



Annual General Meeting
February 10, 2020, 7 p.m.
Brevik Hall, Aurora Cultural Centre
MINUTES

Attendance:

Board: John Green, Len Bulmer, Peter Styrmø, Ronen Grunberg, Patricia Wallace, Geoffrey Dawe, Anna Kroeplin

Staff: Peter McKenzie, Julie Preston

AHS Members: Bob McRoberts, Lissa Dwyer, Jacqueline Stuart, John Smale, Erika Baird, James Hoyes, Lori Hoyes, Paul Martin, John Bare, Helen Roberts, Ted McClenny, Jeffrey Thom, Al Lambert, Mary Smith, Ken Smith, Nanci Pattenden, Shirley Pattenden, Wendy Browne, Neil Asselin, Leslie Oliver, Mary Jean Oliver, Wendy Gaertner

Other Guests: Cllr Sandra Humfryes, Diane Buchanan,

1. Call to Order (John Green)

At 7:05 p.m., the President called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

Moved by Len Bulmer, seconded by Lissa Dwyer

THAT the agenda be approved as presented

Carried.

3. Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting (Patricia Wallace)

Copies of the Minutes from the 2019 AGM were given to each attendee before the start of the meeting.

Moved by Patricia Wallace, seconded by John Smale

THAT the minutes of February 19, 2019 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

4. President's Remarks

- John noted the following 2019 staff changes and thanked them for their work and dedication. Resignations: Erika Baird, Executive Director/Curator; Leigha Cooney, Programs and Outreach Manager. [***Note – Also resigned, Mary Beth Hess and Rita Surman. Sincere thanks to them both. This was inadvertently missed in the presentation.*] Newly hired: Peter McKenzie, Executive Director/Curator and Julie Preston, Administrative Assistant.
- Announcement of New AHS logo
- New website launched with more features to come. Thank you to Ronen Grunberg for his dedication and work on it.
- The Board is reviewing the current Strategic Plan. Members and community stakeholders are invited to complete a survey which runs from Feb. 10-18, 2020. Available online and hard copy.
- Commencing a review of operational procedures and bylaws.
- The property next door (Readman House) is still slated for development. The AHS Board is working with the developer and the Ontario Heritage Trust to ensure the integrity and heritage

value of Hillary House is retained. The membership will be advised when more information is available.

5. Greetings from the Town of Aurora (Cllr. Sandra Humfryes)

Cllr Humfryes brought greetings on behalf of the Mayor and Council. She also acknowledged Cllr. Wendy Gaertner was also in attendance. She thanked everyone for the hard work that is done for the community.

6. Executive Director/Curator's Report (Peter McKenzie)

- Peter provided an overview of highlights from 2019
- Key Performance Metrics have increased from last year.
 - Onsite and outreach initiatives - over 3,600 people reached
 - Social Media – 75,801+ individuals reached, with over 9,000 followers across all platforms.
 - Volunteer Hours – 4,340
 - Gift shop sales - steady
- Peter gave an overview of the plans for 2020

7. Landscaping Committee (John Bare)

John spoke about the work done in 2019 to refresh areas at the front and the tennis court.

8. Facility Maintenance Committee Report (James Hoyes)

James spoke about the newly re-formed committee. He noted that volunteers are wanted who can share handyman-type skills. He also noted there will be an interior spring-cleaning day on April 25/20. Volunteers are needed. Thanked volunteers for their work thus far.

9. Hillary House Ball (Patricia Wallace)

- Patricia reported on the Hillary House Black and White Ball, held on Saturday, October 26, 2019 at the Royal Venetian Mansion.
- Thanks and appreciation were extended to volunteers Allison Halls, Christine Zarebski, Helen and Wayne Burlanyette, Vikki Mikkola, Lori and James Hoyes, Alison Collins-Mrakas, Hoda Soliman and Tim Jones as Master of Ceremonies.
- Thanks also to businesses for their support for the silent auction and major sponsorships.
- After expenses, the Ball raised approximately \$20,000. Feedback from guests was very positive.
- The 2020 Ball will be held on Sat., October 31/20 at the Royal Venetian Mansion.

10. Treasurer's Report (Len Bulmer)

- Len presented the financial statements of 2019. In addition to the statements being shown on the projection screen, copies were given to each attendee upon entering. He noted the following:
- The increased amount of revenue over expenses this year was due to staffing gaps.
- Funds from the Building account have not been utilized as consultants have advised there is economy of scale to be realized by doing several items of required structural work at the same time. It is anticipated that work will start in 2020.
- We finish the fiscal year in a positive position, however, he cautioned that it is due to a recent influx of grant money, which is typically received in the fourth quarter.
- Len thanked the Town of Aurora for their ongoing financial and in-kind support, and thanked the Provincial and Federal governments for funds received.

11. Approval of Audited Financial Statements for 2018 and Unaudited Financial Statement for 2019 (Len Bulmer)

Len presented the details of AHS's financial statements and opened the floor to questions.

Moved by Len Bulmer, seconded by Patricia Wallace

THAT the audited financial statements for 2018 be approved. Carried.

Moved by Len Bulmer, seconded by Geoffrey Dawe,
THAT the unaudited financial statements for 2019 be approved. Carried.

12. Appointment of Auditor (Len Bulmer)

Moved by Len Bulmer, seconded by Lissa Dwyer,
THAT Bateman, Graham & Fitzpatrick be appointed as the auditors for AHS. Carried.

13. Questions from Members (John Green)

Comment from Ms. Stuart that Mary Beth Hess was not mentioned earlier regarding departing staff.
John thanked her for pointing out the oversight.

14. Motion to Approve Reports and Work of the Board of Directors in 2019

Moved by John Green, seconded by John Smale,
THAT the reports and work of the 2019 Board of Directors be approved. Carried.

15. Thank you for your service. (John Green)

The following Directors resigned from AHS Board in 2018:

- Brian Porter – Fundraising Chair
- Neil Asselin – Director
- Treasurer Len Bulmer is at the end of his term and is not seeking re-election.
- John also recognized Bookkeeper, Anne Byerlay who is retiring in 2020.

*[** Post meeting note: James Hoyes stepped down from the position of Director to take the position of Facility Maintenance Committee Chair. This was inadvertently missed in the presentation.]*

16. Nominations/Election of Directors (Geoffrey Dawe)

Geoff gave an overview of the nomination process which resulted in six expressions of interest for four positions. The Nominating Committee (John Green & Geoff Dawe) nominated the following four individuals who are members in good standing: [The vote was carried out by Lissa Dwyer.]

- Alan Lambert – Moved by Bob McRoberts. Seconded by Helen Roberts. Carried.
- Paul Martin – Moved by Erica Baird. Seconded by Anna. Carried.
- Jeffrey Thom – Moved by Geoff Dawe. Seconded by Bob McRoberts. Carried.
- Stan Neal – Moved by John Green Seconded by Peter Styrmo. Carried.

At the 2019 AGM, the following Directors were elected for a period of one year. They have indicated interest in remaining on the Board for an additional 2 years to finish a regular term.

- Geoffrey Dawe – Moved by John Smale. Seconded by John Bare. Motion carried.
- Peter Styrmo – Moved by Helen Roberts. Seconded by Ted McClenny. Motion carried.

The following Board members are within their 3-year term and are continuing to serve. John Green, Patricia Wallace, Ronen Grunberg and Anna Kroeplin.

17. In Memoriam – John Green acknowledged the passing of Albert William **Peter** Van Nostrand, Hillary descendant who played a leading role in the designation of Hillary House as a National Historic Site.

18. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm