



Annual General Meeting Minutes

7:00pm, Thursday March 16, 2023

Conducted online via Zoom

Board members in attendance: Mark Howard (President), David Wood (Treasurer) Barry Goodwin (Coordinator Liaison), , Allison Orr (Member-at-Large), Denise Brackstone(Secretary)

Regrets: Chuck Garrow (Member-at-Large)

Total number of voting members present: 108

1. Call to order

2. Welcome comments and approval of 2022 AGM Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Quorum for our membership was achieved.

MOTION: That the minutes of the 2022 AGM be approved and accepted.

Motion approved and passed.

3. Guest Speaker - Christina Stevens - City of North Vancouver, Manager, Strategic & Corporate Services

- Christina presented a Powerpoint presentation
- She joined the City of North Vancouver six months ago and shared the City's commitment to identify potential locations for community gardens. At the moment 10 or more spaces are being considered.
- Alder Street Community Garden - This garden will be opened in the summer of this year. It was co-designed with the NSCG Society. It is located on the south side of Alder Street along the Spirit Trail. This will be the new home for the previous Lower Lonsdale Community Garden which has now joined the NSCG Society.
- The CNV is working to increase accessibility standards and are working diligently to refresh their land use policy. The Bylaws from 1960 are being updated.
- Evolution of community gardens will consist of more accessible design elements such as concrete pavers, lower grades, raised planters, wheelchair accessibility and communal areas.

4. Unveiling of the new Alder Community Garden and a welcome to the Lower Lonsdale Community Gardeners as potential new members of the North Shore Community Garden Society

Scott Bell, the current President of the Lower Lonsdale Community Garden and Chuck Garrow, a former member of the same garden community have vastly contributed to the transition to the NSCG Society. About 24 or 25 members will join us and enjoy the new Alder Community Garden, as discussed by our guest speaker. An illustration was shared with us.

5. Review of Annual Reports (President's Report and Community Garden Reports) (Mark Howard)

A lot of improvements have been made to many gardens. Additional repairs will be done to Garibaldi, Lillooet and Queen Mary. A Grant from the District of North Vancouver was given to Lillooet, and we are talking to them about possibly expanding Lillooet as well. We hope to hear from them in a couple of months.

6. Announcement of the revised Gardener's Guidelines (Mark Howard)

We have revised the Gardener's Guidelines which were sent prior to the meeting. We would like to address some questions regarding the revised height restrictions in the Guidelines. This change was made to empower the coordinators for when there is a problem regarding the shading of a neighbour's plot. We hope this will make gardener's more mindful when planting taller plants in their plots.

Question: Plastic in the garden - Would we consider plastic enclosures to extend the growing season?

Answer: A possible solution would be to add an Addendum to the Gardener's Guidelines.

7. Thank you to our outgoing Board members (Mark Howard)

We are saying goodbye and thank you to Shelley Elgar, Marie Jones, Debbie Selley and Cesarino (Mike) Battistel, who have left the Board - we wish them well.

8. Welcome to our New Board Members (Mark Howard)

David Wood - Treasurer
Denise Brackstone - Secretary
Allison Orr - Member at Large
Chuck Garrow - Member at Large

Notes:

Members starting 2nd year of 2 Year term
Coordinator Liaison - Barry Goodwin
President - Mark Howard
Secretary - Denise Brackstone

9. Election of Officers (Mark Howard)

Vice President:

No nominations were received from the floor.

10 . Adoption of the Society's financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2022

Our treasurer David Wood presented the two financial reports - the Income Statement and the Balance Sheet. He is new to the position and for future statements he will provide separate divisions for each community garden. The term deposits will be invested elsewhere in order to gain more interest.

MOTION: That the presented financial statements by our treasurer, David Wood be accepted. Motion approved and passed.

11. Other items submitted by gardeners prior to the meeting (New Business)

Brief discussion of a recently submitted email to the Secretary regarding the issue of theft in the gardens. This matter will be addressed in 2023.

There was a question regarding the plans for the property of the Lower Lonsdale Garden. This site will be developed into part of the new North Shore Neighbourhood House to be known as "The Hub." Digging will begin at the end of July of this year.

NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY GARDEN SOCIETY

There was a question about a seed exchange program. Please ask the secretary via email

There was a question as to whether we need a forward-looking budget. No we do not.

12 . Adjournment

MOTION: to adjourn.

Motion approved and passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Minutes prepared by and submitted by Denise Brackstone, NSCGS Secretary