 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**November 3, 2016**

**MINUTES**

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MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of the Heritage Chilliwack Society held on November 3, 2016 at the Royal Hotel, Chilliwack, BC.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Laura Reid, President of the Board of Directors, called the meeting to order. She noted that a quorum was established based on the number of members that were present (17). A full list of those present is available from the Secretary.

1. MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**It was moved by Brenda Janzen, seconded by Verna Harron, that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Heritage Chilliwack Society held on October 29, 2015 be approved as presented. CARRIED**

1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Verna Harron, Treasurer of the Heritage Chilliwack Society, reported on the 2015-2016 Financial Statements (hard copies were distributed at the meeting). A few points were highlighted, including:

* Revenue and expenses – our Home Tour fundraiser and money from Tourism Chilliwack helped to increase our revenue for the year, so that we ended the year in better shape than we started.
* Laura Reid clarified that $500 have been set aside for our heritage designation fund, which will most likely be used to assist St. Thomas Anglican Church in their move towards designating the church.
* A question was asked about what the Home Tour expenses were. Verna clarified that most of the expenses were for rental of St. Thomas’ hall (washroom facility), printing of the advertising posters, and paying Society House to cover the tapas.

**It was moved by Monica Braun, seconded by Garth Williams, that the Financial Statements for the year September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016 be accepted as presented. CARRIED**

1. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS’ REPORT

Laura Reid, President of the Board of Directors, recapped some of our successes over the past year including:

* forging relationships with: Tourism Chilliwack, which resulted in the publication of our Downtown Walking Tour brochure; Downtown BIA with our participation in Party in the Park; the Fraser Valley Regional Library in using their meeting space for our member meetings in the Chilliwack branch and with our participation in the Sardis branch’s Culture Week, where we engaged children by having them create button spinner toys;
* Canada Day participation in which we provided “Old-fashioned Children’s Games”. This was a huge hit and we have been invited back for the 2017 celebration.

Looking to 2017, Laura highlighted a number of activities/initiatives we will be involved with:

* Continuing with the theme of collaboration, we will continue to work on building relationships with the City of Chilliwack. Karen Stanton, Manager of Strategic Planning, was invited to speak at our May *Heritage Designation* seminar, and was quite surprised at the number of people who turned out (we had over 50 people in attendance). We are also committed to working on building a relationship with Chilliwack Museum & Archives. Despite our request for free photos falling on ‘deaf ears’, we will continue to show our support of the museum by attending any special events held at the museum. We will be reaching out to other heritage based societies such as: The Atchelitz Thresherman’s Society, CMEC (Canadian Military Education Centre), and CFB Chilliwack Historical Society.
* We have been invited by the Chilliwack branch of the Fraser Valley Regional Library to have a display set up for Heritage Week.
* Engaging more youth in heritage matters will be a focus for 2017, as our current membership tends towards an older demographic.
* The need to find other revenue sources. The society is in the process of applying to the CRA for charity status; this will allow us to apply for grants.
* Involvement with the May 2017 BCHF conference being held in Chilliwack. We were invited to be on the planning committee – Laura is our representative.
* We will continue to participate in Party in the Park, but may do it differently based on input from some of our members.
* Lastly, our 2017 Fall Home Tour, which will require many volunteers. This is our major fundraiser for the society.

Laura thanked the volunteers for the time, energy, and money they donate to the society, as well as their efforts in spreading the word about the importance of heritage. Successful events like the Home Tour would not be possible without our volunteers! On that note, she also pointed out that most of the memberships will be renewed in 2017 (2 yr. membership) and we would most likely be going to yearly memberships and a possible increase in dues.

1. HERITAGE CHILLIWACK AWARDS

Our inaugural awards were presented as follows:

* **Volunteer Recognition** went to Garth Williams (presented by Krista Brennan)
* **Homeowner Recognition** went to the Sache family for Mercer House (presented by Laura Reid)
* **Business Recognition** went to Chaos & Solace Craft Brewery (presented by Verna Harron)
1. OTHER BUSINESS

Laura put forth to the members a special by-law resolution: “*The Board of Directors shall be elected by the membership for a term of two years with no limit on the number of terms a Director can be elected to serve”.*

**It was moved by Cameron Hull, seconded by Garth Williams, that the by-law resolution be accepted as presented. With a 100% approval the motion was CARRIED**

Laura opened the floor to any volunteers/nominations for Directors. There were no new volunteers/nominations.

**It was moved by Connie Butt, seconded by Bill Balakshin, to accept the following directors by acclamation for a 2 year term (2016-2018). CARRIED**

* President Laura Reid
* Vice-President Krista Brennan
* Secretary Monica Braun
* Treasurer Verna Harron
* Director Cameron Hull
1. ADJOURNMENT

**It was moved by Laura Reid, seconded by Monica Braun, that there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.**