**BURRITT’S RAPIDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**MEETING MINUTES – AGM November 2021**

**Attendance:**

**Board Members:**

Bart Bilmer, Angie Lyrette (rental agent), John Dwyer, Jill MacDonald, Vanda Stanley, Inge Vangemeren

**Community Members:**

Bob Walker, Drew Avis, Polly Stanley, Renee Smith, Fairlie Ellis, Robert Vandekuyt, Kristi Vandekuyt, Sam Souryavong, John Sobol, Annie Hillis, Sean McCann

**Annual Report:**

Chairperson Inge vanGemeren presented the Annual Report for 2021 highlighting the accomplishments of the Board during the year and presenting the Board’s plans for the coming year. The Chairperson noted that, while the financial picture was decent, this was largely because much needed Hall repairs had been deferred. These would have to be carried out in the coming year. Resident Fairlie Ellis, on behalf of the Greening Committee, noted that official designation had been obtained for the Butterfly Waystation and show-cased the plaque to this effect that will be placed at the waystation as well as the letter of certification.

Drew Avis moved that the Annual report be accepted as presented. This was seconded and carried unanimously.

A copy of the report is attached.

**Financial Report**:

Board Member and Treasurer Jill MacDonald presented the 2019 Financial Report (copy attached).

It was noted that while the financial report presented showed an unallocated donation of $350. This should have been allocated to the Greening Committee. (UPDATE: The Financial Report attached reflects this change.)

The relatively good performance of rental income was noted (which, while good given the shut-down, was less impressive when compared to more recent pre-pandemic times), as was the reduction in insurance rates.

Drew Avis, noting the fact that North Grenville had not provided a rebate on property taxes, mentioned the campaign pledge made by then prospective councillors to ensure that the rebate remained in place. The Chairperson and Financial Officer promised to follow-up. (UPDATE: North Grenville has now provided the rebate for the last two years.)

It was moved and seconded that the report be accepted. The vote to do so carried unanimously.

**Amendment to Bylaw**

The Treasurer of the Burritt’s Rapid Community Association, Jill MacDonald, made a motion to modify the existing Corporation By-Laws to enable electronic banking, specifically the payment of bills and collection of rental payments.

The motion called for the replacement of clause 25 of the existing By-Laws, pertaining to the DEPOSIT/WITHDRAWAL of FUNDS for SAFEKEEPING, which currently contains a single clause as foll0ws:

“The funds of the Corporation shall be maintained in a local chartered bank.  All cheques covering the withdrawal of funds shall be signed by two (2) members of the Board of Trustees, one of whom must be either the Chair or Treasurer.  The two signing members must not be spouses of one another.”

with the following revised statement:

“The funds of the Corporation shall be maintained in a local chartered bank.  Electronic banking may be used for payments and/or for the collection of funds via direct deposit, provided the list of payees is pre-approved by the Board of Trustees. Where electronic banking cannot be used, then all cheques covering the withdrawal of funds shall be signed by two (2) members of the Board of Trustees, one of whom must be either the Chair or Treasurer.  The two signing members must not be spouses of one another.”

The Board of Trustees requested the Membership to approve this motion.

The residents approved the request and the motion was carried unanimously.

**Board Elections**

As required by by-laws, the Board resigned. The following ex-members indicated that they were prepared to stand again: Inge vanGemeren; Jill MacDonald, Bart Bilmer, Angie Lyrette and Cameron Rhodes. Vanda Stanley and John Dwyer indicated that they would be stepping down. Residents John Sobol and Drew Avis indicated that they were prepared to join the Board. These seven (the five existing Board Members and two new volunteers) were elected unanimously to constitute the new Board.

**Other Business**

**The Hamlet Design Plan**:

The Chairperson noted that the Board had received an update from North Grenville on the Plan and shared an excerpt of it with those present. (The full report is quite long and available on line at [Burritts Rapids Conceptual Design - Draft Documents (November 12th, 2021)](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https%3A/northgrenville-my.sharepoint.com/%3Af%3A/g/personal/rbrault_northgrenville_on_ca/Eudqi8PzzjJNsWM0PlAog4oBclewuHFt-FZQ_wLSTwG6kQ?e=d7J0Nk__;!!NgSi4SaN6ydtRVQ-!hVORQY5EuvmbZozDBsmSjPz_UZ1KLyow2EotBV9b_m6p7GVuEos1hPNcNYbSHT0$)\_) The up-dated plan, while responding to specific concerns raised by residents during consultation held in September, was substantially the same as had been presented previously. Resident Bob Walker noted that the visual showed no parking at the mail boxes. The Chairperson noted that this was one area of change with the revised plan now calling for 5 spaces for short-term stopping, which was considered an exaggerated need. The Chairperson noted that the revised plan would go to Council in December and more detailed work would be done in the new year. It was at that point that the community would see more specific detail on the application of the measures being considered, including drainage, and upon which they would be better able to comment. The Chairperson also noted that the revised plan mentioned, for the first time, that secondary plans as opposed to heritage designation, might be used to ensure narrowed side-streets.

**Dam Access Road**

The Chairperson updated those present on Parks Canada’s plan to widen the access roadway to the Dam (west side of the Tip-to-Tip trail). Parks Canada had assured those attending a virtual meeting on November 25 that the objective was merely to ensure access to the dam by there equipment and that no large trees would be removed. Brush alongside the existing path will be removed and a section of the roadway that has narrowed will be widened.

**Next Meeting**

**January 13 2020**