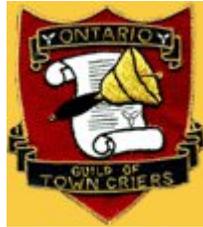


Ontario Guild of Town Criers
Annual General Meeting
August 13th
Brantford, Ontario 2011



Attendance:

Bruce Bedell, Brenda Boszo, Ian Burkholder, Larry Davis, Scott Fraser, Bruce Kruger
Shaun Kruger, Bill McKee, David McKee, Rob Misener, Mark Molnar, Jennifer Olivero
Tom Pekar, Steve Travers, Doug Turvey, Tony Vandermaas, Les Whiting, Chris Whyman
Guest: Andrew Welch

President Whiting called the meeting to order at 5:10.

Secretary Report

The Secretary (Crier Olivero) read aloud the corrections made to last year minutes (as recorded by Crier Whiting).

Motion was made to accept the minutes as recorded and corrected.

By: Crier Bill McKee, Seconded by Crier Mark Molnar *motion carried.*

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer (Crier Boszo) read aloud the report with copies made available to those in attendance. As of July 18 of this year our balance is \$4348.09. We had a total of \$2130 paid in dues for the 2011 year. One Crier (Nemo Turner) has been suspended as he has yet to pay dues and related fees.

The bill from our auditor will be arriving soon as well. Ontario Lottery and Gaming kindly donated \$1000 to Crier D. McKee event.

Crier Whyman suggested that we look at getting a new account or bank so that we wont pay bank fees (\$4.95 monthly).

Crier Molnar commented that the old cheques listed in the report cannot be cashed now as they are too old now.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

By: Crier B McKee, Seconded by Crier Shaun Kruger *motion carried*

Committee Reports

Ethics: Crier Fraser reports that there is nothing to report.

Website and Public Relations: Crier Brent McLaren was not in attendance to report anything; however it was noted there has not been any recent updates to the page. Criers are reminded to send Brent

photos and articles of competitions and other events so they can be posted on the website.

Bylaws and Constitution: Crier B. McKee noted there was nothing to report. However, he did report that he and his wife (Liz) have discussed drawing up criteria that would be used in Guild competitions for the judging of the escorts' attire. It was noted that some escorts use modern accouterments (i.e. zippers and the like) while others use more historically accurate patterns and accessories. It was also noted that the budget for the escort costume can be an issue when trying for historical accuracy. Crier B. Bedell commented that the last crier uniform to be judged was in 1986. Crier B. Kruger suggested that guidelines be added and Crier T. Vandermaas commented that he feels criteria (most well matched to crier or most historically accurate) should be left up to the host criers of private competitions. Crier B. McKee welcomes suggestions and ideas. His email is mcs shout@powergate.ca.

Old Business.

a) President Whiting asked for an update about the "Order of Bedelli" from Crier B. Bedell, but was reminded that Crier Ken Templeman was the person behind that idea. Pres. Whiting will be emailing Crier Ken Templeman, who was not in attendance, for an update and will report back to the guild members.

b) Crier Mark Molnar brought up the idea of posthumously inducting into the Guild those first Town Criars in some communities that were known to be escaped slaves or a coloured freeman. Crier Molnar reports that through his research he has discovered that there are various communities in the province of Ontario that had former slaves or coloured freemen as officially recognized Town Criars. Crier S. Fraser suggested that Crier Molnar contact the Black History Society of Ontario for help in researching this further. Crier B. Kruger commented that he knew of a gentleman that was trying to keep track of town crying escaped/former slaves; as well that he (Bruce) had recently opened the 11th Emancipation picnic at Harrison Park in Owen Sound, ON. It was also commented that there was an article on the Ancaster paper about their first Town Crier being a former slave; Hamilton also had a coloured freeman for a Town Crier as well London.

Pres Whiting asked Crier Molnar to continue with this and report back with more information.

c) Guild Liability Insurance was brought forward by Criars B. Kruger and S. Travers, who have been investigating on behalf of the guild. It was reported that most criars are covered under their cities/towns when performing official duties. They are not covered when performing at private events, though some criars have private insurance for those as well. Guest Crier Andrew Welch's announced that the City of Caledon requires him to have \$2 million coverage. Crier Travers read aloud an email that he sent to an insurance agent and the response that was sent back. The agent stated that the Guild is a low risk group and that they would provide \$2 million coverage for \$900 annually. Crier Welch asked if the guild could be crossed named on the policy so that individual criars and the Guild as a whole are covered under the policy. Crier Kruger commented that it was redundant to duplicate coverage if you are already covered. Crier Fraser asked if he was to perform at a non-guild sanctioned event (such as a school), would he be covered if his bell hit someone? Crier Turvey answered that criars would then have to seek permission from the Guild to attend and perform at such events. It was also noted that such coverage would only be for regular members, not associate members (only members that reside in Ontario). Crier Whyman asked that other insurance companies be approached with this for more quotes on price.

Motion to have Crier Travers clarify provisions of insurance policy with permission given to the executive to act upon it. Crier Travers is to also contact more insurance companies for more quotes for the price.

By Crier B McKee, Seconded by Crier S. Kruger

motion carried

New Business

a) David Vollick (Burlington) has not been confirmed by his city council has the official Crier as council is on holidays.

b) Pres. Whiting welcomed Crier Tom Pekar to the Guild.

c) According to our Constitution, Article 1, Section 3 Limitations of Methods, states “ the Ontario Guild of Town Criers shall be non-profit, non-partisan and non-sectarian”. A member asked for the definition of the term 'non-profit' regarding making money from the work of another member. Crier Vandermaas commented that the Guild itself is stated as non profit in the Constitution, not the individual members.

d) Crier Vandermaas read the prepared motion below:

Motion re: appointment of official Guild representative to War of 1812 Committees:

Whereas the Bicentennial of the War of 1812-1814 is to be a national celebration, with planning of the associated events and projects well under way; and

Whereas it is in the interest of the Ontario Guild of Town Criers and its aims and purposes to be involved in said events and projects; and

Whereas the City of Thorold Town Crier Tony Vandermaas is presently a member of the Thorold War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee and Niagara Regional Committee to the War of 1812 Legacy Council. Which is an umbrella for all local War of 1812 Bicentennial Committees;

Therefore is it moved that Tony Vandermaas be appointed as the Guilds official representative on the Niagara Regions Legacy Council

Further be it moved that members of the Guild who are similarly involved at their regional level in the aforementioned Bicentennial celebrations be likewise appointed for their region.

By Tony Vandermaas, motions Seconded by Bill McKee both motions carried

e) The 2012 Ontario Guild of Town Criers Provincial Championships will be hosted by Crier Scott Fraser on Thanksgiving weekend next year during Oktoberfest.

Crier Molnar noted that Bob Heil had also expressed an interest in hosting next years OGTC Championships. Crier Vandermaas noted that Bob has no appointment has a Town Crier at this time and that he hadn't communicated his intent to host to the guild as a whole. Crier B. Kruger commented that with all due respect given to Bob, Scott deserves the chance to host. Crier Tom Pekar commented that he had spoken with Bob on Monday (Aug. 8) and Bob noted that he is still looking for sponsors for the event.

Motion to accept Crier Scott Frasers invitation to host the 2012 OGTC Provincial Championships.

By S. Kruger, Seconded by B. Kruger

motion carried

Other Business

Guest Crier Andrew Welch has offered to work on a set of guidelines that the Guild could pass on to municipalities that are interested in getting their own Town Crier.

Crier B. Kruger commented that business being done on behalf of the guild should be done by guild

members, and Andrew has not been approved yet for membership. Crier B. Boszo noted that she already receives emails from the website from people wanting to join the Guild and from communities looking to get their own official Town Crier. If she is too busy, she contacts a Guild member from the area and passes the information on to them.

Crier Doug Turvey made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 pm

Executive for 2011-2012

Past President Steve Travers

President Les Whiting

First Vice President Mark Molnar

Second Vice President Shaun Kruger

Directors Rob Misener(2nd year of 1st term) , Tony Vandermaas(2nd year of 2nd term), Bruce Kruger(2nd year of 2nd term)

Treasurer Brenda Boszo

Secretary Jenn Olivero

Up Coming Events in 2011

Ingersoll Harvest Festival, Crier Doug Turvey

August 27th

Orangeville, Crier Betty Kading

September 4th

St. Catherines Grape and Wine Parade, Crier Mark Molnar

September 24th

North Americans Championships, Anacortes, WA, Richard Ridell

September 30th to October 2nd

Oktoberfest Parade, Crier Scott Fraser,

Thanksgiving Monday

Up Coming Events 2012 and Beyond

Tillsonburg Turtle Fest, Crier Brenda Boszo

Saturday, June 16 2012

Muskoka Escapades, Crier Bruce Kruger

Sunday, July 8, 2012

Provincial Championships

2012 Scott Fraser, Kitchener-Waterloo

2013 Tony Vandermaas & Mark Molnar, St. Catherines and Thorold

2014 Bill McKee, Port Perry

2015 Bruce Kruger and Shaun Kruger, Bracebridge

2016 Brent McLaren, Perth

Executive Meeting August 13, 2011 Brantford

Pres. Les Whiting called meeting of the Executive to order following the AGM of the OGTC.

Past President Steve Travers called for the appointments for the Treasurer and Secretary.

Pres. Whiting commented that the same people should be appointed as they do a fantastic job.

Brenda Boszo and Jenn Olivero will stand as Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

Motion to award \$100 honouriam to Treasurer and Secretary for hard work and jobs well done.

By Les Whiting Seconded by Steve Travers

carried

Crier Bruce Kruger commented that he feels that we accomplish more when the Executive meets face to face rather than over the phone. He would like to see two 'in person' meetings and two teleconferences per year.

Crier Tony Vandermaas agreed with Crier Bruce Krugers comments; Crier Boszo offered the use of her home as Otterville is fairly central to everyone.

Pres. Whiting offered along with Crier Boszo to 'hammer' out the details of the next meeting

Crier B Kruger called a motion to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Crier Rob Misener, carried

Meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm.