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The Guelph Humane Society Incorporated

129th Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, June 13th, 2023 - 6:30 pm

Guelph Humane Society

Guelph Humane Society - Community Room

Call to Order and Welcome - Meaghan Middleton, Chair

Meaghan called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. Meaghan welcomed everyone to the 129th Annual General Meeting of the Guelph Humane Society (GHS) and thanked everyone for attending.

Meaghan noted a couple of housekeeping items:

Reminder all members that if they wish to speak at the meeting they must raise their hand and be acknowledged by the chair. Prior to speaking they must introduce themselves and state their name for the transcript record.

Any resolutions this evening shall pass by show of hands, but a poll can be requested by any member at any time before or after the vote.

For the election of directors, the ballot method will be used this evening. The votes, including any proxy votes, will be tabulated and results announced to the membership.

Meaghan introduced the current sitting Board of Directors: Troy Ford - Vice Chair, David DiMatteo - Secretary, Peter Tesche - Treasurer, Lena Levison, Jim Pietrangelo, Michael Foggia, Michael Irwin, Alex Ciccione (noted Jim Kearns absence).

Meaghan also introduced GHS staff and thanked them for their attendance at the AGM:

Lisa Veit (Executive Director), Jane Dawkins (Director of Communications and Community Engagement), Alex Godlewski (Annual Giving Development Officer), Katherine Leonard (Manager of Community Programs & Outreach).

Meaghan introduced and thanked Brooke Billings from RLB LLP for her attendance at the AGM.

Meaghan introduced and thanked Linda Caston her attendance at the AGM.



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Approval of Agenda - Meaghan Middleton, Chair

Meaghan Middleton requested that the Agenda as published for this 129th Annual General Meeting be accepted and approved with a change to have the Approval of the Amended Organization By-Laws be placed to occur before the Approval of the Amendment to the Articles Incorporation.

Motion: Alex Ciccione

Seconded: Troy Ford

All in Favour, carried.

Approval of 128th Annual General Meeting Minutes - Meaghan Middleton, Chair

Meaghan Middleton requested a motion to approve the 128th Annual General Meeting minutes.

Motion: Michael Irwin

Seconded: Lena Levison

All in Favour, carried.

Approval of Amended Organization By-Laws - Meaghan Middleton, Chair

Meaghan Middleton requested that all of the current By-laws of The Guelph Humane Society Incorporated are repealed and are replaced by new By-laws a draft of which was provided to the Members in the materials for this Annual General Meeting.

Motion: Alex Ciccione

Seconded: Troy Ford

Discussion: None

All in Favour, carried.

Opposed: None

Approval of Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation - Meaghan Middleton, Chair

That the Articles of Incorporation (formerly known as Letters Patent) of The Guelph Humane Society Incorporated be amended in accordance with the amendments set out in the Special Resolution document a draft of which was provided to the Members in the materials for this Annual General Meeting.

Motion: Michael Irwin

Seconded: David DiMatteo

Discussion: None

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All in Favour, carried.

Opposed: None

Election of Directors - Three year terms for the following directors: Lena Levison, David DiMatteo, Michael Foggia, Heather Mair, Tricia Holmes, Samantha Lawson, Dakota Pitz.

Meaghan reminds members of the changes/turnover of the Board of Directors since the 128th AGM:

There were nine directors present at conclusion of prior year AGM (Troy Ford, Peter Tesche, Meaghan Middleton, Jim Kearns, Alex Ciccone, David DiMatteo, Lena Levison, Earla Smith and Gail van Veen)

2 directors have resigned (E. Smith, G. van Veen) during the year. Peter Tesche's resignation will be effective as of conclusion of AGM.

5 directors seeking election, including Michael Foggia - who was appointed mid-year - Heather Mair, Tricia Holmes, Samantha Lawson, Dakota Pitz

The board Slate that was provided as part of the AGM package identified an additional board member appointee - Melissa Woo who has withdrawn from election. Additionally, Michael Foggia was not included on the slate due to an oversight.

2 directors seeking reappointment: Lena Levison and David DiMatteo

1 director not seeking reappointment: Jim Kearns

All directors were elected by the membership (unanimously) by way of ballot vote.

Auditor's Financial Report FY 2022 - Peter Tesche, Treasurer

Peter introduced Brooke Billings as representative from RLB, current auditors of GHS.

Brooke presented the December 31, 2022 financial statements. Brooke noted the Qualified Audit Opinion of the 2022 year-end financial statements. Brooke explained reason for qualified audit opinion due to scope limitation of cash donation revenue. Brooke noted audit was conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standards.

Peter passed motion to accept the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2022.

Motion: Peter Tesche

Seconded: Troy Ford

Discussion: None

All in Favour, carried.

Opposed: None

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Appointment of Auditor FY 2023 - Peter Tesche, Treasurer

Meaghan requests motion to appoint RLB Chartered Accountants LLP as the auditor for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023.

Motion: Michael Irwin

Seconded: Lena Levison

Discussion: None

All in Favour, carried.

Opposed: None

Executive Director's Report - Lisa Veit, Executive Director

Meaghan introduced Lisa Veit to provide the Executive Director report.

Lisa welcomed everyone to the new Guelph Humane Society location and noted this is the first AGM at the new location. Lisa noted the various accomplishments of GHS during the year including the expansion of the GHS Cares program with a no-cost spay/neuter program - this program was facilitated by a grant from Pet Smart. This program is focused on accessible and equitable care for pets.

In 2022, GHS experienced an increase in animals in care and adoption rates slowed

GHS met with Mike Schreiner and Lloyd Longfield during 2022 to discuss legislations relevant to animal care.

Lisa noted that the GHS is a leading organization with the wildlife programs it provides.

Lisa noted the story of Kingo as a notable story of 2022.

Motion to accept the Executive Director's report to the members.

Motion: Peter Tesche

Seconded: Troy Ford

Discussion: None

All in Favour, carried.

Opposed: None

Chair's Report - Meaghan Middleton, Chair

Meaghan first noted thank you to Don McDermott from Capacity Canada for his attendance.

Meaghan noted her gratitude to both the staff and volunteers for all of their contributions to GHS over the past year. Meaghan noted her gratitude to the dedicated and talented board members over the past year.

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Meaghan made a specific thank you to both Peter Tesche and Jim Kearns as passionate, hard-working board members. Meaghan also noted thank you to Earla Smith and Gael Van Veen for their service as board members.

Meaghan highlighted the success of the various programs that GHS introduced/maintained during 2022.

Meaghan noted the success of the GHS Gala that occurred in November 2022 which raised over \$180,000.

Meaghan noted that the new strategic plan of GHS is currently being worked on with a rollout in 2024.

Motion to accept the Chair's report to the members.

Motion: Peter Tesche

Seconded: Michael Irwin

Discussion: None

All in Favour, carried.

Opposed: None

Concluding Remarks - Meaghan Middleton, Chair

Meaghan noted thank you to everyone for attending the AGM including the newly elected board members.

Adjournment of 129th Annual General Meeting - Meaghan Middleton, Chair

Motion to adjourn the 129th Guelph Humane Society Annual General Meeting at 7:08 pm.

Motion: Peter Tesche

Seconded: Alex Ciccione

All in Favour, carried.

Opposed: None