BRCA - AGM MINUTES

21 November 2013

**Annual Report**

The Chairperson of the Association presented the Annual Report (see attached) and highlighted the achievements of the Board during the year and the proposed priorities for the coming year.

The Treasurer ran through the budget figures for the year and projections for the future. As a generality, the financial picture remains highly positive, despite the fact that major fund-raising events were not undertaken during the year.

There was a discussion on the need for a defibrillator and how monies for that might be raised. There was also a discussion on rising heating costs and a resident raised the possibility of converting to convection base-board heating, which might save money in the long run. Both issues will be taken up by the new Board.

Resident Laura Gutteridge seconded the motion that the Annual Report and Financial Statement be accepted as presented. This was passed unanimously.

**Other Committee Reports**

The BRREA reported on continuing efforts to begin a micro-generation program for the benefit of the community despite set-backs following the feasibility study. The Chair, Muffy Koch, indicated that the Association remains hopeful. She indicated that a print version of the work being done was available in the Hall and announced that the BRREA Annual General Meeting would be in Feb/Mar of the coming year.

Renee Smith, BRCA Director and Chair of the Greening Committee updated residents on the work of the Committee and thanked the many volunteers that made the work possible. She encouraged interested residents to volunteer their services.

Joan Simpson informed residents that the Library funding remains stable and the Library hours would not be changed.

**Election of a New Board**

As required by the by-laws the existing Board stepped down. The ex-Chairperson pointed out the difficulties that the Board was experiencing in attracting new volunteers. Events such as the Theme Dinner, Christmas Pot-Luck Dinner and Summer Picnic were not held during the year because of this, and because existing Board members had a myriad of other responsibilities.

Residents offered a range of suggestions including:

* That the theme dinner have a community rather than fund-raising focus, which would make planning easier
* That the Board consider itself transitional and concern itself with the basics of keeping the Hall functional as the community, and the Board, seeks to find a way forward
* That better outreach efforts be taken to attempt to engage the community and seek their assistance
* That community members be somehow encouraged to ‘sit-in’ on Board meetings so that they understand that the duties and responsibilities are not onerous

Several conclusions were come to:

* Resident Vanda Stanley indicated that her husband would take charge of re-configuring the web-site.
* Resident Kathy Knott indicated that she would take charge of the Theme Dinner and various other residents – Aileen Weston; Tiiu Wallner and Debbie Alexander – offered to assist her.
* The Board Secretary indicated that he would attempt to ensure that board minutes are circulated to residents via email.
* Other suggestions will be considered by the new Board.

Resident Jeff Gauthier offered to become a Board member, and resident and former Board member Brad Smith also volunteered his services. After further discussion, Board members Tiiu Wallner, Jill MacDonald, John Dwyer and Maureen Wilson indicated their willingness to continue on while other options are pursued. Board members Renee Smith stepped down, while retaining the Chair of the Greening Committee. Board Member and Hall Maintenance Leader Patrick Gonneau also stepped down due to other pressing commitments. Chairperson Inge van Gemeren was encouraged to stay on for a transitional period, given her wealth of experience and evident capacities. She agreed to do so, but this would be for transitional purposes only, the form of which will be discussed by the new Board. She agreed, however, to continue to be the Hall rental agent for the Board.

The new Board and residents thanked the departing members for their service.

The new Board (John Dwyer, Jeff Gauthier, Jill MacDonald, Brad Smith, Tiiu Wallner, Maureen Wilson and Igne van Gemeren – as transitional advisor) will meet in January, date and time to be confirmed.