

GABRIOLA SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021

and

reconvened SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021

Chair: Dale Stohn

Secretary: Ken Manninen

In Attendance via Zoom for March 28th: Vanda Blok, Wanda Borley, Claudia Brann, Sherrill Dobb-Tisdall, Jennifer Feenan, Noni Fidler, Brenda Fowler, Marilyn Geater, Diane Green, Kaamran Hafeez, Howard Houle, Lynette Jackson, Kathleen Kane, Kim Kristiansen, Judith Madsen, Ken Manninen, Ellen Mills, Gary Mills, Dale Stohn, Richard Strachan, Christine Velsen, Bob Weenk , Hilary Plowright

In Attendance via Zoom for April 11th: Wanda Borley, Claudia Brann, Peter Danenhower, Sherill Dobb-Tisdall, Noni Fidler, Brenda Fowler, Diane Green, Kaamran Hafeez, Barb Hague, Howard Houle, Kathleen Kane, Kim Kristiansen, Ken Manninen, Ellen Mills, Gary Mills, Janis Pullinger, Dale Stohn, Richard Strachan, Wendy Strachan, Christin Velsen

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Dale Stohn called the meeting to order at 11:05 on Sunday, March 28th.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Moved by Kaamran Hafeez / Wanda Borley

carried

3. APPROVAL OF MAY 24, 2020 MINUTES:

Moved by Bob Weenk / Lynette Jackson

carried

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Dale Stohn

Please see 2021 President's Report - PDF

5. FINANCIAL REPORT MARCH 1, 2020 TO FEBRUARY 28, 2021: Sherrill Dobb-Tisdall

ASSETS

Bank Balance as of 28 Feb 2021
Chequing **\$11,778.28**
Savings **\$15,111.07**

INCOME

Memberships \$1,705.00
Activities \$1,375.45
Rentals \$4,120.00
Storage rentals \$2,332.94
Interest (cheq & sav) \$15.31
Donation \$422.00

TOTAL \$9,970.70

Grants

RDN \$2,100.00
New Horizons \$17,130.00

TOTAL \$19,230.00

LONG TERM ASSETS

Building insured for \$500,000.00
Contents insured for \$50,000.00

EXPENDITURES

Administration \$643.40
Cleaning & Supplies \$1,248.65
Maintenance Bldg/yard \$3,727.96
Utilities Electrical \$1,767.00
 Telephone \$550.44
Insurance D&O \$693.00
 Comm. Bldg \$2,071.00
 WorkSafeBC \$9.80

TOTAL \$10,711.25

Renos & Improvements

Royal Paving \$12,179.25
K&R Exc./Landsc/drainage \$4,950.75

TOTAL \$17,130.00

The financial report unanimously approval by participants.

6. ACTIVITY LEADERS' REPORTS:

Chess (member group)

The Rollo's Chess Club has been inactive for the past year, however most chess club regulars have been satisfying their taste for chess online. We look forward to resuming chess at the Rollo

at a yet to be determined future date. Submitted by Kaamran Hafeez

Contract Bridge (member group)

Due to COVID, the Thursday afternoon weekly Contract Bridge group stopped meeting at the Rollo Centre after the middle of March 2020. A few months later we started meeting on BBO, an online bridge site. Although the number of participants is fewer than at our face-to-face gatherings, that continues to the present day. It is far from ideal, but every small connection that can be maintained is a positive thing. I know we all look forward to resuming in-person card sessions as soon as it is safe to do so. Submitted by VandaBlok

Cribbage (member group)

No report submitted.

Discussion Group (member group)

The Discussion Group has been inactive since the last AGM. The passing of long-time founding member Ted Wilson is deeply mourned by the group. Submitted by Lynette Jackson

Duplicate Bridge (member group)

Vanda Blok reported that duplicate bridge stopped meeting at Rollo in March of 2020 when COVID19 restrictions were started.

Gabriola Players (on-going renter)

Like many arts organizations, 2020 was a challenging year for Gabriola Players. The global pandemic was declared in the middle of our 2020 One Act Play Festival and we decided, to ensure the safety of our audience as well as the cast and crew, to cancel the last two performances. Over the spring and early summer our Board explored ways that we could bring entertainment to our locked down community in a safe way. We

started by putting videos of past productions up on our web site and created a YouTube channel. We also decided to try Zoom based live performances. Broadcast rights for commercial scripts are prohibitively expensive, but luckily two of our members wrote short plays on a pandemic theme. We broadcast these over Zoom in early September and over 100 people signed up to watch the show. Based on the success of this show, we decided to do a Christmas themed show in December, again using Zoom and featuring plays by local playwrights and also featuring local musicians. We had even more people watch this show. We are now planning to present our One Act Play Festival virtually in the spring.

While it has been a difficult year, we are proud to have been able to continue to bring live theatre to Gabriolans in a virtual way and we look forward to getting back to in person performances when conditions make this possible.

Submitted by Dave Innell

Garden Club (on-going renter)

Covid 19 restrictions forced cancellation of our April and May 2020 meetings. But not the Open Gardens already scheduled for the summer.

By creating one way routes, encouraging social distancing and mask use and keeping in mind these open gardens were “look but don’t touch” events, the Open Gardens tours were a big success. On the last Sunday of May through August, three gardens were open for a few hours for Garden Club members to visit. Everyone enjoyed themselves immensely, with more than ninety Garden Club members visiting each garden in a four hour period, and fitting in at least one garden centre for a tour and shop too!

Once September arrived, and it was clear we would not be meeting in person for some time to come, a newsletter to members has gone out to members once a month on our usual meeting date.

The newsletter follows our established meeting format in written form and contains links to helpful articles and videos as well as the photos entered for the monthly raffle draw. Three winners are randomly picked and they visit the raffle organizer's house to select their prize from a basket of options set out. January of 2021 the Garden Club started collecting memberships again and decided to extend the Open Garden season from April to August so members could tour and view spring bulbs in members' gardens.

Garden Club membership remains strong though we are not yet back to the 165 members we had prior to Covid lockdowns.

Submitted by Noni Fidler

Gather 'n Stitch (member group)

The restrictions around social gatherings and COVID-19 meant that early last spring regular indoor meetings were soon put on hold or became uncertain. Although we did meet several times indoors last spring with social distancing and masks on we soon moved to outdoor gatherings in the better weather. Weekly emails were sent out to tell us where to meet and when and we had some lovely gatherings in backyards around the island until the cooler weather set in and lockdowns went into effect. Since last summer email has been our only method of gathering as we keep up to date with lockdown restrictions and hope for in person gatherings to start again soon. Submitted by Noni Fidler

Mah Jong (member group)

Due to the pandemic restrictions, the Mahjong group did not meet from March 2020 onwards. Submitted by Kathi Chorneyko

Palette People (member group)

The Gabriola Palette People have had little chance to meet at the GSCA due to COVID 19. During the windows that were available to us we hosted one of our two annual workshops in early spring while still maintaining the required social distance. In June we held a meeting outside on the grounds. We did not host our annual Summer Show although three of our members used the building for the Thanksgiving Studio Tour using acceptable health protocols.

Our AGM was held in October via Zoom and again using the Rollo facilities for those unable to connect virtually. New members were elected to the Palette People executive at this time.

We continue to work with the Photography Club, the Spinners and Weavers, and the Quilters to schedule times for work to be displayed on the Rollo walls although this has been discontinued until the facility reopens.

Like many groups on Gabriola our membership has lost many good friends who have left for a variety of reasons but we have also added new members to our ranks and maintain a steady membership population of between 30-40 members.

Our membership hangs their work in various locations throughout the year and continues to be committed to providing a safe and caring opportunity for visual artists, of all abilities, to practise their craft. We want to thank the GSCA board for their support and their vision of providing a facility in which this can occur. The quality of art that we produce is a testament to the success of this goal.

We are looking forward to a time when we can once again meet as a group and in the meantime we ZOOM!

submitted by Barbara Hague

PHC (on-going renter)

It goes without saying that 2020 was a rollercoaster ride! When the Stepping Up Stepping Out Program, the monthly Seniors Lunch and the New Age of Aging educational series all stopped due to the pandemic, we had to decide how to transition to continue to meet the needs of seniors in the community.

Looking back:

In late 2019/early 2020, seniors' programs were running with strong participation numbers: a highlight was the Senior's Appreciation dinner in November - a collaboration between PHC, Robert Sutzman of Robert's Place, and the students of Gabriola Elementary School. This was followed by the Seniors' annual Christmas lunch with over 50 people in attendance. There were 22 people registered for the New Age of Aging presentation on Substance Use Guidelines on Feb 21st, and the SUSO program was averaging 20 participants on Mondays, and 15 people on Saturdays. Program participation numbers were beginning to dwindle by early March as the word of the pandemic began circulating, and the hammer hit on March 16th, when all programs were shut down under the direction of the Health Authority.

Recognizing that we were likely to be in it for the long haul, we began transitioning our services to an outreach model that has included:

- Weekly & monthly lunch deliveries to over 60 seniors in the community (since April 2020)
- Weekly activities with each lunch delivery - quizzes, arts & craft activities, puzzles, etc.
- Phone outreach for seniors wanting regular check-ins & phone chats.

- Creation of a Newsletter to keep people connected - “The SUSO Sun”
- In the Summer of 2020, we held five outdoor social gatherings at different locations, providing a wonderful opportunity for small numbers of seniors to meet again after a pent-up winter, a chance to meet in-person, socialize & enjoy a pie and ice cream picnic
- A technology outreach project started in Sept of 2020, called the Senior ZOOMers, to connect seniors in the Day Program via a weekly ZOOM get-together
- The monthly New Age of Aging series restarted in February of 2021, using ZOOM

Fall 2020 and Re-start of the Day Program:

- A reopening plan was submitted to Island Health in September 2020, and the program re-started at the Rollo Centre on Oct 3rd, offering 15 program days through Oct/Nov
- The program looked quite different: a maximum of 8 participants per day, the same 8 people and staff on each day, one person sitting at each table, in addition to all the required masking and sanitation protocols
- While it seemed a short interlude, this opportunity for the seniors to socialize and reconnect was incredibly important, as we headed into the long pandemic winter.
PHC will continue to flex and adapt to the changing health directives, but staff, volunteers and seniors are all looking forward to the day when the programs can re-start in person at the Rollo Centre. The seniors are always asking, “When can we meet again at the Rollo Centre?” We all hope - SOON!

Submitted by Suzette Delmage, Seniors Program Coordinator. People for a Healthy Community

Photography (member group)

"This year has indeed been a strange one for all of us around the world and, of course, the Gabriola Photography Club has unfortunately not been able to use any of the facilities of the Rollo Centre for the entire year due to the Covid restrictions. We live in hope that 2021 will eventually be better and that perhaps we can start meeting there again in the fall - we hope! In the meantime, we have continued to keep the Club going with Zoom meetings twice a month at our regularly scheduled time and have been able to bring in a number of speakers from around the world to talk to us through that technology. Unfortunately, some Club members do not feel comfortable using Zoom so they have not been participating much this year but, on the other hand, we have picked up some new members and we hope that 2021 will see a good attendance when we are able to start back at the Rollo. We continue to curate the exhibition space downstairs at the Medical Centre on Church Street and have had Club-wide and solo exhibitions there and at the Professional Centre on North Road."

Submitted by Diane Green

Quilting (member group)

1. The year of 2020 started with our regular quilting sessions, meeting on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays of each month and with Members mostly working on their own projects. Plans were made for a guest teacher to come in April to conduct a workshop on "free motion quilting". Unfortunately, this had to be cancelled when the Rollo Centre had to shut down due to Covid-19.

2. In May, plans were initiated, by emails, to make a "group quilt for a special person". Several members made, at home, quilt blocks for a large quilt and contributed them. The finished quilt was presented to Dr. Bosman as a retirement gift on June 2nd at the Clinic

3. July 29th to Sept. 6th—Our turn to exhibit our quilts at the Rollo for our annual SHOW and SALE. While the hanging SHOW received many compliments, the Sale, planned for the Labour Day weekend, had to be cancelled.

4. September to October—The Rollo had opened for a few weeks for small groups. Several members met in the AM and enjoyed “social distancing”

5. November-- December 23rd. A knowledgeable technical member asked the group to send her pictures and a write-up about all the projects and activities that had been done at home. She put a terrific “Christmas Virtual Show and Tell” together which was emailed to all members on Dec.23rd. She then initiated “Virtual Sew-in meetings which are now held on our regular meeting dates in 2021.

6. Plans for 2021—Annual Show and Sale—The four groups which exhibit at the Rollo have not yet met to schedule the hanging dates for 2021. The quilters SALE is in conjunction with the Cultivate Festival on July 3rd and 4th, so our Show should be around those dates, hopefully.

7. June 15th to Aug. 6th—Two FIBRE ARTISTS, Sue Vohanka and Morag Orr Stevens, will be presenting a Joint Show, titled “MIND TRAVELLING” at the Gabriola Professional Centre, during the above dates.

Submitted by Pat Jordan

Spinners & Weavers (member group)

No report submitted.

7. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS:

Wanda Borley

From Alberta, I've lived on Gabriola for the past 18 years. I have enjoyed taking part in many activities since coming to the island: volunteering with the Coast Emergency Communications Association (CECA) and the Gabriola Volunteer Fire Department as part of the amateur radio support group for them; serving on the board of the Silva Bay Yacht Club, the Gabriola Auxiliary and most recently, I have served one year on the GSCA as a director.

Claudia Brann

Claudia Brann has public health nursing and community development training and has worked with programs in many countries in Africa and Asia, developing services and education on HIV, adolescent health and maternal and child health. She is a certified family mediator and is currently coordinating the new Gabriola Home Hospice Program with People for a Healthy Community. She has lived on Gabriola for six years and loves the community spirit and cooperative values of the island.

Sherrill Dobb-Tisdal

For the past 24 years I have lived on Gabriola and enjoyed the Rollo Centre as a regular bridge and mah-jong player. I have been on the GSCA board for 4 years, serving as Treasurer.

Noni Fidler

This is the last year I can run for Board member, having being first elected to the Board at the 2015 AGM. I am currently Vice President and Past Chair of the Renovations Committee. I would like to finish two projects that have been gathering funding, the

rebuilding of the deck and the renewal of the Memory Garden. My Rollo affiliate activity group is Gather n'Stitchers and the long term renter, the Gabriola Garden Club.

Kaamran Hafeez

Kaamran moved to Gabriola from Vancouver in September of 2017. His mother, Joan Hafeez, a potter, has been on the Island for over 20 years. Currently, Kaamran makes his living as a cartoonist, and runs the Gabriola Chess Club. He is the Rollo's Event Coordinator.

Howard Houle

As a long time resident of Gabriola I have seen the Rollo Senior's Center grow and change over the years. The Rollo rents out to a number of groups providing a place for a large number of gabriolans to meet friends and neighbours. There are a number of programs from PHC held at the Rollo to help seniors get the most out of life. I feel honoured to have served on the board this last year and hope to continue in this next term.

Kim Kristiansen

Lived in Nanaimo 1955 – 1977. Lived on Gabriola 1977 – present.

Grade 12 NDSS. Two years Malaspina College (Fine Arts).

Recently retired from his own cleaning company, which he owned and operated locally since 1993. Before that worked in Nanaimo for contract cleaning companies.

Hobbies: Design (website is Sandstoneconceptus.com), collecting old coins and bills, chess, badminton, going for walks, and small carpentry.

Ken Manninen

I believe in contributing to the success of organizations I benefit from and joined the GSCA board as Secretary and

Communications Coordinator in July of 2019. I'm the one who sends out the Rollo Communications messages to you. I have been a Palette People member since moving to Gabriola in 2013.

Gary Mills

I have been a resident of Gabriola for 14 years. I have had the pleasure of serving on the board for the last 6 years, 5 years as Maintenance Coordinator.

Dale Stohn

I have lived on Gabriola for 11 years. I love island life! It is always wonderful to see so many people having a wonderful time at the Rollo!

Having no additional nominations from the floor, the 10 candidates were acclaimed elected.

8. **NEW BUSINESS:** Resolutions for changes to the constitution and bylaws were sent to members on February 26, 2021 with the announcement of the AGM. Deliberations commenced on March 28th but were suspended when a quorum was lost. The AGM was reconvened on Sunday, May 11th to finish the AGM. Dale Stohn called the meeting to order at 11:05.

Resolution 1: Whereas the second purpose in the Gabriola Senior Citizens Association constitution does not encompass the full range of activities hosted at Rollo ***be it resolved*** that the second purpose be modified as ***To provide and operate a multi-use facility for members of the Association.***

Motion by Ken Manninen / Howard Houle to approve ***Resolution 1*** *carried with support of greater than 75% of participants*

Resolution 2: Whereas the Gabriola Senior Citizens Association bylaws do not address virtual meetings specifically and the current COVID-19 situation has demanded holding meetings virtually **be it resolved** that Part 3.23 of the GSCA bylaws be modified as **Notice of a meeting of the members of the Association must specify the place, day and hour of the meeting unless the Board determines the need for a virtual meeting in which case instructions for joining such a meeting will be provided to members in lieu of a location. In the case of special business, the nature of the business must also be identified.**

Motion by Ken Manninen / Gary Mills to approve **Resolution 2**
carried with support of greater than 75% of participants

Resolution 3: Whereas the Gabriola Senior Citizens Association bylaws do not define the length of a director's term on the Board and whereas the rules for election of directors in the GSCA bylaws, Part 5.39(2) may be problematic for virtual meetings **be it resolved** that Part 5.39 be replaced in its entirety as follows:

(1) Directors shall serve for two-year terms

(2) A director may be elected to three successive terms.

After serving for three terms, the director must not stand again for election until one fiscal year has passed

(3) An election may be by acclamation, otherwise it must be held by ballot, overseen by the chair of the Nominations Committee and such other persons as he or she deems necessary. In the event of a virtual meeting, if a vote by ballot is required, the chair of the Nominations Committee will seek approval by 2/3 majority vote of participating members on a motion defining the manner in which to conduct the vote at that time.

Motion by Ken Manninen / Noni Fidler to approve **Resolution 3**
carried with support of greater than 75% of participants

Resolution 4: Whereas the Gabriola Senior Citizens Association bylaws require nominations for Board directors to be submitted three weeks prior to the AGM **be it resolved** that the timing of submission of nominations in Part 6.50 be changed to **Members may also nominate persons from the eligible list of members. The written nomination must be signed by the proposer, seconder and the nominee, signifying their willingness to serve should they be elected. All nomination documents must be received by the Nominations Committee at least 24 hours prior to the announced commencement of the Annual General Meeting.**

Motion by Howard Houle / Wanda Borley to refer **Resolution 4** to committee for further study and to bring back to members for consideration at the 2022 AGM. *carried*

Resolution 5: Whereas the Gabriola Senior Citizens Association bylaws assign responsibility for maintaining a membership list to the Board secretary while the treasurer actually has the most current list of paid members **be it resolved** that the responsibility for the membership list be removed from the role of secretary in Part 8.63 and be transferred to the treasurer in Part 8.64 as **maintain the register of members as defined in Part 2 of these bylaws**

Motion by Ken Manninen / Sherrill Dodd-Tisdall to approve **Resolution 5** *carried with support of greater than 75% of participants*

9. **ADJOURNMENT:** Dale Stohn adjourned the meeting at 12:13.