

GABRIOLA SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

Chair: Dale Stohn

Secretary: Ken Manninen

In Attendance via Zoom: Wanda Blok, Linda Blokhuisen, Wanda Borley, Claudia Brann, Kathi Chorneyko, Sherrill Dobb-Tisdall, Joan Eamer, John Ewert, Ute Ewert, Jenn Feenan, Noni Fidler, Kaamran Hafeez, Diane Greene, Barb Hague, Molly Henney, Howard Houle, Lynette Jackson, Darla Jamieson, Janet Johnson, Kathleen Kane, Randi Lynch, Barbara MacIsaac, Judith Madsen, Ken Manninen, Karen McCavour, Carol McClelland, Ellen Mills, Gary Mills, Sharron Palmer-Hunt, Bill Reynolds, Lynne Reynolds, Franco Scarfone, Dale Stohn, Richard Strachen, Bob Weenk, Judy Weenk (26 members and 10 Board members)

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Dale Stohn called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**
Moved by Janet Johnson / Wanda Borley carried
3. **APPROVAL OF MARCH 31, 2019 MINUTES:**
Moved by Bob Weenk / Kaamran Hafeez carried
4. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Dale Stohn**
Please see the PowerPoint presentation, 'ROLLO 2020 PRESIDENT'S REPORT'

Moved to accept the 2020 President's Report by
Barb Hague / Jenn Feenan

carried

5. FINANCIAL REPORT MARCH 1, 2019 TO FEB 28, 2020 - Sherrill Dobb-Tisdall

ASSETS

Bank Balance as of 29 Feb 2020
Chequing **\$12,090.53**
Savings **\$15,096.70**

INCOME

Memberships \$5,208.00
Activities \$11,371.40
Rentals \$15,975.35
Storage rentals \$3,745.54
Interest (cheq & sav) \$54.28
Donation \$20.00

TOTAL \$36,374.57

Grants & GSCA Savings

RDN \$10,000.00
GSCA Savings \$5,993.25

TOTAL \$15,993.25

LONG TERM ASSETS

Building insured for \$500,000
Contents insured for \$50,000

EXPENDITURES

Administration \$2,389.29
Cleaning & Supplies \$5,803.07
Maintenance Bldg/yard \$10,134.87
Utilities Electrical \$1,802.07
 Telephone \$528.78
Insurance D&O \$630.00
 Comm. Bldg \$2,719.00
 WorkSafeBC \$33.12

TOTAL \$24,040.20

Renos & Improvements

Heat Pumps \$15,893.25
Paint - h/c br \$100.00

TOTAL \$15,993.25

Moved to accept the Financial Report to Feb 28, 2020 by
Gary Mills / Lynette Jackson

carried

6. ACTIVITY LEADER'S REPORTS

Chess Club: Meets every Wednesday from 7 – 9pm. Average turn out is 8 participants - some nights as many as 11 or 12. We have a wide range of experience from beginner to expert. All ages welcome. Chess sets and clocks are provided by the club, and tea and cookies are served.
Submitted by Kaamran Hafeez

Contract Bridge: Players meet every Thursday from 1:30 p.m. – 4:30. There are usually 4 or 5 tables (16 – 20 people). Tea, coffee and cookies are served. Submitted by Wanda Blok

Cribbage: No report submitted.

The Discussion Group: This group is the Rollo Seniors' Centre's longest running activity group. The group meets in the Small Room on Monday mornings, rain or shine, from 10 a.m. to noon. The first hour is devoted to presentations by each group member on a specified topic. After a coffee and cookie break at 11, the group reconvenes to share a more casual discussion and together a topic of interest for the following week is chosen. All members are welcome to attend and share your ideas on a vast array of interesting and topical subjects. The group will likely be changing their format in the upcoming year. Submitted by Lynette Jackson

Gabriola Duplicate Bridge Club: The Duplicate Bridge Club meets Monday evenings at 6:30pm and our table numbers have averaged about 5 tables. Player fees are \$4 for members of the Rollo Centre and \$6 for non-members. The Club is a sanctioned club under the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) and therefore players who also belong to the ACBL can earn masterpoints. Being an ACBL club, we also pay a table fee to the ACBL, which is included in the calculation of the player fee. The Club, like so many other groups, suspended bridge games in early March and we hope to resume by the end of summer. The management team of the club is comprised of Franco Scarfone, Bob Scott and Kees Langereis. Franco and Bob are also the club's ACBL accredited game directors. In other words, when there is a question on a bid or procedure at a table, they determine how it will be resolved. This requires them to be knowledgeable of the ACBL Game rules (and there are many covering just about any aspect of the game). On a sad note, the club recently lost a well liked, gentle-giant bridge player when Jim Ramsay died. He could always be counted on to help. He played bridge seriously but not too much- "It's just a game" being one of his responses when bidding went wrong. We all miss him. Our attendance is due to the diligence of Ruth Miller in sending out weekly notices to the extensive distribution list and her efforts to find a partner for those without one. We are always interested in attracting new members of all skill levels in the game. All it takes is a willingness to learn.

When we restart bridge, people interested in playing duplicate bridge can call Ruth at 250-247-2017.

Respectfully submitted by Kees Langereis

Garden Club: The club was established in 1991 so next year will be our 30th anniversary. The Club currently has 165 members, with a regular meeting attendance of at least 65 members. Our meetings have a magazine type format with announcements of nearby events, tips, tools, tricks, book of the month, plant of the month, what to do in the garden each month and a carefully chosen guest speaker. Almost every month there are donated plants or gardeny items for sale, access to our huge rolling library cart to check out books as well as a very popular raffle and goodies and refreshments. This past season we had informative guest speakers on topics such as growing figs, incorporating herbs in perennial beds, gardening in climate change, pruning, landscaping with bulbs, backyard birding, and the history of the latin naming of plants.

One Sunday of each month of the summer, up to three member gardens are open to Garden Club members to tour and ask questions. These gardens can range from barely begun to mature and offer members a chance to get cuttings or ideas or sources of good plants that are a good fit with our growing conditions. Submitted by Noni Fidler

Gather 'N Stitch: This group originally formed at the Hive about four years ago and were homeless when the Hive closed. Last fall we were very happy to have found a time and place to meet here at the Rollo. We are quite a large group of fibre crafters and jewellery artists but most often at least a dozen of us come together to have a cup of tea and a chat, some show and tell of finished projects and help or discussion about current projects. We are most grateful that the lighting is so good, the chairs are comfortable and the room is big enough to accommodate us. Submitted by Noni Fidler

The Mah Jong: The players meet every Wednesday afternoon from 1:30-3:30 to play a relaxed game of Mah Jong with sets of colourful tiles. The number of players varies from 3 to 9 with three or four players per table. Newcomers are welcome and no experience or equipment is required. Respectfully submitted by Karen Apps.

The Palette People: This art group currently consists of 38 members a slight increase from last year as we continue our efforts to encourage new membership.

We have continued to invite local artists in to speak to our group on different aspects of their artistic process and have advertised these sessions to encourage the general public to come and join us for these entertaining and informative talks. This initiative has attracted some new members which was one of our goals. A secondary goal which has arisen out of this initiative has been to draw together the visual arts community which exists on Gabriola.

We offer two workshops a year open to all our members and to the public if space allows. These workshops are held on weekends and are largely responsible for the increase in the quality and quantity of the work hung at the Rollo Centre and throughout the community. We realize how fortunate we are to have this facility in which to practise our craft and we thank the Board for allowing us to do so.

Many of our members showed work at Life Labs., Robert's Place, Church Street Medical Centre and the North Road Professional Centre. We continued to hang our work at the Port Theatre and of course the Rollo Centre on a rotating basis. This Christmas we hung 34 peices our largest hanging ever. Our annual summer show provided us with an excellent venue in which to hang our newest work and was well attended by Gabriolans and visitors alike.

We continued to provide materials and support for the after school painting classes at the elementary school led by our member Judith Madsen.

We enjoyed a small Christmas celebration as we decorated the centre for the holiday season.

We are a mixed group varying in degrees of skill who are willing to share what expertise we have in a variety of mediums. We welcome new members at any time.

Submitted by Barb Hague

The Gabriola Photography Club: The club was busy over the 2019 year. We have had presentations by members and guests at each meeting with club photos included which are relating to the topic at hand. Topics such as travel, photo equipment use, community art, photo techniques, nature's wonders and so much more have kept the meetings (twice a month) interesting and regularly attended. We have taken over the curation of exhibition work at our local medical centre (downstairs gallery) and have ongoing individual and group exhibitions there. We also continue to have two annual photo shows at the Rollo in May and November. Individual members also display their prints at other Island venues as well as at the Port Theatre in Nanaimo. We have an ongoing monthly social at a local pub and go out on group photo shoots. This year we have also had outings with other photo groups from Vancouver Island and have hosted photo groups on three occasions on Gabriola. We are planning a 2021 public workshop and professional judging course to take place in Nanaimo with two of the area's other photo clubs. We are a small club of around 40 members but have been adding a few new members each year. We have ongoing membership promotion through our website, exhibitions and by word of mouth. The club has continued to carry on with business using Zoom through the current public health disruptions.

Submitted by Sharron Palmer-Hunt

The Gabriola Players: The Players had a very successful year. In March we presented our One Act Play Festival , which featured some special guests, members of Galiano Players, visiting to perform Norm Foster's comedy My Narrator. We presented Whisking Eggs and Living in Paradise by local playwright Lesley Hazeldine. In May our full length play was Norm Foster's comedy Old Love. In July we presented Shakespeare's Love's Labour's Lost. While this was supposed to be presented at the Commons, we had to move some performances into Rollo because of inclement weather. We appreciate your flexibility in allowing us to use the space at short notice. In August we participated in the Cultivate Festival with Special Delivery. This was the same short scene, done three ways by threes sets of actors. Great fun! And finally in November we presented our annual pantomime at the Community Hall. This year it was Ali Baba. All of the rehearsal for this, like all of our productions were done at the Rollo Centre. In addition to almost 100 rehearsal sessions, we also used Rollo for auditions and two workshops. Submitted by Dave Innell.

The Quilters' Activity Group: We meet all year round on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays of each month, from 9:30 AM until 4:00 PM.

While members usually work on their own projects they also produce many items that benefit the community and articles for our annual "Show and Sale".

During the 2019 year, various members made:

1. Log Cabin blocks for the "Quilts of Valour" project, a "Canada Society" enterprise to present a completed quilt to each War veteran in Canada. B.C. made quilts will go to B.C.vets.
2. "Fidget" quilts for the People for a Healthy Community"
3. "Mug Rugs" for Meals on Wheels.
4. Two colourful bed quilts for the twin boys from Eritrea, whose family is being sponsored by SAGA.
5. Some members, who also belong to the Nanaimo Guild, made quilts for the "Haven", a shelter for abused women and their children.
6. Occasionally we make a group quilt for a special event, a fund raiser or a person.

Quilters and Fibre Artists exhibited their works at the Port Theatre, the Centre Gallery at the Professional Centre on North Road, the Church Street Gabriola Medical Clinic, and at the Rollo Centre during the month of August.

A successful two day Sale was held at the Rollo Centre over the Labour Day weekend, which coincided with the Cultivate Festival. This year our SHOW will start on Wednesday, July 29th,2020, and hang until Sunday, September 6th, with our 4th Annual Sale on the Labour Day weekend again.

For more information on the Quilters please visit the GSCA website and click on "ACTIVITY INFO" and "GALLERY"

Submitted by Pat Jordan

PHC Seniors' Programs:

Stepping Up Stepping Out Program:

The past year has been a milestone in many respects for the SUSO program. February of 2020 marked a year since the SUSO program began offering the program twice per week at the Rollo Centre, with up to 24 participants on Mondays, and up to 18 on Saturdays. The program balances the cognitive, physical, emotional and spiritual needs of individuals, while participants benefit from having fun in a social setting. It also provides an opportunity for some of our more vulnerable and isolated seniors to connect with their peers and community. The program is supported by 5 part-time staff and 8 amazing volunteers.

The Rollo Centre continues to provide an ideal location on many fronts: the well-equipped kitchen and the ability to store a large fridge in the back locker area, have made it possible for the kitchen team to produce, delicious nutritious lunches for the seniors. The lunches are an integral part of the program, providing an opportunity for our group to socialize as they share a delicious meal.

We appreciate having the moving trolleys for chairs and tables, making it easier to adapt the room according to the activities of the day: table conversation and games, sing-a-longs, storytelling, arts and crafts, intergenerational activities or exercise classes. The participants of our program also love the creative works on display from the different member groups of the Rollo, the ever changing mosaic of art work, photography, and textile creations provides a beautiful backdrop and stimulates conversation and reflection.

The recent renovation to create a full locker space from a half locker space will make a huge improvement in our ability to efficiently store supplies for all of the seniors programs (thank you Gary Mills!)

Seniors Monthly Lunch:

This monthly event (scheduled every fourth Thursday of the month, except for Dec and Aug) continues to have a popular following, with many of Gabriola's "old-timers" and also some new faces, coming out in the past year. New this year was a special "Seniors' Appreciation Lunch" held in November. This was a collaboration between Robert Stutzman (Robert's Place), the SUSO program, the PHC Food Bank and Grade 7 and 8 students from Gabriola Elementary School. The traditional September BBQ

sponsored by the Lunch Bunch, an Oktoberfest celebration in the Fall, and the December Christmas lunch, continue to be well attended, supported by a team of 11 volunteers.

The New Age of Aging:

This informative lecture series held once per month (second Friday of each month, not in July, Aug), provides timely and relevant information on topics relating to Aging Well and Aging in Place. The presentations have been well attended and have included diverse topics including Housing for an Aging population, Advance Care Planning, Brain Health, Mindful Meditation, Substance Use Guidelines for 65+, Fall Prevention, Elder Abuse Awareness, and Nutrition.

I wish to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to the Board of the Rollo Centre for their collaboration and support of the Stepping Up Stepping Out program as it has grown and evolved over the past few years, and we all look forward to the day when all the programs can start up again!

Submitted by Suzette Delmage, Seniors' Program Coordinator, PHC

Gabriola Spinners and Weavers Guild:

The Guild usually does group projects. We had started on projects for the 2021 Association of North West Weavers Guilds Conference to be held in Salem Oregon, and will continue on with the planning of the booth display and the Noh Coat challenge when we can meet again.

Submitted by Luanne McCollum

7. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS:

Slate of Candidates for the GSCA 2019/20 Board

Wanda Borley: I was born and raised on a farm in northern Alberta and spent the majority of my working life in Calgary where I worked primarily in administrative positions in the legal and oil and gas industries. It was a long-standing dream to retire to the west coast and I realized that dream when I retired to Gabriola in 2002. Since coming to the island I have served on the board of the Silva Bay Yacht Club and the Gabriola Auxiliary. As a

member of the Gabriola Quilters I enjoy the services provided by the GSCA at the Rollo Centre and am looking forward to giving a little back.

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 five years and loves the community spirit and cooperative values of the island.

Sherrill Dobb-Tisdall: For the past 23 year 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 2 years, serving as Treasurer.

Noni Fidler: Over the years I have enjoyed participating in various Rollo activities that align with my gardening, spinning, weaving, and knitting interests. I have served on the GSCA board for the past 5 years; for 2 years I served as the Renovations Coordinator and am currently the Vice-President.

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 Centre 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 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.

Barbara MacIsaac: I am a recent transplant to Gabriola from Ontario, where I served on several boards, including one devoted to seniors. I continue to enjoy contributing to the Rollo Centre as the Supplies Coordinator.

Ken Manninen: My wife and I retired to Gabriola 6 years ago after owning property here for over 5 years. After a 30 year career in the sciences I am keeping a promise to myself to focus more time pursuing my love of creating art and as such have been a member of the Palette People since moving here. I believe in contributing to the success of organizations I benefit from and currently serve on the executive of the Palette People and recently joined the GSCA board as Secretary and Communications Coordinator.

Gary Mills: I have been a resident of Gabriola for 13 years. I have had the pleasure of serving on the board for the last 5 years, 4 years as Maintenance Coordinator.

Dale Stohn: I moved from Ontario ten years ago, and love island life on Gabriola. I have been on the GSCA board for 6 years in many capacities. I also am a regular contract bridge player.

Moved to approve the 10 candidates for the 2020/21 GSCA Board of Directors by Lynne Reynolds / Molly Henney **carried**

8. NEW BUSINESS:

Ken Manninen reported that the board had completed a review of approximately half of the GSCA policy documents and that as reviews were completed individual policy documents were being posted to the Gabriola Senior Citizens website. A new policy called *Maintaining Civility* was introduced this year that deals with expected member conduct and consequences of not living up to this expectation. The new policy is posted on the website.

QUESTIONS:

Q. What is the current membership?

A. 159

Q. Was there any consideration for expanding the deck when repairs take place this summer?

A. The scope of the grant only covers retopping and replacing the stairs as the understructure was deemed in good shape

Comment: Bob Weenk has a replacement paulownia seedling to replace the Empress Tree if the Board is interested.

Q. What are the future projects being considered for Rollo as past possible suggestions have included roof water collection, solar panel installation and landscaping?

A. Installation of a cistern for trickle collection of well water is being considered to deal with water surge demands. Upgrade to the Memorial Garden is currently in the works.

Q. Will user groups be notified when Rollo will be opening and what plans will be in place?

A. Yes and the Board is currently monitoring direction from public health in considering when to re-open Rollo. The kitchen will not be available in the initial stages of opening at the direction of the Vancouver Island Health Authority. Activity groups may wish to submit plans they could undertake when access to Rollo is available.

9. ADJOURNMENT: Dale Stohn adjourned the meeting at 2:15