

Village Community Association Annual General Meeting April 19, 2023



NOTL Community Centre, Simpson Room
Proposed Minutes -To be approved at next Annual General Meeting - April 2024

1 – Welcome and Introduction

Ardeth Staz, President, welcomed attendees and guests mentioning that it was our first face-to-face meeting since pre-Covid. Ardeth acknowledged our very special guest, Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa. Ardeth confirmed that the meeting follows VCA By-laws. Ardeth reviewed the requirements of proper notice and verified that the required notice was sent out. Judy Huntington Mackay verified that quorum was met. Ardeth asked if any conflicts of interest existed. None were noted.

2 – Approval of Agenda

Ardeth reviewed the agenda briefly via PowerPoint and explained the voting process. Carol Perrin brought 1 proxy vote. Ardeth asked if anyone else brought a proxy vote. None did.

MOTION: It is recommended that the proposed Agenda be approved.

Moved by Sue Henry. Seconded by Tina Clement. Carried

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3 – Approval of Minutes from AGM of April 20, 2022

MOTION: It is recommended that the proposed Minutes from 2022 AGM be approved.

Moved by Larry Duncan. Seconded by Gloria Lindsay Luby. Carried.

4 – Executive Reports

President’s Report – Ardeth Staz

Little Libraries

Ardeth Staz reported that the Little Libraries are successful and reminded people to add books.

Liz Hawley Memorial Stone

She reported briefly about the Liz Hawley memorial stone and thanked Mona Babin for working on this. Many people made donations for the stone and Mona worked with the Hawley family on engraving it. The stone is now located in the parkette at the end of Elizabeth and Samuel St. The remainder of the money from the donations will be donated to Liz’s favourite charity, Rising Angels.

Lord Mayor

Ardeth met with the Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa to connect with the town council. She wanted the Lord Mayor to be aware of the wishes and issues of the Village and he has promised to keep in touch.

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Village Medical Centre

Ardeth also visited the Medical Centre and welcomed them, bringing a gift.

Village Resident Survey

Ardeth gave a brief overview of the Survey responses noting that out of 286 homes it was sent to, 123 people responded. The Executive is pleased with the number of comments and suggestions the survey generated. She let attendees know that the Executive will sort through the comments and suggestions to determine which ones are part of the mandate and which ones can be managed during the next couple of years. Results will be posted on the VCA website.

Vice-President's Report - Carol Perrin

The Village 24th Anniversary Celebration

Carol Perrin discussed the planned celebration that is being organizing on July 11, 2023 at 5 pm. Nigel Napier-Andrews, who is an award-winning author has offered to write the story of The Village including the history of some of our original residents.

Carol asked if there were any questions or comments about her report. There were none.

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Treasurer's Report – Joe Allevato

Joe Allevato reported that the accounts have been reviewed by Jim Wallace and are in order. Last year there was a surplus of \$81.29 with an unencumbered balance of \$8,396.61. High number of memberships this year accounts for a healthy balance. Our fixed expenses total approximately \$3,500 per year.

Joe asked if there were any questions or comments about his report. None were made.

Motion: It is recommended that the 2022-2023 budget be accepted as proposed.

Moved by Carol Fraser. Seconded by Kathy Taylor. Carried.

Ardeth confirmed that it was decided in October that the membership fees would remain at \$30 this year.

Communications Director's Report – Sue Henry

Sue Henry reported that the newsletters are very popular and that traffic to the website is also high.

Sue asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

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5 – Presentation of proposed amendment to VCA By-Laws

- a) **Article IV** – Recognizing the importance of the committees by enshrining them in the By-Laws. (Naming them specifically)

Ardeth explained that we want to recognize the importance of the Membership Committee and therefore the Chair should have a vote at the Executive table. The Chair of the Membership Committee will not be elected but will be appointed.

MOTION: Approval of the changes to By-Law IV

**Moved by Sue Henry. Seconded by Cindy Durdan.
Carried.**

- b) **Change to By-Laws:** Addressing the event of a tie vote.
Ardeth explained that in the event of a tie vote the Chair of the Executive Meeting has a second vote to break the tie.

MOTION: It is recommended that the Chair of the Executive Meeting has a second vote in order to break a tie.

Moved by Jeff Blake. Seconded by Warren Fraser. Carried.

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6 – Committee Reports

Village Round Table – Mike Siverns

Ardeth reported that the Chair is traveling and any questions or concerns for Mike could be given to her for forwarding.

Holiday Decorating – Dale Deslslets

Ardeth reported that the Chair is traveling. She gave an update on the sleigh that was refurbished by Dale and Susan. Dale is proposing that the aging garlands be replaced. Volunteers who put up and took down holiday lights were acknowledged.

Gardening – Secret Gardener

Ardeth reported that our “Secret Gardener” will continue gardening again this year. He will work with the Town on the bed at Norton and Macdonell.

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Social Committee - Nancy Bailey

Nancy Bailey introduced the members of the committee. She reported that the committee is promoting positive communication between the Executive and the Social Committee by inviting an Executive member to attend their meetings on a regular basis and this has been a success.

Nancy mentioned the Sunset Social on May 30 and the Village Holiday Party on December 7 as well as the Village Community 25th Anniversary Celebration on July 11.

Membership – Judy Huntington-Mackay

Judy thanked the committee's 14 ambassadors for their help and support. The year 2022 ended with an all time high of 178 members representing 59% of all households including apartments.

We have 18 loyalty partners including 2 new ones (Van Noort Florist and Garrison House). Loyalty cards will be distributed the first week of May.

Judy asked if there were any questions or comments about her report. There were none.

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7 – Update from The Village developer, Adam Hawley

Adam thanked all involved with the Village 25th Anniversary celebration and talked a little about the history of the Village.

Update on the construction:

All the underground services have been going in. You can now see an outline of where the roads will go. They are ahead of schedule in terms of the Medical Centre and the parking lot. Construction on some of the buildings will start in late summer of 2023. The first building will be the hotel and it will take the longest to complete. They are working on the timing of the construction so that everything opens at the same time.

Adam foresees a 20 to 24 month build plus a few more months for interior fixtures and finishes. Completion should be somewhere in the late summer of 2025.

Questions for Adam:

Update on the grocery store: Adam said that they are close to obtaining a tenant and are working on the final business terms of the lease. This has taken longer than planned because there will be a smaller grocery store built with an odd shape that is not the standard model. But the “walkability” will be beautiful.



Is the goal to have the grocery store completed at the same time as the hotel and the short-term rentals?

Adam replied that it may be a little earlier if the bulk of the construction is completed.

Will the turn onto Garrison Village Drive from Highway 55 that turns into the Shopper's Drug Mart parking lot be changed?

Adam replied that there are no plans for that right now. But there will be access points at Niven Rd. where the picnic tables are now.

Do you foresee traffic problems near Highway 55 and Niven Rd. because of the hotel, Jackson Triggs Winery, the new White Claw distillery, and the Stone Eagle Winery?

Adam replied that discussions about this will be had. Yes, there will be more traffic, but we will walk more too. The Lord Mayor added that a traffic flow study is always done when developments like this are proposed.

How many rooms will the hotel have?

Adam replied that there will be 60 rooms plus vacation apartments.

Ardeth thanked Adam and suggested that if anyone else had a question for Adam to write it on their voting card and hand it to her after the meeting. Answers will be posted to the VCA website.

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8 – Elections of President, Vice President, and Recording Officer

Carol briefly talked about the Nomination Committee headed by Mona Babin and thanked her. Pat Klotz was also a member.

Nomination for President: Ardeth Staz, incumbent

Nomination for Vice-President: Carol Perrin, incumbent

Nomination for Recording Officer: Ann Hill

Communications Director: Sue Henry (special voting procedure required for Sue)

Carol asked 3 times if there were any other nominations for any of the 4 positions. There were none.

Carol then stated that by acclamation the President, Vice-President, and Recording Officer are elected.

She explained that regarding the election of the Communications Director, Sue Henry, the By-Laws state that one cannot hold an Executive Board position for more than 2 consecutive terms. Therefore, an extension approved by the majority of members must be put in place in order for Sue to remain.

MOTION: That Sue Henry's term as Communications Director be extended and approved.

Moved by Carol Perrin. Seconded by Tina Clement. All were in favour. Carried.

The new Executive Board was introduced.

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9 – New Business

Ardeth asked if anyone had new business items to raise.

Mona pointed out that a new stop sign was installed at Perez and Garrison Village Dr. but she noted that some people have been observed not respecting the sign. She requested that a reminder be added to the newsletter.

10 – Meeting Adjournment

MOTION: That the business portion of the AGM be adjourned at 8:05.

**Moved by: Judy Huntington-Mackay. Seconded by Luba Fraser.
Carried.**

Once the Meeting was adjourned, we were addressed by Guest Speaker - Brad Disher, Chief Fire Prevention Officer with the Niagara-on-the-Lake Fire and Emergency Services.