

~ 2024 Annual General Meeting~

Minutes

1. Housekeeping

Jake will create polls for voting and reviewed how to do so.

2. Determine Quorum

Note: A quorum for the transaction of business at a General Meeting is the lesser of 5 voting members or 10% of the total number of voting members. (per [YWPOS Bylaws 3.5](#))

Present (Members in good standing): Shawna Warshawski, Kirk Cameron, Steve Smyth, Bonnie Love, Melissa Croskery, Bill Klassen

Other people present: Jake Paleczny (staff), Lindsay Caskenette (staff)

We have six members in good standing. Quorum is reached.

3. Call to Order

12:08pm

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda.

Kirk moved, Bonnie seconded. No additions. All in favour. The agenda is approved.

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve [Minutes for 2023-07-12 AGM.pdf](#)

No changes or additions. Motion to approve by Kirk, seconded by Bonnie. Four in favour, one abstention. The motion is passed.

6. President's Remarks

The report was shared with the membership prior to the AGM. We have had a lot of staff come and go and have formulated a great team. The biggest change was having Dr. Maria leaving for other opportunities and we are so grateful for her work over the past decades. We have fat bike rentals (new this year), and continue to enjoy popular events such as at Easter. We continue to demonstrate flexibility and it has been a great year. Bill added his appreciation for Maria, and also that he was very impressed by the interactions between the Preserve staff and the school students during Swan Haven. Kirk also passed along his appreciation for how much work the small staff at the Preserve put forth

every year and what they accomplish. Shawna shared how her son was reluctant to go to camp but is now expressing how much he loves it.

7. Financial Report

Note: As a Category A society the YWPOS does not need to request any exemption (i.e. to “Waive an Audit”) because the Preserve is exceeding the minimum requirements by providing financial statements that have been reviewed by an accountant on an annual basis.

📄 YWPOS 2023-24 Financial Statements - signed.pdf

The financial statement was made available to the membership previous to the AGM.

Bonnie noted the increase in revenues (grants, visitors, donations). We increased expenditures including in staffing. There were some repairs and maintenance required however the monies were recovered from YG afterwards. Kirk asked about a GIC investment, which Bonnie shared under assets. We have half of a year’s operating costs invested which is important in case of an emergency. Bonnie noted that YG has been slow to provide their funding over the past couple of years and that we have almost had to access this GIC as a result. Shawna noted that this was a recommendation by CAZA to have an emergency fund. Perhaps we can use the interest gained to fund cool projects. The Board did revue the financial statement in detail at a previous meeting. Bonnie indicated how pleased she is with our financial position and also acknowledged Jake’s work on the budget.

Motion to approve YWPOS 2023-24 Financial Statements.

Motion to approve by Kirk, seconded by Melissa. All in favour. Motion is approved.

8. Elections

The following directors have completed one year of their two year term at this AGM:

- Michael Bennett
- Kirk Cameron

The following directors are completing their terms at this AGM:

- Alexandra de Jong Westman (2 year term)
- Shawna Warshawski (2 year term)
- Justine Benjamin (2 year term)
- Melissa Croskery (2 year term)
- Bonnie Love (2 year term)
- Steve Smyth (1 year term)

Nominations from the floor: no nominations.

Steve will not put forth his name for the Board this coming year. A big thanks to Steve for his support over the years.

Note: Officers (i.e. president, VP, treasurer, secretary) will be elected by the board at the first meeting after the AGM (per [YWPOS Bylaws](#) 6.1) scheduled for July 24th, 2024 at 7pm.

Motion to elect, by acclamation, Alexandra de Jong Westman, Shawna Warshawski, Justine Benjamin, Melissa Croskery, and Bonnie Love to the YWPOS board for a 2 year term.

Motion to elect by Bonnie, seconded by Melissa. All in favour. Motion approved.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Kirk at 12:34pm.

Notes: Steve did recommend that the AGM be held in person moving forward and Jake will attempt this next summer. Bill asked for a reminder of the year end date by which we need to hold an AGM to remain in good standing as a Society, and that is at the end of July. It would be nice to be able to hold the AGM during the fall when there are less people away on vacation however this is not an option.