal with the issue

f) District #5 – Merv Sagert – see e) above

- g) District #6 – Darren Scott –
Done first round of visits and reports sent in; Lawrence has been successful in having some of the lodges purchase Oilkings tickets. Reports were forwarded to Don Rush and not copied to Darren.
- h) District #7 – Vic Schmidt
Both Brother Seim of District 7 and Brother DePaoli of District 14 have kept me informed of activities in their respective districts. Both seem to be having successful terms and are getting good support from the respective districts. Kimberley Lodge has initiated eight new members to date and a few more more candidates are waiting in the wings. Brother DePaoli informs me he has a candidate from Fernie ready to take over the district when the term is over.
- i) District #8 – Darren Scott – see g) above
- j) District #9 – Ron Townrow –
Nick Henger reported the fall meeting was held at Gwendale; Royal Purple Elks Caroline are hosting spring meeting; District Deputy is a concern because he does not know how to run a meeting. A suggestion was made to have the trainer show the District Deputies how to run a meeting.
- k) District #10 – Lyle Ozouf –
District Deputy Jean Frere has done a splendid job for her first round of visits; done all her visits, submitted her reports in a timely manner; all eleven lodges were visited in just over a month.
- l) District #11 – Kelly Sanford –
Keith attended the fall meeting; Castor and Coronation may need some attention according to Vern Thuroo's reports; Vern missed visiting the Royal Purple Elks in that district but had a special meeting with them; Keith thanked Vern for stepping in and taking over the district deputy position on short notice.
- m) District #12 – Leonard Shain –
Keith has been in contact with the District Deputy as he is from that district; have been some concerns expressed re Strathmore Lodge – lost Secretary and Treasurer and all documentation is behind as well as the reporting to Grand Lodge; therefore no membership cards.
- Crossfield is another Lodge with problems; new secretary is the issue; hopefully issues will be fixed in the next while. Leonard Shain suggested we need to work with Grand Lodge as to what paperwork is needed to help out the officers in each Lodge.

- n) District #13 – Ron Townrow –
District is doing fine; Bassano struggling for members; they promised to do a membership drive but to date, nothing has been done. Mason Club closed down but no one approached those members.
- o) District #14 – Vic Schmidt –
Crownsnest Pass having problems but they do not want to have a membership drive nor help from Association. It was suggested that we need to go in, be proactive even if the membership from the Lodge do not want that help. Does 20% of the Lodge get to have the final say in the Lodge – every member needs to be considered important. The Association will get a complete mailing list from Grand Lodge to find out what the feeling of all members is.

MOTION: Ozouf/Scott moved to accept the liaison reports.

Meeting was recessed at 3:00 p.m. and reconvened meeting at 3:15 p.m.

12. Spring District Meeting Dates/Locations

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| a. District #1 | April 15 (7 pm) & 16 (10 am) – Ft. St. John |
| b. District #2 | absent |
| c. District #3 | April 15 (7 pm) & 16 (10 am) – Ft. St. John |
| d. District #4 | April 9 (10 am) – Sherwood Park |
| e. District #5 | April 9 (10 am) – Sherwood Park |
| f. District #6 | April 23 (1 pm) – Lac La Biche |
| g. District #7 | April 2 (11 am) - Viking |
| h. District #8 | April 7 (8 pm) - Wetaskiwin |
| i. District #9 | April 3 (1 pm) - Caroline |
| j. District #10 | April 16 (1 pm) - Trochu |
| k. District #11 | April 9 (4 pm) - Stettler |
| l. District #12 | March 20 (11 am) - Didsbury |
| m. District #13 | March 12 (11 am) - Bassano |
| n. District #14 | April 10 (12 noon) – Ft. MacLeod |

13. Unfinished Business

Membership –

- Crownsnest Pass – DD (Mel DePaolo) has been there for three visitations with anywhere from 3 to 6 members in attendance. ER needs to give up his position; they do not want to accept any help. Suggested Mel take a couple of his Lodge members along and see if they would let the Membership Chair or other members run a membership drive spear-headed by the Association. Mel will report to Executive after his attendance.

14. New Business

- a) Selling raffle tickets in BC – can only sell tickets in Alberta if they are approved by Alberta Gaming; can buy as many tickets in Alberta as they want but cannot sell tickets across the border.
- b) Judiciary – Past Provincial Presidents at conference – when does resolution take affect? Maximum of three years following position as PPP beginning 2016; first year becomes Trustee chairman
- c) Proceedings of Conference – Judiciary did not receive the disk of proceedings. Will check and ensure they receive a copy.
- d) Locked Doors at Conference during Elections – need to use our discretion during elections and announce the doors will be guarded.
- e) Casino – same week as the casino; will need other membership to help out so we don't rely on same workers all the time.
- f) Initiation Ceremonies – Jean Frere questioned whether there are any lodges close doing initiation ceremonies; Big Valley doing one
- g) Concern expressed regarding a letter received by the Royal Purple Elks from GER. There is no reason for this letter to be sent to the District Deputies. Leonard felt that at least the Association Executive should have gotten a copy of the letter for their information only. Last year at the mid-term it was stated that all DD's were to ensure that all the RP Elks received copies of pertinent information; Keith will ensure this is done.
- h) Membership Fees – all DD's to ensure that all reports have been forwarded to Grand Lodge. Keith listed the Lodges with 2015 Provincial fees outstanding and requested DD's ensure these funds are paid.
- i) How are we dealing with Royal Purple Elks and Royal Purple Society – the Elks of Canada have no right in telling the Royal Purple Society the colors they are using.
- j) Fruit Basket – the Alberta Elks Association should be purchasing items such as these.

15. Good of the Order

- a) District Deputies felt that the training was much better this time, possibly because they were more familiar than the first time. Mel felt that the replacement DD's should maybe have attended this mid-term meeting to better prepare them. Replacements are more than welcome to come along

- for the training - Advisory committee are already looking at this. If DD is not standing for another term and has their assistant, then the assistant should be attending the meeting, not the DD.
- b) Vern Thuroo thanked the Association for letting him take the position when Mr. Smiley was unable to fulfill his duties.
 - c) Vic Schmidt – 2017 Provincial Conference – June 7 – 11, 2017 – Wainwright Elks #22
Kimberley Elks has expressed an interest but need to confirm whether it is in 2017 to 2018.
 - d) 2016 Conference – Hanna – documents have been sent out to Lodges; Draft agenda will be sent out to Executive.
 - e) Need to have a Notice of Motion sent out to Lodges regarding possible dues increase.
16. **Adjournment** – meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.