**DISTRICT 12 NORTHEASTERN ONTARIO ANNUAL MEETING**

**APRIL 29, 2018 – TIMMINS**

**Call to Order and Welcome**

District Director Anne Jamieson called the meeting to order. Kees Stryland, President of the Host Society, Timmins Horticultural Society, extended a warm welcome to all the visitors. Acting Mayor of Timmins, Mike Doody, thanked the Societies for their work in horticulture and invited everyone to visit the Miner’s Memorial (this being the Day of Mourning). Ontario Horticultural Association N/E Region Rep, Charles Freeman, gave “hats off” to the Societies and thanked them for all that they do given the distance, geography, and climate in the north.

**Roll Call**

Cochrane 4 Kirkland Lake 3

Englehart 4 Porcupine 4

Iroquois Falls 4 Timmins 8

Kapuskasing 4 Past Directors 2

**Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting**

Copies of the minutes were distributed to all Societies.

Motion: Louis Fortier/Billie Rheault that the minutes be accepted as distributed. Carried.

Business Arising: Hosting an OHA Convention. Billie Rheault offered to investigate venue options, but she needs to know the required number of meeting rooms, etc. Anne Jamieson to follow up.

**Correspondence**

District Director Anne Jamieson received an email from each of the two current Assistant Directors advising her that they would finish their term and not continue again.

**Reports**

1. Financial – Kathy Buller – copies of the reports were distributed to the delegates

Treasurer Kathy Buller presented the audited 2017 financial statement showing a bank balance as of December 31 of $1,776.69

Special Projects Account $7,651.69

Bursary Account $4,246.80

Shares – Credit Union $ 25.00

Shares – Caisse Populaire $ 10.00

Motion: Kathy Buller/Louis Fortier that the report be accepted as presented. Carried.

A financial report for the period January 1 to April 28, 2018 showed a bank balance of $2,207.29

Special Projects Account $7,651.69

Bursary Account $4,160.64

Shares – Credit Union $ 25.00

Shares – Caisse Populaire $ 10.00

Motion: Kathy Buller/Bonnie Warner that the report be accepted as presented. Carried.

1. Bursary – Ginny Montminy

Two applications were received in 2017. Isabelle Heavener from Cochrane was the successful applicant.

2018 Bursary information was sent electronically to the eligible schools covering Hearst to Temiscaming Shores on May 15 with a June 16 closing date. The application form was updated to include a mandatory section where the applicant details why they should be selected for the award and any other supporting information. Applications will be reviewed on June 29.

Motion: Ginny Montminy/Rene Roy that the bursary report be accepted as presented. Carried

1. Webmaster – Bonnie Warner read printed report from Rick Heaslip in his absence

Total visitations to the District website in 2017 were 3,081, an increase of almost 200 visits over 2016. Since the June 1, 2014 launch of the website, there have been over 11,469 visits as of April 22, 2018. To date, for 2018 alone, the site has had 857 visits. Rick’s report highlighted updates to the website pages since the 2017 Annual Meeting.

Motion: Bonnie Warner/Eileen Fisher that the website report be accepted as read. Carried.

1. District Director – Anne Jamieson

Anne reported the following:

* Eileen Fisher and Bill Thiffault won prizes at the OHA Convention for “Creative Writing”.
* Thank you to Porcupine, Timmins and Englehart for their pollinator gardens. A $200 cheque from the OHA was divided between the three Societies. OHA and Lee Valley partnered for the pollinator signs which are available in French and English for $25.
* District reports are due May 1.
* Reviewed the Societies activities with children and youth members and Societies partnerships.
* Thanked Societies for reports being completed on time. The website will be more user friendly and is expected to be ready this summer.
* Distributed cheques for the return of the Secretary Treasurer Bonding Insurance. The cheque for New Liskeard went to the District as the Society is no longer active.
* OHA Convention is being held July 27-29 in downtown Kingston. Information is available on the OHA website. Reminder that the photography and publications entries are due May 1 and Creative Writing June 1.
* Question from the OHA on the best timing for the OHA Convention. August was chosen except for the long weekend.
* Each Society in District 12 has 2 Voting Delegates. Proxy forms have been revised. Deadline for submission of Proxy Votes is July 15.
* In lieu of flowers at the Convention, “In Memorium” names are listed and shown on a screen. A form is available for individual donations.
* OHA Summer Project. Mexican sunflower seeds were provided to the Societies with the expectation to have plants brought to the Convention and/or details such as area grown, time planted, etc.

Motion: Anne Jamieson/Cora Brown the District Director’s report be accepted as presented. Carried

1. Nominating Committee – Eileen Fisher

Eileen reported that she received two nomination letters. The names of those suggested were read.

Motion: Eileen Fisher/Billie Rheault that the Nominating Committee report be accepted as presented. Carried.

**Election of Officers and Financial Reviewers**

The meeting was turned over to Charles Freeman, OHA Vice President, to conduct the election. Charles declared all positions vacant.

**District Director**

The Nominating Committee received the name of Anne Jamieson for District Director. With no further nominations from the floor, Anne Jamieson stood as District Director.

**Assistant District Directors**

First Assistant, Shari Brown has moved and therefore not standing. With no nominations from the floor, the position was declared vacant. Barbara Stark, Second Assistant District Director, also did not stand for the position. Billie Rheault was nominated from the floor, seconded by Eileen Fisher. With no further nominations from the floor, Billie was declared Second Assistant District Director.

**Financial Reviewers**

Lisa Kowalski and Sylvie Bantten agreed to stand. There were no nominations from the floor. All voted in favour to have Lisa and Sylvie remain as Financial Reviewers.

Appointments:

The following appointments were made:

Secretary-Treasurer Kathy Buller (appointed by District Director)

Bursary Ginny Montminy / Amy Vickery-Menard (motion Bonnie Warner/Lisa Ahern/Elaine Kolomeitz, carried)

Webmaster Rick Heaslip (motion Billie Rheault/Eileen Fisher, carried)

Nominating Eileen Fisher (motion Margaret Hoggett/Elaine Kolomeitz, carried)

Installation of the new Executive was conducted by Charles Freeman.

**New Business**

1. Host Societies for Meetings

Fall 2018 Cochrane

Spring 2019 Porcupine

Fall 2019 Kirkland Lake

Spring 2020 Kapuskasing

Fall 2020 Englehart

1. Fall Competition

Having a fall competition was brought up at the last meeting. Possibly start with Mexican sunflowers. Suggested categories around the sunflower: photographs of plant growing, poem about sunflower. Timmins location for District 12

**Ontario Horticultural Association Activities – Charles Freeman**

Charles Freeman, who is the District Director for District 1 and the N/E Region rep, brought greetings from President Rose Odell.

Rose sent greetings from the Board. The Board meets three times a year with 19 District Directors.

Resolution of issues with the OHA website is taking longer than anticipated. The frontside is close to being completed and half of the backside is expected to be complete by September.

It has taken two years to get a pollinator garden at Queen’s Park.

A revised Awards Booklet has been issued and the judging booklet is almost complete.

The STIB monies have been distributed across the province.

The OHA Convention in Kingston from July 27-29 is 60’s based. The theme is “Shore to Shield”. At the Convention, loose tea will be sold as a fundraiser.

The purpose and goals of the OHA were reviewed. If the Societies had any questions they should give them to the District Director who would then report them at the Board Meeting.

Rose encouraged Societies to apply for grants.

Garden Ontario week will take place from June 9 – 17.

**Other Business**

None

**Lunch Break**

The lunch ladies, named the “Christian Crockpots” were thanked for a delicious lunch.

**The following speakers were featured in the afternoon**

1. Katrina Pelchet from TWIG spoke on how to make a “Herb Spiral” and the benefits of growing “Herb Spirals”.
2. Harri Ollila, Environmental Superintendent from McEwen Mining Inc., spoke on “Reclaiming the Land”. Harri also spoke about both the benefits and drawbacks of mining.
3. Vicki Lodovici from The Love Bug Flowers demonstrated “Spring Centerpieces”. The centerpiece was gifted to Louis and Sonia Fortier in honour of their 60th wedding anniversary.

**Resume Business**

Peggy McIntyre was nominated from the floor, for the position of First Assistant Director by Bonnie Warner. With no further nominations from the floor, Peggy was declared First Assistant District Director.

**Adjournment**

Motion: Rene Roy that the meeting adjourn. Carried