

KAMLOOPS ADULT LEARNERS SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 12, 2019
Games Room, North Shore Community Centre

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. with welcomes by Co-Presidents Lois Hollstedt and Ellen Faraday.

Present: Ellen Faraday, Lois Hollstedt, Norm Moss, Alison McKinnon, David McKinnon, Donna Daines, Ben Fouillard, Clara Fouillard, Pauline Braaksma, Jack Braaksma, Rod Michell, Aleta Tiefensee, Kim Jensen, Barb Lucas, Annie Cloosterman, Linda McMillan.

Copies of the Agenda, Minutes of last year's AGM, Financial Report and Budget were circulated to those in attendance.

MOTION: MOVED by Ellen Faraday, seconded by Norm Moss, that the Minutes of the 2018 AGM be adopted as circulated. **Carried.**

Co-President's Report - Lois Hollstedt:

Over the past few years there has been continued growth of people interested and involved in KALS. At the end of June 2019 KALS had 323 members - up from 293 the previous year end - or 11% growth. KALS e-mail list has grown to 505 active addresses with increased promotion using free and paid advertising. Eighty different classes were offered, a few cancelled due to volunteer instructor illness or conflicts and a 68% seat take up rate was experienced.

Financial statements indicate that KALS financial picture is healthy. There is a solid reserve fund to deal with any future economic issues and also to support people who need financial help to access classes. The 10-person Board dealt with a range of policy and administration issues over the last year with 5 meetings and multiple e-mail discussions.

The Board undertook an extensive review of the Volunteer management system. At the end of several months of discussion, the volunteer committee work is now a function of the Board acting as a committee of the whole in order to spread the responsibility for recruitment when new volunteers are needed.

In order to manage the workload of the President, in February the Board created a Co-President role and appointed Ellen Faraday to work with Lois Hollstedt. This summer it was decided by the Board to maintain this structure.

A word of thanks was extended to two retiring Board members for their contribution to KALS: Ben Fouillard who has been on the Board since 2014, and Annie Cloosterman who returned to the Board last year.

Last year 80 different people volunteered to lead a KALS class. They included 16 current TRU professors, 1 prof from UBC Okanagan, many retired professors and teachers, along with other people skilled in business, the arts, law, sports, hobbies, health and wellness, along with others who shared travel or other personal pursuits. Appreciation was extended to all of them for sharing their time and expertise.

There are 10 volunteers on the Program Committee who continue to deliver high interest and high- quality classes. Their year-round work ensures a vibrant and varied learning experience. The ongoing challenge to find and encourage people to prepare and share their knowledge and expertise in the classroom is significant and we are grateful for their work.

The volunteers who took on short term projects such as class hosts, the delivery of flyers to various locations, and those who represented KALS at the Farmers Markets were also thanked as were the volunteers who worked on the Publicity committee for advertising and class promotion, the planning of the December social, or helped with technical issues such as the online survey or class technical support. These individuals made it possible to continue lifelong learning with other engaged adults in Kamloops.

Co-President's Report - Ellen Faraday:

Ellen reported that she accepted the Co-President's role in February 2019 at the request of President, Lois Hollstedt. It is their wish to provide mentorship during the 2019-2020 year to a person willing to take on the Presidency in either a single or dual role.

Ellen's duties include preparing the agenda and chairing all Board meetings and assisting with identifying volunteers for specific jobs. At present there is a need for a newsletter editor. This person will receive full support and training from Lois Hollstedt.

Ellen spoke of the tireless work of Margaret Cleaveley, the founder of KALS, and the first board members who in 2005 wrote and registered the KALS Constitution and Bylaws with the BC Society Act as well as getting charitable status from Revenue Canada.

The following community partners who are critical to KALS success were thanked:

- The staff at Kamloops Sports Council - Duncan, Alex and Elsa for their everyday administration work;
- The North Shore Community Centre staff and volunteers who set up classrooms, assist with technology, make coffee;
- The media including *Kamloops This Week* newspaper, *The Connector*, CFJC TV, CBC Radio and CHNL Radio, for both free and paid advertising support;
- The TNRD Library, churches and community bulletin boards and Senior Centres which provide space for KALS program information;
- TRU, the City of Kamloops and local businesses that encourage their staff to provide class leadership.

MOTION: MOVED by Barb Lucas, seconded by Pauline Braaksma, that the Co-Presidents' reports be accepted as presented. **Carried.**

Treasurer's Report - Jack Braaksma:

A Statement of Income and Expense sheet for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 showed membership of 324 persons, Revenue of \$27,700, with budgeted revenue of \$23,300. Expenses for that period amounted to \$20,906.74, with a Year to Date Surplus of \$6,793.26. The Balance Sheet showed a Bank balance of \$10,027.84, with \$15,000 plus interest in GICS. A fourth GIC has now been taken out at the TD Bank from cash on hand. Total equity as at June 30, 2019 is \$24,577.43. There is now an operating reserve of one year's budgeted expenses in the form of GICS, in compliance with the Policy Manual.

MOTION: MOVED by Jack Braaksma, seconded by Annie Cloosterman, that the Financial Statement be accepted as presented. **Carried.**

A 2019-2020 Budget showing projected Income of \$21,300 and Expenses of \$21,300 was presented to the meeting. This was based on a 68% seat take up rate. To date 160 members have paid their membership dues and 2/3 of classroom fall fee revenue projection has been met.

MOTION: MOVED by Jack Braaksma, seconded by Donna Daines, that the 2019-2020 Budget be accepted as presented. **Carried.**

Election of 2019-2020 Officers and Directors - Ellen Faraday:

There are 8 continuing Directors: Lois Hollstedt, Co-President, Ellen Faraday, Co-President, Jan Petrar, Vice-President, Clara Fouillard, Secretary, Jack Braaksma, Treasurer, Janet McChesney, Program Chairperson, Katherine Ray, Publicity Chairperson, George Humphrey, Director-at-Large. The two new Directors are Donna Daines and Dr. Bob Morrow.

MOTION: MOVED by Ellen Faraday, seconded by Pauline Braaksma, that election of the Officers and Directors be affirmed. **Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Membership Discussion - Lois Hollstedt:

At the Board meeting in July 2019, discussion took place re the \$15 membership fee and whether it should be continued.

- The Co-Presidents agreed to research the issue and ask the AGM for feedback. CRA & BC Society Act have a requirement for a membership list but not a fee. If members get benefits other than voting or the newsletter and a fee is charged it is classified as fund raising. 4 other organizations similar to KALS have fees. KALS fee is 20% of total revenue. After some discussion the group indicated that the fee is not a barrier and the reasons to continue it are valid.

-The question of subsidies arose re people who wish to take part in KALS classes but cannot afford to do so. It was explained that most people can afford to pay the membership fee but not the class fees. According to a recent survey, 70% of people surveyed were unaware that a subsidy was available to those who are financially challenged.

- It was suggested the board consider changing the word subsidy to 'waiver' and to advertise the financial waiver more broadly. Those who request financial assistance contact Co-President Lois Hollstedt confidentially.

Lifetime Membership Award:

At the Board meeting of July 9, 2019 it was decided that the Honorary Membership Award adopted in 2018 be given to Rod Michell to acknowledge his many years as a course instructor. The Co- Presidents presented Rod with a certificate of appreciation along with a plant basket.

KALS October 2018 Survey Results

Lois Hollstedt reviewed the 20 questions sent via e-mail to 470 KALS members with 174 responses. Results showed most were members for 1-5 years, between the ages of 60-79, with a fairly even split of residence on the North and South shore, 97% said prices were just right and there was a 95% satisfaction rate. Facebook was used by 51% of respondents.

There was no further business. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Refreshments were served.

Recorded by Clara Fouillard