

Southwestern Ontario Gleaners

Annual General Meeting

Minutes of Meeting of March 26, 2022

2:00 p.m. In person @ 40 Industrial, Leamington

Call to Order and Welcome by Board Chair Tamara Stomp. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Tamara Stomp at 2:05 pm. Attendees were welcomed. **Opening prayer was given by Board Member Vern Toews.**

Present were Chairperson Tamara Stomp, Board Members: David Campbell, Art Krueger, Vern Toews, Susan Ross, Greg Tiessen, Treasurer: Tina Quiring, General Manager Joel Epp, Secretary Alison Klassen. (Absent: Dave Dent). Candidates for the board: Liam Brennan, Lisa Jeffery, Carmel Gerard.

Members in attendance were: Barry Bergen, Dave Epp, Elsie Galbraith, Rob Konrad, Bob Manery, Jake Martens, Jill Nicholls, Ernie Neufeld, Neil Quiring, Harold Rempel, Helen Rempel, John Riedl, Clarence Terpstra, Hugo Tiessen and Jim Founk.

Appointment of Interim Secretary. Motion to appoint Alison Klassen as interim secretary by Vern Toews. Seconded by Susan Ross. All in Favour. Carried.

Approval of 2021 AGM minutes.

Motion to approve the AGM Minutes of the Southwestern Ontario Gleaners held April 10, 2021 by Dave Campbell. Seconded by Art Krueger. All in Favour. Carried.

Treasurer's Report – Tina Quiring

Tina presented the 2020 / 2021 comparative statements of Financial Position and Statement of Revenues and Expenses as prepared and audited by Baker Tilly Trillium LLP. Also presented was a 2022 Budget of Revenue and Expenses for 2022. Most notably, net Revenues increased by \$20,385 from 2020 to 2021. Again in 2021 the annual fundraiser had been cancelled due to the ongoing pandemic.

Most notable change in the 2022 budget is a rent increase from \$3,000 per month to \$5,000 per month.

Vern Toews motioned to accept the financial statements. Seconded by Jack Albert. All in favour. Carried.

Motion to appoint the Auditor: Baker Tilly Trillium LLP as the 2022 auditors of Southwestern Ontario Gleaners moved by Tina Quiring. Seconded by Susan Ross. All in favour. Carried.

Motion to appoint Michael Wiens of Sawatzky, Balzer, Wiens Law Firm as legal advisors to Southwestern Ontario Gleaners moved by Tina Quiring. Seconded by Jim Founk. All in favour. Carried.

Guest Speaker – Dave Epp, Member of Parliament, Chatham-Kent/Leamington

Dave Epp gave thanks to the Southwestern Ontario Gleaners for their ongoing work. Dave has been in communication with the organization “Loads of Love” regarding our previous donations to them that were destined for Ukraine. He, together with his Liberal colleague, Irek Kusmierczyk have been working toward a speedy transfer of the most recent product donated by Gleaners to the conflict zone. There are plans to deliver the balance to Ukraine or Poland shortly. Dave reported that the Gleaners’ fall shipment of soup mix had been delivered into Ukraine just before the Russian invasion and was so very much appreciated. Dave’s words were that it’s value was 100 fold ! Loads of Love has 40 plus people on the ground. With the help of generous donations they have purchased 4 trucks and have been instrumental in moving many seniors and children to safety.

Ukraine is known as the breadbasket of the world, supplying 30% of the world’s corn, 32% of barley and 17% of wheat as well as sunflower oil to the world. If the spring planting of the Ukrainian farmland is impeded there could be a global food crisis due both to lack of supply and increased prices.

Dave was happy to learn that the last few shipments of potatoes at Gleaners were delivered free of charge from Prince Edward Island to Ontario through the foodbank system and government.

General Managers Report – Joel Epp

Please refer to Joel's detailed Manager's report.

Joel added that Gleaners has noticed an increase in volunteers due to the lifting of restrictions and the conflict in Ukraine. Production has also increased due to the high quality of PEI potatoes being currently processed.

Motion to receive the General Manager's Report by Greg Tiessen. Seconded by Vern Toews. All in favour. Carried.

Board of Directors Report by Chair Tamara Stomp.

Tamara stated that it has been an honour to be a part of the board of directors of the Southwestern Ontario Gleaners. Credit was given to Tina Quiring for her vision that she continues to work very hard toward, as she has done since the beginning of this organization. Tamara also acknowledged the farmers, corporate donors, individual donors, government grants, volunteers, service groups, students and staff that make SWO Gleaners possible. A special thanks was given to the staff of Gleaners – Joel Epp and Clarence Terpstra. Thanks was given to past board members as well as to the new board members who will be joining the organization. Together we work toward reducing hunger, reducing pollution and contribute toward an improvement in global well-being.

Tamara Stomp also submitted her resignation effective immediately at the conclusion of the meeting. In closing her report, she asked that Gleaners be safe, be calm, be kind and be reflective.

Motion to receive the Chairperson's report by Vern Toews. Seconded by Susan Ross. All in favour. Carried.

Election of Directors

A confirmatory motion was made by Jim Founk to acknowledge that at a previous board meeting Art Krueger and Susan Ross have been appointed to vacant 1yr terms and Dave Campbell has been appointed to a vacant 2yr term. Seconded by Greg Tiessen. All in favour. Carried.

Three candidates have put forth their names (Bios attached) for the three 3yr vacant positions. The candidates are Liam Brennan, Lisa Jeffery, and Carmel Gerard.

There was a call for any additional candidates if they so wish to have their name stand.

There were no further candidates.

Nominations were closed.

Dave Campbell motioned to acclaim the three candidates, Liam Brennan, Lisa Jeffery, and Carmel Gerard for the three 3Yr vacant positions. Seconded by Greg Tiessen. All in favour. Carried.

Motion to adjourn at 3:05 pm by Vern Toews. Seconded by Dave Campbell.

Dated at Leamington, this _____ day of _____, 2022

_____ **Chairperson**