

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES OF PARKDALE & TORONTO

Monday, November 29, 2021
Minutes of the 34nd Annual General Meeting
Online Zoom Meeting

Ronald Charlemagne chaired the meeting and Clement Kent welcomed members arriving on Zoom.

Barbara O'Malley and Eleonora Schmied represented the OHA.

1. Call to Order: Ron Charlemagne called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m. Ron Charlemagne spoke the Land Acknowledgement, and welcomed Barbara O'Malley and Eleonora Schmied from District 15, Ontario Horticultural Association.

2. Report on Quorum: The number of members present online was counted by visible names signed in to Zoom and confirmed that they were current members. At 20 members quorum was confirmed.

3. Additions to / Approval of the Agenda:

- Barbara O'Malley asked to speak on behalf of the OHA before the hand-over to Eleonora.
- Clement Kent moved to approve the Agenda and was seconded by Judy Whalen.

4. Approval of the November 30, 2020 AGM Minutes: There were no comments on the 2020 minutes. Barbara Japp moved to approve the minutes and was seconded by Annelies Groen.

5. President's Report — Ron Charlemagne:

Ron thanked everyone and acknowledged the honour of being president.

He opened his report with thanks to everyone at the Hort, volunteers, participants and supporters. Many activities were continued this year, even with the limitations imposed by COVID 19. Our online speaker nights continued, education and outreach efforts included West Toronto KEYS-To-INclusion and presentations to George Brown College students, the Plant Share was a success, we funded community garden projects, and Project Swallowtail continues to grow. He closed with encouraging us to think of the coming year as a challenge to 'adapt and respond'.

(President's report is attached.)

Acceptance of the President's Report: Barbara Japp moved to accept the President's Report and was seconded by Judy Whalen. Carried.

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6. Treasurer’s Report – Emieke Geldof:

This has been a good year. The Hort profit is just under \$400.00. The Ontario government supported horticultural societies this year, as many were struggling. Normal funding was \$1000.00; this year we received \$2100.00. The Plant Share made 1600.00. We gave out \$4000.00 to community gardens and we funded three new community gardens. In summary, we had total income of \$8,101.60, total expenses of \$7,721.83, leaving a profit of \$379.77. Membership went up from 131 to 180 members.

The financial details were mounted on screen while Emieke spoke.

Thank you to this year’s financial reviewers Ann Wong and Mary Mosser, who reviewed the financials for the year of October 1, 2019 through to September 31, 2020.

(Treasurer’s report is attached.)

Appointment of Financial Auditors: Patty McKnight and Ingrid Whittaker have kindly agreed to be next year's financial reviewers and will therefore be reviewing the financial statements from October 1, 2021 through to September 31, 2022 once completed.

Acceptance of the Treasurer’s Report and the reviewed financials for the year of October 1, 2020 through to September 31, 2021:

Ron Charlemagne moved to approve the Financial Report and was seconded by Bill Cheng. Carried. No virtual hands were raised in opposition.

7. Vote on the amendment to the Constitution:

The text for the amendment was printed in the last Bulletin. (See below.) The wording allows in-person meetings or online (Zoom) meetings that provide the opportunity for members to hear, voice their opinions and vote. This would also allow for ‘hybrid’ meetings that would be a combination of in-person and online. During the discussion the wording of the motion was posted to the Chat feature for all to see.

Wording posted in November Bulletin:

SCHEDULE K (proposed Nov 2021

"All meetings may be held at an in-person venue or may be held via electronic means provided such means allows all in attendance the ability to hear and also the opportunity and ability to have voice and to vote."

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Approval of the amendment: Barbara Japp moved to approve the amendment and was seconded by Sharon Lovett. A vote was carried out by raising hands, unanimous. No one opposed.

8. Barbara O'Malley, Director District 15, OHA:

Message from the OHA: they send their greetings and congratulations on a successful year. She noted that there were 46 participants at our AGM, a great turnout. She read the message from the president of the OHA, Charles Freeman. 2022 will be the 'year of the garden' in recognition of our garden heroes. The theme will be: 'Plant Red for Canada'. Some fundraisers planned will be donation cards for the OHA to be left at funeral homes, and 'door hanger' notices saying, "you have a gorgeous garden".
January 20, 2022 will be the deadline for District Service Award nominations.

9. Handover of virtual gavel to Eleonora Schmied: Eleonora Schmied opened the elections for the Board of Directors and asked if anyone from the membership would like to add their names to the slate. She asked three times, no one came forward.

She read out the names of those standing for election and/or re-election:

Elections of the 2021 - 2022 Board of Directors:

New Nominee for a 2-year term (2022, 2023): Sarah Michelle Rafols.

Board Members Re-Standing for Another 2-Year Term (2022, 2023): Emieke Geldof, Clement Kent, Barbara Japp, Helen Vorster, Judy Whalen.

Board Members Completing the Second Year of their 2-Year Term (2021, 2022):
Ron Charlemagne, Annelies Groen.

10. Installation: The board voiced their willingness to be directors and the membership accepted the slate of directors. There were no objections either from a hand raised or from the chat feature. Elenora declared the Board installed for the year.

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11. Handover of virtual gavel to Ron Charlemagne who thanked Barb O'Malley and Eleonora Schmied and closed out the meeting.

12. Adjournment of the 2021 AGM. Judy Whalen made the motion to adjourn and was seconded by Annelies Groen.

13. Introduction of the Speaker: Mari Lise Stonehouse introduced Clement Kent, speaking on invasive garden pests and what to do about them.

Respectfully submitted by Helen Vorster, Secretary.