



ABC Association Annual General Meeting Minutes– October 14, 2023

Mission Statement:

“The Althorpe Bolingbroke Community Association is an active group of volunteers working together to build a vibrant and caring neighbourhood. Our mission is to sustain the ABC Hall as the cultural and social heart of our community by sponsoring charitable activities and services which foster a spirit of friendship and a sense of belonging to all.”

Membership Attendees: Pauline and Dale Tysick, Dave and Debbie Roach, John Lang, Ross Hough, Carol Wheeler-Chung, Ron Mitchell, Jean and Derek Cooke, Linda Fournier

Board Members: Rick Greenstreet, Christine Ormsby, Samantha Hazen, Freda Russell, Margaret Miller, Pat Hough, Marc Lattoni, Rhonda Aisbitt

Regrets: Byron Turner, Lynne Lang

1) Welcome

Rick Greenstreet, President ABCA, called the meeting to order at 10 am and welcomed everyone. It was noted that it has been three (3) years since our last in person meeting and it was nice to be together. Rick recognized and thanked Rhonda Aisbitt who retired from the Board for all her efforts over the years.

2) Minutes – The notes from the 2022 AGM were reviewed, having been sent electronically prior to the meeting. Derek Cooke motioned acceptance of these minutes, seconded by John Lang. The notes were unanimously accepted.

3) Directors’ Reports –

1. Margaret Miller, Treasurer ABCA presented a summary statement of profit and loss, actual vs. budget for 2023. The [financials statements](#) for the year ending August 2023 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Derek Cooke motioned for acceptance of the statements seconded by John Lang. The financials were unanimously accepted.

All in all it was a great year financially; all programs were successful. The budgeted deficit of \$5600 was due to the fact that the ABC Hall had to pay 25% of the Federal Grant. In actuality, the amount owing was reduced to \$2900 due to fundraising efforts.

2. Christine Ormsby reported on [Facilities and Grants](#) in Byron Turner's absence. Derek Cooke noted that these were amazing accomplishments due to such great effort. He expressed thanks to everyone involved.

Jean Cooke asked if we get a grant to replace the insulation in the attic, would it be worth raising the roof to improve the acoustics?

Rhonda Aisbitt offered that Gerry Townsend would be cleaning the eavestroughs and replacing/adding clips to avoid sagging. We are thankful to Rhonda and Gerry.

3. Christine Ormsby reported on [Events](#) in Lynne Lang's absence.

4. Christine Ormsby read the report on [Communications](#) as prepared by Jude Pearson. Much discussion ensued ie.

- It was suggested to ask subscribers what they would like to see on the website.
- Questions arose regarding submissions to local news papers that will be followed up on.
- That certain events seemed to be missing from the website.
- To put information on Community Saving Community on website.
- Highlight sponsors in newsletter and on website.
- Highlight reasons to become a member.

Members were reminded to bring issues forward so that they can be addressed.

Overall, everyone is very pleased with the website and the social media presence.

5. Samantha Hazen reported on Rentals indicating that the Hall had been rented out nine (9) times which included one (1) full day and eight (8) half days.

The discussion included a decision to better advertise our rental space. The cost is minimal, and the consensus was that once the community gained awareness, we would get much more revenue income.

6. Freda Russell reported on [New Initiatives](#) for 2023. It was noted that the euchre numbers are way down and that this is perhaps due to us not being able to offer prizes due to our licencing restraints. Different ideas were floated around to increase participation and will be given consideration.

Derek Cooke mentioned an organization called "Community saving Community". Steve Brooks has been given funding (only in South Frontenac) to provide training and equipment to citizens

to render emergency first aid. This program is coordinated with 911 and is an attempt to get help out quicker in areas where paramedics may take up to 40 minutes.

7. Christine Ormsby spoke on Sponsorships. This year we were successful at renewing Corporate Sponsors as well as getting some new ones. We were also very successful at getting sponsors for the Friends of ABCA golf tournament that has been rescheduled for May 2024.

A suggestion was made to approach Top Shelf Distillery as a sponsor.

8. Pat Hough reported on the [Bar Committee](#). A suggestion was made to get some 'flavored moonshine' from Top Shelf Distillery in Perth.

4) Board Elections/Appointments

The returning Board members were introduced. Rick Greenstreet had recently assumed the role of President, Christine Ormsby will stay on as Secretary, Margaret Miller will continue as Treasurer, Lynne Lang, will stay on as Events Co-ordinator, Freda Russell will stay on as volunteer Co-ordinator, New Initiatives and as part of the sponsorship team with Christine Ormsby. Samantha Hazen will stay on as Rentals coordinator and Pat Hough will continue as head of the Bar Committee. Byron Turner agreed to remain charged with Grants and Facilities Marc Lattoni has recently joined the Board as a Director.

No new nominations came from the floor and Derek Cooke made the motion that nominations be closed and to accept the Board as presented which was seconded by John Lang. The Board was unanimously accepted for 2023-24.

5) Acceptance of Revised Corporate Bylaws

Rick Greenstreet informed the AGM that the provincial government mandated all not-for-profits adopt Corporate Bylaws that confirm to their model by October 2024. Failure to do so would result in the loss of their not-for-profit status which has significant tax implications. The Board decided to rewrite our Constitution in two parts; Bylaws that conform to the government's demands and a Policy and Procedures Manual that sets out the things that we want. Fortunately, we were able to use a template that had been produced by the Ontario Curling Federation's legal team and fill in the blanks to make it unique to the ABC Association. The new Bylaws will require a few changes in our admin practices.

A motion was put forward to ratify the Corporate Bylaws by Derek Cooke and seconded by Marc Lattoni. The motion was carried.

Rick mentioned that in the past the Board appointed two (2) auditors to review the financials, 1 being a Board member and 1 other person. The New Bylaws stipulate that the auditor must be appointed at the AGM and that that person can not be a Board Member.

John Lang was unanimously appointed as the auditor for 2023-24 in a motion by Marc Lattoni and seconded by Ross Hough. Linda Fournier volunteered to be the second auditor.

Membership: For discussion, information was provided that

2018-19 - 112 members

2019-20 - 79

2020 & 2021. COVID shutdown

2022-23 - 73

2023-24 - 99 as of Oct 14.

We are well on our way to having increased numbers this year.

It was explained that the cost of being a member is minimal and we require members so that when applying for grants we can highlight how many members support the Hall. Be reminded that being a member does not mean that you must volunteer. It was decided that this information should be given out whenever possible so that our community knows the logic behind memberships.

New Business

No new business.

7) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1130 am by a motion from John Lang, seconded by Marc Lattoni.

The Board wishes to thank all our members. Input from members is always welcome on our programs and/or on our Policy and Procedures manual.

As per the new Bylaws, the AGM was followed by an informal Board meeting to set the date of their next meeting which will be at 10 am on Saturday Dec 9, 2023.

Minutes prepared by Christine Ormsby, Secretary ABCA