

Minutes of OGTC AGM AGM July 28, Amherst Island

Call to Order: D. Vollick called meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Attendees: D. Boyd, L.Cragg, A. Freeman, B. Kruger, B. Mckee, D. Mckee, M. Molnar, D. Philips, D. Richer, D. Rose, A. Welch, L. Whiting, C. Whyman.

Regrets: L. Davis, A. Hart, T. Pekar, J. Olivero, D. Turvey

N.B. The only attachments being sent with the minutes are those which were not sent with the proposed agenda.

President's Welcome and Report: D. Vollick welcomed attendees and congratulated Crier Bill McKee and his team for an excellent Provincial Competition. A brief report highlighted Liam Cragg's first Provincial competition and a welcome to the Guild for Mandy Robinson who was not able to attend. There have been some health issues for criers and escorts over 2018 but all seem on the mend at the moment. Word count, new member application process and props guidelines were passed by the executive in 2018 and are on the web site and available through the Bedellus link. Both Escort and Consort are acceptable terminology - at local option- and escort/consort was determined not to provide any advantage/disadvantage to the crier in competition.

Motion to accept 2018 Agenda as circulated with no additions or corrections
B. Mckee 2nd M. Molnar - passed

Motion to Accept 2017 Minutes, no additions or corrections
B. McKee, 2nd C. Whyman - passed

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report:
B. McKee, 2nd M. Molnar - passed

Motion to accept all Committee Reports:
B. Mckee, 2nd L. Cragg - passed

- 1) Ethics and Discipline - Scott Fraser - no issues in 2018
- 2) Competition and Rules - Brent McLaren - See president's report (Above)
- 3) Public Relations and Web Site- Brent McLaren - sent with agenda proposed agenda.

The main item was the removal of net neutrality in the USA and possible impact on the cost and security level required to maintain the OGTC web Site. The situation is not clear at the moment and B. McLaren will continue to monitor the situation and advise the executive.

- 4) Newsletter Communications - Steve Travers - keep the photos and information flowing.

There was a discussion of whether there was duplication with the newsletter, Facebook

site and the OGTC Bedellus. It was resolved that each has a different target audience and at present the three should be maintained.

Elections:

The meeting was turned over to Past President Mark Molnar since the immediate past president Shaun Kruger was not at the meeting.

The slate for election was acclaimed as follows:

Bill McKee: President - 2 year term beginning January 1st 2019 ending December 31st 2020

Rob Misener: 1st Vice President - 2 year term beginning January 1st 2019 ending December 31st 2020

Jennifer Olivero: - Secretary - 2 year term beginning January 1st 2019 ending December 31st 2020 (To be confirmed by election)

Doug Turvey: - Treasurer - 2 year term beginning January 1st 2019 ending December 31st 2020

Note D. Turvey has agreed to stand for this 2 year term but requests that another member step forward to assume the Treasurer's role after December 31st, 2020.

Athol Hart: - Director 2 year term beginning January 1st 2019 ending December 31st 2020

Brian Mabee: - Director 1 year term beginning January 1st 2019 ending December 31st 2019

Les Whiting: - Director 1 year term beginning January 1st 2019 ending December 31st 2019

Steve Travers: - Director 1 year term beginning January 1st 2019 ending December 31st 2019

Liam Cragg: - Director 1 year term beginning January 1st 2019 ending December 31st 2019

Bruce Kruger: - Director 1 year term beginning January 1st 2019 ending December 31st 2019

Continuing Business:

1) Word Count rules are posted on the website and were confirmed by the executive vote Nov 2017

2) VSSC - Vulnerable Sector Screening Check:

B. Kruger withdrew a previous motion suggesting VSSC for new members as well as existing members. This will require changes to information currently on the web site. D. Vollick to advise B. McLaren of the changes.

3) Not For Profit Act - Ontario has adopted the NFPA - possible impacts on OGTC:

In the course of investigation of a separate agenda item, B. Kruger was able to confirm that the OGTC has not been registered as NFP since 1998/1999. There is a cost to register no advantage to the Guild to do so. We will continue as we presently are being governed by our current constitution with no changes to our membership structure. We are not a “Not for Profit Organization”.

4) Insurance 2019

D. Vollick to follow up with S. Travers to determine if Steve will continue to negotiate an insurance policy for those criers who wish to participate. The more participants the lower the individual premium.

In post meeting conversation with Crier Steve he advised that he will be coordinating insurance coverage for 2019 for those who would like to participate. Notice will be sent out about 8 weeks in advance (November 2018). The commencement date of coverage will be January 1st 2019. Early response and transfer of funds to Steve would be appreciated.

5) New Business:

1) Moved by B. Kruger: The Ontario Guild of Town Criers, in recognition that people be celebrated equally and respectfully and whereas, The Official Town Crier of Olde Halifax, has demonstrated utmost effort, determination and competence, which diligently showcases the abilities and contributions of people with Down syndrome; therefore, in tribute to his outstanding efforts, we hereby appoint, Town Crier Will McPherson Brewer, Official Town Crier of Olde Halifax as an “HONORARY MEMBER” of the ONTARIO GUILD of TOWN CRIERS. 2nd Mark Molnar - after discussion presentation of information/actions leading up to this motion. *It was passed with an amendment authorizing B. Kruger to prepare a plaque for presentation to Mr. Brewer, - “to cost no more than \$100.00 CDN”*

2) Discussion: “A Cry for Peace” It was decided that individual criers will decide whether it is appropriate for them to participate. The initiator has agreed that the cry can be modified. Participants can register with Mr. Bruno Peek’s site <https://www.brunopeek.co.uk/>. The cry will be included in the attachments as it was not part of the original back up to the agenda.

3) Bruce Klippenstein - Peachland B.C.: B. Klippenstein is pursuing associate membership with OGTC. To date he has not been able to obtain sponsorship of either an elected body or an historical board. He has been advised to seek support from surrounding areas. Until sponsorship is confirmed no further action will be taken by the OGTC.

4) Smithville, Ontario: This jurisdiction may be interested in continuing to search a town crier. The current mayor has asked that involvement by OGTC be put on hold until November (After civic elections). Discussion around the issue noted that the late crier Jim Greene was appointed by West Lincoln, not Smithville which is a subset of west Lincoln. There was general support to continue working with Smithville. This may take the form of a demonstration or possibly a full competition.

5) Awards: The group discussion noted that there is no registry for awards. If a crier fulfills the requirements for the “Exemplary Service” award they are to contact Ken Templeman and

Secretary Jenn Olivero well before the AGM so that the award can be ribboned and available for presentation. The “Exemplary Service” award is the only item recognizing years of service with bars for 5, 10 15 years etc. , any other is up to the crier and their jurisdiction. Note awards and medals are worn on opposite sides of the uniform.
<http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/honours-history-medals-chart/medals-chart-index.page>

6) Art of Town Crying: A discussion arose concerning provincial competitions and advising of judges regarding “acting” related to cries, the appropriateness of a cry (I.e would you perform this cry in this manner in front of your Mayor), the historic basis of crying as an oral/aural art, a suggestion that provincials should include a hometown cry and that a (specific) **single** cry be designated for the (most humorous cry) **Dave Thompson Award**.

This lead to a motion to refer the suggestions to the Rules Committee. Moved by M. Molnar 2nd L. Cragg. A friendly amendment was moved by A. Welch, 2nd B. McKee

The **Dave Thompson** award be presented for a (specified) **single** designated cry at Provincial competitions, in addition **that the Guild recommends to host criers that major competitions include a hometown cry** (it is recommended that future competitions should include a hometown cry).

Passed

In Memoriams: Moment of Silence for:
Frank Knight - Scarborough
Ralph Wilding - Tottenham

Motion to Adjourn: Les Whiting - the meeting ended at 5:30 pm