



**ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING, July 21-23, 2017
Sheraton Parkway
Richmond Hill**

"Green From Shore to Shore"

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2017

Registration desk and vendors' area were open before the start of the convention for delegates to visit. An early bird draw was held prior to the start of today's session.

The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. in the Richmond Ballroom, Sheraton Parkway.

Convention Theme: *"Green From Shore to Shore"*

OPENING CEREMONIES:

Master of Ceremonies: Gloria Broks, District 5 representative welcomed everyone to District 5 and the beautiful Richmond Hill area.

The Officers of the Ontario Horticultural Association were introduced to the membership present in the Richmond Ballroom. We opened the convention with O Canada.

OHA Convention Opening: Suzanne Hanna, OHA President opened the 111th OHA Convention.

Land Acknowledgement Statement: Suzanne read the Land Acknowledgement Statement on behalf of the OHA "The land we meet upon today is the traditional land of the First Nations of this district. We give thanks for them and for the land upon which we meet."

Introduction of Dignitaries: Cindy Scythes, District 5 Director introduced our special guests and dignitaries to the 111th Convention. Greetings were received from Helen Scutt, Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs, Kathleen Gorsline, Lake Simcoe South Shore Master Gardeners and Shawn LaPalm of Co-operators Insurance.

OHA PRESIDENT'S WELCOME: Suzanne welcomed the Dignitaries, Officers, District Directors, and Past Presidents of the Ontario Horticultural Association. Suzanne wished everyone a weekend of learning, sharing, and meeting new people.

MISSION STATEMENT: Kathy Smyth, Past District 11 Director read a mission statement for all societies of the OHA.

IN MEMORIAM: Wilma Wood, Past President was introduced and read two poems for those that we have lost since the last convention. Past Presidents' Edward Endersby and Ken Fink were acknowledged. The names and several pictures were highlighted on the screen by district.

ROLL CALL: Kelly Taylor, OHA Secretary was introduced and called on each District Director and District to be recognized.

MINUTES OF THE 2016 CONVENTION: The minutes of the 2016 OHA Convention were made available on the OHA GardenOntario website for review and posted on the doors of the convention room. OHA Secretary, Kelly Taylor noted that the minutes will not be read out loud.

MOTION 17-43: **That the OHA Convention Minutes of July 29-31, 2016 be approved as circulated.**
M/S: Lisa DeYoung, District 9/Sue Lusted, District 9. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions.
Carried.

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS – CHARLES FREEMAN:

Charles noted that there was a typographical error in Bylaw 1 which has been corrected. This correction does not require a resolution or motion.

There is a maximum of 281 votes on the floor with 113 proxies through the OHA Secretary.

RESOLUTION 17-1: Be it resolved that: the Ontario Horticultural Association express appreciation to the Province of Ontario for the assistance provided to Horticultural Societies and to this Association by means of grants and by the continued review and implementation of policies aimed towards the promotion of interest and participation in horticulture. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-2: Be it resolved that: the Ontario Horticultural Association convey to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, his Deputies and Staff, our thanks for the support, assistance and co-operation accorded this Association by Ministry Personnel. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-3: Be it resolved that: the Ontario Horticultural Association extend its thanks to the Director, Assistant Directors, Societies and members of District 5 who worked to plan and conduct the 2017 Convention, and to all others who had any part in contributing to its success. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-4: Be it resolved that: By-Law 1, 9. be amended as follows:

Current wording:

"Member" shall be any organization that has paid their current membership fee as set from time to time by the membership at an annual meeting.

Amended wording:

"Member" shall be any organization that has paid their current membership fees as set from time to time by the membership at an Annual General Meeting and has fulfilled the duties which may be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors of the Association. 5 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-5: By-Law 5, 5.6 be amended as follows:

Current wording:

5.6 Elected by the Districts, Directors become members of the Association's Board of Directors. District Directors take office in the Association as of the date of election by their Districts. Directors are elected annually and may be re-elected for a maximum of five years. An additional one year of service is acceptable under extreme circumstances. District Directors are formally introduced as members of the Association's Board of Directors at the Association's Annual General Meeting.

Amended wording:

5.6 Elected by the Districts, or appointed by the Officers under By-Law 5, 5.3, Directors become members of the Association's Board of Directors. District Directors take office in the Association as of the date of election by their District or appointment by the Officers. Directors who are elected annually may be re-elected for a maximum of five years however, an additional one year of service is acceptable under extreme circumstances. District Directors are formally introduced as members of the Association's Board of Directors at the Association's Annual General Meeting. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-6: Be it resolved that: By-Law 6, 6.3 be amended as follows:

Current wording:

6.3 A Nominating Committee, chaired by the Immediate Past President, shall be appointed by the Board to ensure that candidates are available for each Office. All nominations must be forwarded to the Association Secretary, who shall forward them to the Committee Chair. A Report of the Nominating Committee shall be submitted to member societies 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall call for any further nominations from the floor at the Annual General Meeting, and complete the nomination process.

Amended wording:

6.3 A Nominating Committee, chaired by the Immediate Past President or the person identified in By-Law 6, 6.9, shall be appointed by the Board to ensure that candidates are available for each Office. All nominations must be forwarded to the Association Secretary, who shall forward them to the Committee Chair. A Report of the Nominating Committee shall be submitted to member societies 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall call for any further nominations from the floor at the Annual General Meeting, and complete the nomination process. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-7: Be it resolved that: By-Law 6, 6.7 be amended as follows:

Current wording:

6.7 A serving Director who is elected to provincial office shall give up the directorship, and the District affected shall replace him within ninety days at a District General Meeting called for that purpose. (10/1)

Amended wording:

6.7 A serving Director, other than the two Directors identified in By-Law 5, 5.2, who is elected to provincial office of the OHA shall give up the directorship, and the District affected shall replace him within ninety days at a District General Meeting called for that purpose. (10/1) 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. Carried.

RESOLUTION 17-8: Be it resolved that: By-Law 6, 6.9 be amended as follows:

Current wording:

6.9 If the Immediate Past President is unwilling or unable to carry out the responsibility of the office, the Board will approach the Chair of the Past President's Council for guidance to fill the position for the remainder of the term.

Amended wording:

6.9 If the Immediate Past President is unwilling or unable to carry out the responsibility of the office, the Board will approach the Chair of the Past Presidents' Council for guidance to fill the position for the remainder of the term. The Board must review and by vote approve any person identified by the Past Presidents' Council to fill the position under this process. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 17-9 regarding the STBI Fund will not be done today as it was announced to the OHA membership that it would be discussed and voted upon on Saturday, July 22, 2017.

RESOLUTION 17-10: Be it resolved that: By-Law 10, 10.3 be amended as follows:

Current wording:

10.3 At the Annual General Meeting or any special general meeting of the Association, 100 delegates representing at least 50 member societies shall constitute a quorum.

Amended wording:

10.3 At the Annual General Meeting or any special general meeting of the Association, 100 voting delegates representing at least 50 member societies In Good Standing shall constitute a quorum. 5 Opposed, 1 Abstention. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-11: Be it resolved that: New By-Law 13.3.2 be created as follows:

New wording:

13.3.2 In the event that no person is elected as a Director, the Officers of the Association shall rely upon By-Law 5, 5.3 and appoint a person or persons to fill the position until such time as a person can be elected by the membership of the District. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-12: Be it resolved that: By-Law 13, 13.3 be amended as follows:

1. Renumbered to read 13.3.1. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-13: Be it resolved that: By-Law 13, 13.4 be amended as follows:

Current wording:

13.4 Each District at its Annual General Meeting shall create a District Executive consisting of the Director, Assistant Director(s) and shall elect or appoint a Secretary and a Treasurer, or a Secretary-Treasurer, and two financial reviewers or an auditor. This may be expanded to include other executive members.

Amended wording:

13.4 Each District at its Annual General Meeting shall create a District Executive consisting of the Director, Assistant Director(s) and shall elect or appoint a Secretary and a Treasurer, or a Secretary-Treasurer, and two financial reviewers or an auditor. This may be expanded to include other executive members. In the event that no District Director is elected, the District Executive, without a Director shall be created until the provisions of By-Law 13, 13.3.2 can be acted upon. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-14: Be it resolved that: By-Law 13, 13.6 be amended as follows:

Current wording:

13.6 The Director and District Secretary shall prepare an agenda and order of business for all district meetings. A copy of the agenda shall be distributed to all district societies prior to the meeting. The Secretary shall maintain the minutes of such meetings, and the other written records of the district. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting shall be made available to all members within two months of the meeting.

Amended wording:

13.6 The Director or the person appointed under By-Law 13, 13.3.2 and District Secretary shall prepare an agenda and order of business for all district meetings. A copy of the agenda shall be distributed to all district societies prior to the meeting. The Secretary shall maintain the minutes of such meetings, and the other written records of the district. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting shall be made available to all members within two months of the meeting. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-15: Be it resolved that: By-Law 13, 13.8 be amended as follows:

Current wording:

13.8 The District Director may, if invited, facilitate the resolution of disputes within a society's leadership.

Amended wording:

13.8 The District Director or the person appointed under By-Law 13, 13.3.2 may, if invited, facilitate the resolution of disputes within a society's leadership. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-16: Be it resolved that: By-Law 13, 13.10 be amended as follows:

Current wording:

13.10 Each Society shall be entitled to send two voting delegates to a district meeting. Any society having membership exceeding 100 shall be entitled to one additional voting delegate for each 50 members or fraction thereof up to a maximum of 20 voting delegates. Society membership count shall be based upon reports filed for the previous year with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Amended wording:

13.10 Each Society In Good Standing shall be entitled to send two voting delegates to a district meeting. Any society In Good Standing having membership exceeding 100 shall be entitled to one additional voting delegate for each 50 members In Good Standing or fraction thereof up to a maximum of 20 voting delegates. Society membership count shall be based upon reports filed for the previous year with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. 23 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Patricia Griesser, District 15 inquired as to what "In Good Standing" means. Charles confirmed that "In Good Standing" for a society means meeting the requirements set for Horticultural Societies in the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act, R.S.O. 1990, paying membership dues to the OHA when billed, paying insurance fees to the OHA when billed, filing a complete Annual Information Report to OMAFRA, filing a complete Annual Information Report to the OHA, filing a complete Volunteer Hours Report to the OHA, paying membership dues to the district the society is in, upholding the Constitution and/or By-Laws of the OHA, upholding the Constitution and/or By-Laws of the society, and upholding the Constitution and/or By-Laws of the district.

RESOLUTION 17-17: Be it resolved that: By-Law 14, the preamble be amended as follows:

Current wording:

Every Director and Officer of the Association and his or her heirs, executors and administrators respectively shall from time to time, and at all times, be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of the Association only from and against:

Amended wording:

Every Director or the person/persons appointed under By-Law 13, 13.3.2 and Officer of the Association and his or her heirs, executors and administrators respectively shall from time to time, and at all times, be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of the Association only from and against. 0 Opposed, 1 Abstention.

Carried.

RESOLUTION 17-18: Be it resolved that: By-Law 14, a) be amended as follows:

Current wording:

a) all costs, charges and expenses whatsoever such Director or Officer sustains or incurs in or about any action, suit or proceeding that is brought, commences or prosecuted against him or her for or in respect of any deed, act, matter or thing whatsoever made, done or committed by him or her, in or about the execution of the duties of his or her office.

Amended wording:

a) all costs, charges and expenses whatsoever such Director or person appointed under By-Law 13, 13.3.2 or Officer sustains or incurs in or about any action, suit or proceeding that is brought, commences or prosecuted against him or her for or in respect of any deed, act, matter or thing whatsoever made, done or committed by him or her, in or about the execution of the duties of his or her office; 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-19: Be it resolved that: By-Law 7.5, be amended as follows:

Current wording:

7.5 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and account annually, or as often as may be required by the Board and applicable government authorities, for all monies, bonds and other securities belonging to the Association, which shall be invested in accordance with the direction of the Finance Committee. All books and records of the Association shall be audited at the end of the fiscal year. The Treasurer shall submit all invoices for payment to the Secretary who shall sign them for approval of payment. The treasurer chairs the Finance Committee and on a regular basis reports all financial matters to this committee. The Treasurer has a voice but no vote.

Amended wording:

7.5 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and account annually, or as often as may be required by the Board and applicable government authorities, for all monies, bonds and other securities belonging to the Association, which shall be invested in accordance with the direction of the Finance Committee. All books and records of the Association shall be audited at the end of the fiscal year. The Treasurer shall submit all invoices for payment to the Secretary and the President or Vice President who shall approve for payment. The Treasurer chairs the Finance Committee and on a regular basis reports all financial matters to this committee. The Treasurer has a voice but no vote. 2 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Patricia Seawright, District 2 inquired as to who makes up the Finance Committee. It was clarified that the OHA Treasurer is the Chair and membership of the committee consists of the President, Vice President, Past President, the N/E Representative, the S/W Representative and the Secretary.

Pat Graham, District 10 inquired if this bylaw was for the OHA or the OHA and all societies. It was clarified that this resolution is regarding the OHA Finance Committee only.

Patricia Griesser, District 15 asked if the Treasurer should not vote within society voting. Charles indicated that societies may choose to allow the Treasurer to vote or not.

Joan King, District 1 inquired if the Treasurer voting rights should be included in the society constitution/bylaws. It was clarified that this detail should be included in the society constitution/bylaws.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Suzanne Hanna introduced Past President and Nominating Committee Chair, Wilma Wood who presented the report of the Nominating Committee and introduced the candidates as follows:

President - Rose Odell

Vice President - Kathy Smyth

No other nominations were put forth from the floor at this time for either position. The elections will take place on Sunday, July 23, 2017.

Denis Flanagan, Landscape Ontario Greetings: Denis Flanagan brought greetings from Landscape Ontario and welcomed everyone to the area.

Lee Valley Greetings: Carmen Bandar, brought greetings from Lee Valley. A table will be set up with free bags and books for sale. A gift card was provided by Lee Valley, to be drawn amongst the membership. Suzanne shared that Lee Valley supported the OHA Pollinator Initiative, which included funds for one initiative per district, signage for the gardens/nesting sites and the pollinator initiative brochures. In total there were 70+ pollinator projects with others to be completed this year. This is an amazing outcome for this initiative.

Suzanne provided thanks to Shawn LaPalm for providing a donation towards the Pollinator Initiative Celebration refreshments last evening and the Ontario Invasive Plant Council for 600 packages of seeds that were used to create seed paper and distribute to Convention attendees. Please stop by the table for your opportunity to fill out a piece of seed paper with your hopes and dreams for Queen's Park.

SPEAKER: Paul LaPorte spoke on "Biodiversity with Native Plants".

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Gloria noted that the flower show and competition rooms will be open for viewing from 1:00 – 5:30 p.m., various bus trips will be departing promptly at 1 p.m. and seminars would be available in the afternoon from 1:30 – 2:30 and 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Delegates were reminded of the evening festivities and to join in on the fun of the silent auction.

BANQUET HIGHLIGHTS: Highlights for tonight's dinner include a Canada 150 Celebration, Silent Auction and live entertainment. Storyteller Patti Warnock vividly described life 65 years after Confederation, and then 65 years later. Danny Hamill offered Comedy Magic.

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2017

Registration desk, vendors' area and competition rooms were open before the start of the convention for delegates to visit.

Suzanne welcomed all delegates back to the OHA Convention.

TREASURER'S 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT: Mary Donnelly, OHA Treasurer thanked the many people that assist with the OHA business through the year. Mary presented the audited financial statements to the delegates, reviewed the Statement of Operations and Fund Balances.

Revenues from 2016: Convention - \$84,068, Membership - \$83,085, Insurance - \$46,987, Donations - \$35,682, Gain on Investment - \$12,187, Fundraising - \$8,768, Supplies - \$4,949, Interest - \$3,549, Miscellaneous - \$226

Donations from 2016: Highway of Heroes - \$27,076, General - \$5,751, In Memoriam - \$1,655, Sponsor - \$1,000, Other - \$200.

Expenses from 2016: Convention - \$80,865, Insurance - \$47,577, Board & Committees - \$28,448, Bursaries and Grants - \$20,766, Highway of Heroes - \$29,576, Operational Expenses - \$19,296, Employee Wages - \$16,879, District & Officers - \$14,279, Fundraising & Promotion - \$10,144, Website & Software - \$9,084.

For 2016, the OHA realized a surplus of \$8,352.

MOTION 17-44: That the 2016 Treasurer's Report be approved, as presented. M/S: Susan Zalepa, District 15/Catherine McGill, District 6. 0 Opposed, 1 Abstention. Carried.

MOTION 17-45: That we retain Takalo & Burt as our auditors (Chartered Accountants) for 2017. M/S: Sharon Nivins, District 8, Kathy Smyth, District 11. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. Carried.

SECRETARY'S YEAR 2016 ACTIVITY REPORT

Membership Numbers: The OHA membership numbers reported for 2016 were 278 societies with 27,296 members. The membership number has decreased by 330 members from 2015.

Volunteer Hours: For 2016, societies reported 482,485.80 volunteer hours, plus OHA Officers reported 4075 hours, District Directors and District Executives reported 29,770.25 for a total of 516,331.05 volunteer hours. This is an increase of 4726.10 volunteer hours.

MOTION 17-46: That the 2016 Secretaries Report be approved, as presented. M/S: Don Matthews, District 7 /Dona Birtwistle, District 10. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. Carried.

Suzanne noted that the volunteer hours, if they were to be paid at \$15/hr, would equate to \$7,744,965.75. This is an enormous contribution to the Province of Ontario.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Suzanne presented a summary on the District 19 convention last year and thanked them for their efforts. Suzanne noted that this was the 3rd year of GardenOntario Week with approximately 56 events posted. Dates for 2018 will be provided soon to the membership. Suzanne thanked the outgoing District Directors: Kathryn Lindsay District 2, Donna Hussey District 6, Sharon Nivins District 8, Sue Lusted District 9, Stephen Douglas District 10, Kathy Smyth District 11, Celia Roberts District 15 and Past President, Wilma Wood. Suzanne welcomed the new District Directors, Sharlene Desjardins District 2, Catherine McGill District 6, Vicky Culbert District 8, Margaret Tanaszi District 9, Shelley MacKenzie District 10, Marg Laman District 11, and Barb

O'Malley District 15. Suzanne noted that we are hard at work on the Pollinator Initiative and other initiatives on behalf of the OHA and its membership. Suzanne shared the work that has been accomplished as part of the Pollinator Initiative, including the financial support of 19 district pollinator gardens/nesting sites, signage for those gardens/nesting sites and a pollinator brochure. There are over ~70 district and society initiatives across the province to date. The pollinator garden at Queen's Park is well into the planning phase with the hope to see it realized by the end of 2017. We thank Lee Valley for their contribution to this initiative. The bus trip to Queen's Park was a success with a tour, refreshments and remarks from key dignitaries from various organizations. We celebrated with the St. Catharines Horticultural Society who turned 160 years old. This is a tremendous accomplishment. Suzanne announced that April Davies from District 9 is the successful candidate for the Webmaster position. Our hope is to have the OHA GardenOntario web page up and running by year's end. We will be reposting the position for the Marketing and Communications Coordinator. We will be working with a volunteer Research Coordinator that will help us to review issues related to diversity and membership recruitment.

MOTION 17-47: That the 2016 President's Report be accepted, as presented. Carol Van Die, District 1/Don Wick, District 4. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

MOTION 17-48: That we accept the decisions of the OHA Board of Directors for the previous year. M/S: Dennis Miluck, District 4/Marilyn Trunks, District 17. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Presentation Of STBI Fund: Mary presented a brief presentation to the membership. The fund started in 1992, was a self-funded bonding insurance fund. The contributions were from societies and districts. This ended in 2013. No claims were ever paid from this fund. In 2014 there were no further funds added to the account as there was a new insurance company to provide insurance to the OHA and its societies. It was determined that the OHA must use the money in the STBI fund for its original intended purpose or another similar purpose, or alternatively return the funds to the original contributors. The board considered the options and decided to return the money in the STBI to those who made contributions. A resolution is required to be approved by the membership to achieve this.

Any society or district that contributed to the fund, provided they are still in operation is eligible for the return of funds. Societies that have closed will have the money go to the district in which the closed society was located geographically.

One lump sum payment, by cheque, payable to the society or district that contributed will be provided. Cheques for societies will be provided at the March 2018 OHA Board of Directors Meeting to the District Directors and then given out at the Spring 2018 District AGMS to the eligible societies and districts.

Legal costs incurred will be deducted from the STBI funds before distribution. The OHA will pay for costs incurred to distribute the funds, such as printing, cheques, and postage. These costs will not be deducted from the fund. The interest is added back into the fund before it is distributed.

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS – CHARLES FREEMAN:

There is a maximum of 291 votes on the floor with 113 proxies through the OHA Secretary.

MOTION 17-49: That the wording of the resolution be corrected to rename it to "Society Treasurer Bonding Insurance". M/S: Cindy Scythes, District 5/Lianne Krane, District 6. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

It was clarified by Malcolm Geast, OHA Historian that the fund is called the Society Treasurer Bonding Insurance Fund and that Districts were included in this fund.

RESOLUTION 17-9: Be it resolved that:

That the Society Treasurer Bonding Insurance Fund ("STBI Fund") held in trust with the Association from 1992 to 2013 be closed and the monies remaining in the STBI Fund, minus all legal costs incurred by the Association in relation to closure and distribution of the monies in the STBI Fund, will be returned to any parties that contributed to the STBI Fund and are either a registered Society with OMAFRA or a District with the Association as of July 31, 2017 ("Active Society" or "District", as applicable), provided that any monies contributed to the

STBI Fund by a Society which is now closed and/or dissolved or will be during the period from July 23, 2017 to December 31, 2017 ("Closed Society") shall be directed to a District located in the same geographical area as the Closed Society be determined at the sole discretion of the OHA Board of Directors. Distribution of funds to each Active Society and District will be in direct proportion to the premiums they have paid based on data on record with the Association for the period from 1992 to 2013. All refunds from the STBI Fund will be returned directly to eligible Active Societies and Districts by cheque from the Association at their 2018 District Annual General Meetings. 2 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Darlene Evans, District 3 asked for clarification on societies who have left the OHA. Mary confirmed that any society, who was part of the OHA, who may have left, and is still part of OMAFRA is eligible for a return of funds.

MOTION 17-50: That Resolution 17-20 be tabled after Resolution 17-22. M/S: Lindley McPhail, District 1/ Donna Hussey, District 6. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

MOTION 17-51: That Resolution 17-21 be corrected to show By-Law, 13.5.1. M/S: Mike Hanna, District 13, Pat Graham, District 10. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

MOTION 17-52: That Resolution 17-21 indicate that voting rights be assigned to any member in the association. M/S: Vic Palmer, District 7/Emily McLeod, District 15. 14 In Favour, 5 Abstentions. **Defeated.**

RESOLUTION 17-21: Be it resolved that: A new By-Law be created as follows:

By-Law 11, 11.4.2 In the event that any Director, the Immediate Past President, any person holding a position under By-Law 6, 6.9, any person holding a position under By-Law 13, 13.5.1 or any Officer is unable to cast a vote, the proxy voting rights of such person(s) shall only be assigned to the Association Secretary. 7 Opposed, 5 Abstentions. **Carried.**

NOMINATIONS: Wilma Wood presented the report of the Nominating Committee and introduced the candidates as follows:

President - Rose Odell

Vice President - Kathy Smyth

No other nominations were put forth from the floor at this time for either position. The elections will take place on Sunday, July 23, 2017.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Gloria noted that the various bus trips will be departing promptly at 1 p.m. and various seminars would be available in the afternoon from 1:30 – 2:30 and 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

SPEAKER: Scott McIvor presented "Green Roofs, Wildlife, and Design"

GALA DINNER & AWARDS HIGHLIGHTS:

Highlights for tonight's gala dinner included Rose Odell, Master of Ceremonies and Keynote Speaker Paul Zammit. District 4 Director, Dianne Westlake, announced the following awards to honour OHA members for their contributions to their society and OHA.

Community Improvement Award: presented to Sandra Gordon, Belleville Garden Club, District 3. This award is a plaque provided by the Ontario Horticultural Association. It may be given to an individual, organization or company that, in the estimation of the Awards Committee, has enhanced the beauty of the landscape and/or added to the quality of life of a community with a horticultural project.

Environmental Award: presented to Margaret Jeffery, Oakville Horticultural Society, District 6. This award is a plaque provided by the Ontario Horticultural Association. It may be presented to an individual, organization, municipality, company, school or other educational establishment that, in the estimation of the Awards Committee, has made a significant contribution to environmental preservation including habitat, restoration, and/or improvement.

Honour Roll: presented to Peggy Tolhurst, St. George Garden Club, District 6. Nominations should be for members of a horticultural society with at least fifteen years of service to one or more societies should have made a contribution of horticultural service to the community, district or association and should have given outstanding service at the society and district level.

Award of Merit: presented to Celia Roberts, Oakville Horticultural Society, District 6. The certificate is given to an individual for notable contributions to the programs of the Association or a Society with notable contributions in special beautification, outstanding work in the science or art of horticulture or supporting individuals or organizations in the area of communication or any other worthy efforts such as contribution towards advancement of sound horticultural practices, ecological and conservation practices.

Trillium/Silver Fir Award: presented to Charlie Bowyer, Ambassador Horticultural Society Lasalle, District 11. This award as designated in 2009 is given to the 2 most worthy candidates who have given outstanding service to horticultural societies and to the Ontario Horticultural Association.

OHA Tree Grants: The following societies received tree grants, up to \$200, in 2017.

- Kemptville – District 1
- Maxville – District 1
- Martintown – District 1
- Williamstown Green Thumb – District 1
- Land O' Lakes – District 3
- Cramahe – District 4
- Ennismore – District 4
- East Gwillimbury – District 5
- St. George – District 6
- Flamborough – District 6
- Paris – District 6
- Brantford – District 6
- Port Dover & Woodhouse – District 6
- Hillsburgh – District 7
- Fergus – District 7
- Goderich – District 8
- Kincardine – District 8
- Auburn – District 8
- Port Burwell-Bayham – District 10
- Porcupine – District 12
- Oro-Medonte – District 16
- Sundridge – District 18

OHA Special Project Grants: To assist Societies in meeting the objectives of the Ontario Horticultural Association, the board will provide a Special Project Grant to a maximum of \$500 for each project.

- Martintown – District 1
- Ottawa – District 2
- Gananoque – District 3
- Peterborough – District 4
- Teeswater – Culross – District 8
- Callander – District 18
- Sundridge – District 18

Community Garden Grants: The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) encourages its member societies to create or contribute to community gardens whether urban or rural. OHA will award a grant of \$500 to assist in the funding of a new community garden or the upgrading of an existing community garden.

- Flamborough – District 6
- Ambassador – District 11
- Porcupine – District 12

Seedy/Saturday Grants: The Ontario Horticultural Association will provide a grant of \$250 annually to a member society to organize a first-time Seedy Saturday/Sunday event in their community.

- Fergus & District, District 7
- Bruce Station, District 13
- Gifford & District, District 16

Youth– Ruby Lobban Award: A \$25 award, based on the highest point aggregate for a Youth Club in the Youth Competition was awarded to Wilmot & District, District 19.

Adult Society Competition Award: A \$100 award for the society with the highest point aggregate in the adult competitions was awarded to East York Garden Club, District 5.

OHA Membership Challenge Trophy: A trophy, donated by Fines Flowers of Ottawa, is to be awarded to a District with the highest percentage membership increase overall for the year. This year it was awarded to District 9. Susan Lusted, District 9 Assistant Director accepted the award on behalf of the District.

SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2017

An early bird draw was held prior to the start of today's session.
Suzanne Hanna, OHA President welcomed everyone back to the convention.

THANK YOU FROM HIGHWAY OF HEROES: Mark Cullen thanked everyone, on behalf of the Highway of Heroes. Mark indicated that the HOH initiative has raised over \$1.2 Million in the last 18 months. There will be a golf tournament on August 24th at the Port Hope Golf Club to raise funds for the Highway of Heroes initiative.

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS – CHARLES FREEMAN:

There is a maximum of 297 votes on the floor with 113 proxies through the OHA Secretary.

RESOLUTION 17-22: Be it resolved that: A new By-Law be created as follows:

By-Law 11, 11.4.3 In the event that any Past President not holding a position under By-Law 6, 6.9 is unable to cast a vote, the proxy voting rights of such person(s) shall be assigned to a member of the Past Presidents' Council. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

MOTION 17-53: That the resolution be amended to show "latest edition" of Roberts Rules of Order. M/S: Jack Jamieson, District 12/Dennis Miluck, District 4. 1 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. Carried.

It was noted that Roberts Rules is available on line, should you wish to refer to it.

RESOLUTION 17-20: Be it resolved that: By-Law 11, 11.4 be renumbered to read By-Law 11, 11.4.1:
0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION 17-23: Be it resolved that: By-Law 15 be amended as follows:

Current wording:

By-Law 15 RULES OF ORDER: Robert's Rules of Order shall govern proceedings at all meetings of the Association. If the rules of order are in conflict with the By-Laws, the latter shall prevail.

Amended wording:

By-Law 15 RULES OF ORDER: The latest Edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern proceedings at all meetings of the Association. If the rules of order are in conflict with the By-Laws, the latter shall prevail. 0 Opposed, 1 Abstention, Carried.

MOTION 17-54: That Resolution 17-24 currently on the floor be tabled until next year's OHA Annual General Meeting. M/S: Penny Stewart, District 3/Cindy Scythes, District 5. 70 Opposed, 4 Abstentions, Carried.

Veronica Heiderich, and Marie Decker, District 6 noted that this resolution is a long time coming and would like to see this done this year. Kathy Smyth, District 11 noted that this resolution being deferred for one year would not see a detriment to the district. Patricia Seawright, District 2 noted that this resolution is on the floor and should be considered. Cathy Kavassalis, District 6 asked for the resolution to go forward. Malcolm Geast, District 5 noted that this resolution creates uncertainty and there are unanswered questions as to boundaries. Anne Jamieson, District 12 requested the resolution be tabled. Lisa DeYoung, District 9 noted that this came to District 9 for review. Sandra Mitchell, District 1 requested that this go to vote. Sue Lusted, Past Director, District 9 noted that this came forward to the district, however it was not approved. Sue Lusted, District 9, Past Director noted that this item was discussed by the District 9 Board and it was to have been discussed with the District 6 Board but that it had not come to fruition thus far.

RESOLUTION 17-24: Be it resolved that: By-Law 13, 13.1 be amended as follows:

Current wording:

13.1 The Province shall be divided into Districts as follows:

- 1 - Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Stormont, Grenville and the eastern portion of the city of Ottawa composed of the former municipalities of Gloucester and Cumberland.
- 2 - Lanark, Renfrew and the portion of the city of Ottawa excluding the former municipalities of Gloucester and Cumberland. (14/5)
- 3 - Frontenac, Hastings, Leeds, Lennox & Addington, Prince Edward
- 4 - Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough, Kawartha Lakes (13/3)
- 5 - Toronto East, York Region East
- 6 - Brant, Halton, Hamilton, Norfolk
- 7 - Dufferin, Wellington Counties
- 8 - Bruce, Grey, Huron Counties
- 9 - Haldimand, Niagara North, Niagara South
- 10 - Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford, Perth
- 11 - Essex, Kent, Lambton Counties
- 12 - Cochrane, Timiskaming, North Nipissing
- 13 - Algoma, Manitoulin, Sudbury
- 14 - Kenora, Rainy River, Thunder Bay
- 15 - Peel, York Region West, Toronto West
- 16 - Simcoe County
- 17 - Durham Region
- 18 - Parry Sound, Muskoka, South Nipissing
- 19 - Regional Municipality of Waterloo

Amended wording:

13.1 The Province shall be divided into Districts as follows:

- 1 - Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Stormont, Grenville and the eastern portion of the city of Ottawa composed of the former municipalities of Gloucester and Cumberland.
- 2 - Lanark, Renfrew and the portion of the city of Ottawa excluding the former municipalities of Gloucester and Cumberland. (14/5)
- 3 - Frontenac, Hastings, Leeds, Lennox & Addington, Prince Edward
- 4 - Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough, Kawartha Lakes (13/3)
- 5 - Toronto East, York Region East
- 6 - Brant, Halton, Hamilton, Norfolk, Haldimand West
- 7 - Dufferin, Wellington Counties
- 8 - Bruce, Grey, Huron Counties
- 9 - Haldimand, Niagara North, Niagara South
- 10 - Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford, Perth
- 11 - Essex, Kent, Lambton Counties
- 12 - Cochrane, Timiskaming, North Nipissing
- 13 - Algoma, Manitoulin, Sudbury
- 14 - Kenora, Rainy River, Thunder Bay
- 15 - Peel, York Region West, Toronto West
- 16 - Simcoe County
- 17 - Durham Region
- 18 - Parry Sound, Muskoka, South Nipissing
- 19 - Regional Municipality of Waterloo

This Resolution is tabled until the 2018 OHA Annual General Meeting.

FINAL NOMINATIONS:

The slate of Officers as received by the Nominating Committee was presented on the first day of the Convention. Final calls were made for further nominations. No nominations came forward and nominations were closed.

ELECTION OF ASSOCIATION OFFICERS – WILMA WOOD:

Rose Odell was declared, by acclamation, the President for 2017-2018.
Kathy Smyth was declared, by acclamation, the Vice President for 2017-2018.

THANK YOU TO RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS: Suzanne thanked the retired Board Members for their years of service and dedication to the OHA. Thanks went out to Kathy Lindsay, District 2, Donna Hussey, District 6, Sharon Nivins, District 8, Susan Lusted, District 9, Stephen Douglas, District 10, Kathy Smyth, District 11, Celia Roberts, District 15 and Wilma Wood, Immediate Past President and representative for the Past Presidents' Council. Suzanne presented Wilma with her gift of thanks for her work this past year on the board.

PRESIDENT'S SPEECH: Suzanne thanked everyone for their support over the last 2 years and noted how rewarding this position has been for her. She reminded members that there would be a ceremony honouring the passing of Ed Endersby and Ken Fink following the conclusion of Convention. It will take place later this afternoon at 4 pm at the OHA Oak Grove located at the University of Guelph Arboretum.

CHAIN OF OFFICE: Suzanne presented the OHA Chain of Office for 2017-2018 to Rose Odell. Suzanne also presented Rose with a pair of rubber boots and President's Pin.

PAST PRESIDENT'S PIN: Rose Odell presented Suzanne Hanna with the Past President's Pin and gift of appreciation.

DISTRICT POLLINATOR HABITAT COMPETITION RESULTS: Suzanne thanked everyone for their efforts as part of this initiative and announced that District 15 was the winner of the \$100 prize.

SPEAKER: Carson Arthur presented on "A Greener Future: Why low maintenance gardens are not helping the world around us".

CLOSING CEREMONIES:

Invitation to 2018 OHA Convention – Penny Stewart: Penny announced the 112th Annual Convention which will be held in District 3, July 27-29, 2018 at the Ambassador Hotel & Conference Centre in Kingston with the theme "Shore to Shield". Penny noted that there would be tours, and much more made available to the delegates.

Thank You – Cindy Scythes: Cindy thanked everyone for attending the convention and thanked Malcolm Geast and Ursula Eley for their slide shows, and all her amazing volunteers.

Passing of OHA Flags: Cindy gave the association flag to District 3 Director, Penny Stewart.

Adjournment: Rose Odell, OHA President, thanked the delegates for attending. She expressed appreciation to Cindy Scythes, and the many volunteers for making this convention a memorable event.

The 2017 Convention was declared closed.

Signature of President