

Grimsby Garden Club

Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2020, prepared by Sue Rigato

Monday, November 30, 2020, Online via Zoom

Welcome by President, Stephen Hargrave

Motion to Accept 2019 AGM Meeting Minutes: Roberta Blackie; Seconded: Lauren Doig; All in Favour; Carried.

Treasurer's Report by Joe Fisher

- John Edwards audit of club finances went well. Thank you to Jim Howden for helping. Thank you to members for supporting the club, resulting in healthy finances.
- 2020 at a glance:
 - Total revenue ~\$18,000. Includes \$6K from plant sale, 2019 & 2020 DIA payments for planters, misc grants.
 - Total expenses ~\$14,000. Includes advertising for plant sale and Trillium program, 50% of Trillium stakes, speaker fees, civic improvements.
 - Net income ~\$4,000, put into short term investment
- Current balance: ~\$4,000 in cash and ~\$15,000 in short term investments

Motion to Accept Treasurer's report: Sue Rigato; Seconded: Lauren Doig; All in Favour; Carried.

President's Report, by Stephen Hargrave:

- Due to the pandemic, 2020 was a challenging year for everyone. While the club had to forego in-person monthly meetings, we rose to the occasion and with Joe Fisher's help, carried on with our monthly meetings and speaker series via online zoom meetings. Thank you Joe for facilitating the Zoom meetings.
- A special thanks to our Plant Sale Chair, Liza Fuller, for the brilliant success of this year. Liza's innovative use of pop-up and traditional sales resulted in the most successful plant sale for the club. Many thanks Liza and to all the volunteers who donated their time and efforts to make this such a success.
- The club and Town continued their collaboration to deliver the Trillium Awards program, chaired by our Club Secretary, Sue Rigato. The event was successful, with over 200 nominations and 70 winners. Thank you Sue and all the judges and volunteers for their contribution.
- Thank you to Wendy Frank and Beth Sommers, past presidents both, for continuing to award the Garden of the Month to gorgeous gardens throughout the growing season.
- Thank you to Mary McLaren for coordinating the Elm St garden maintenance and to all the volunteers for their participation in keeping Grimsby beautiful.
- We are saying good-bye to our Civic Director, Betty Repa. While Betty is leaving the board, she will continue to be actively engaged in all things Garden Club. Many thanks Betty for your tireless efforts beautifying our town.
- A personal "Good-bye" message from Stephen, as he finishes his two year term as Club President. Stephen will continue to support the board and new President, Roberta Blackie, in the role of Past President. Stephen expressed his delight in representing the Grimsby Garden Club and thanked everyone for their help and support.

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Installation of the Officers and Directors for 2021 by Susan Lusted, OHA District 9 Assistant Director

- Close 2020 Board:
 - Motion to approve the actions and decisions of the executive committee and board of directors of the Grimsby Garden Club for the year 2020: Sue Rigato, Seconded: Lauren Doig. All in favor. Carried.
 - Susan declared the past board for the Grimsby Garden Club closed for 2020.

- Election of 2021 Officers:
 - Roberta Blackie President
 - Sue Rigato Secretary
 - Joe Fisher Treasurer
 - Liza Fuller Director
 - Jay DuBoisson Director
 - Emma Parkinson Director
 - Stephen Hargrave Past President
 - Susan asked if there were any other nominations from the meeting attendees. Question repeated three times. No new nominations came forward. Susan then declared 2021 elections were closed.

- Installation of 2021 Officers:
 - Message to the elected officers: As we begin a new year in the work of the Grimsby Garden Club, consider the objectives and work of your group. Despite all of the difficulties this past year, the Grimsby Garden Club has maintained its goal in beautifying and caring for our community through horticulture. Meetings have been held and technology has been embraced. At this time, you, the incoming executive, are offering yourselves for service in the community to promote the objectives of the club and to promote the objectives of the Ontario Horticultural Association. As the elected officers of the Grimsby Garden Club, you hereby accept the articles and bylaws of the constitution of the Grimsby Garden Club.
 - Motion to the board to accept the responsibilities and duties associated with the offices to which you are elected: Sue Rigato, Seconded: Roberta Blackie.
 - Message to the members of the Grimsby Garden Club: You have chosen your officers and they have accepted their responsibility. They have their part, and equally, you have yours. Throughout the coming year there will be challenges and I am confident that you as members will assist this executive to meet them easily. I'm sure you will support the incoming executive in their efforts to carry out a successful program. They depend on your support and cooperation. By working together, you will have another successful year.
 - Susan declared members of the Executive Committee and Directors to be duly installed with best wishes and gratitude from the Ontario Horticultural Association and District 9 for the coming year.

- Special thank you's:
 - Susan thanked outgoing President, Stephen Hargrave, for his leadership, despite the challenges faced.
 - Susan thanked Betty Repa, retiring Director, for her commitment and volunteer hours.