

International Ladies' Club
Annual General Meeting
5 November, 2015
Minutes

Meeting was called to order by the Secretary, Judy Miller, at 10:35 AM.

Judy made some opening remarks stating that the purpose of the meeting is to declare before the general membership decisions that have been made by the Committee, i.e., what has been done and how money has been spent. The purpose is also to get input from the general membership as to how the Club is to operate and provide direction to the Committee. Judy remarked that the membership has changed 40% in the last two years and that the Club should not remain stagnant in its operation.

Several documents were sent to the membership in advance of the meeting which were adopted and carried by the membership.

- Agenda
- 2014 Minutes – Motion to approve by Jan Robshaw, seconded by Maggie McCormac
- Treasurer's Report
 - Current balance \$6,165.26
 - Motion to approve by Ali Thorburn, seconded by Mona Rose
 - Helen Stone-Wigg was thanked for her excellent attention to all things treasury related.
- Secretary's Report
 - It was noted that there have been two resignations from the Committee, Faye Lippitt who organized the coffee mornings and Peg Smith who acted as the secretary and produced the newsletter. Both of these ladies were given thank-you gifts to recognize the time and effort they had put in working for the good of the Club. This is something that was not previously recognized and the decision was made by the Committee to acknowledge their efforts and those of committee members in the future.
 - With the resignation of Peg Smith, Judy Miller has stepped in as Secretary and Mona Rose has taken over coffee mornings from Faye Lippitt. There is no President of the ILC and this system seems to work well. The committee made changes in an effort to improve communications regarding events of the club. Currently the Club is using email and Facebook to communicate. There was an appeal for a volunteer to do the newsletter. No one came forward so we will continue to operate without a newsletter for the time being.
 - There was a decision made by the Committee regarding the timing of communications.
 - There was a decision made by the Committee to streamline the budget. In researching this item, Judy said that there was a policy decision made in the past for the finances of the Club to not exceed \$5,000. That decision was made at a time when there were 250+ members and \$18,000 in the bank account. The monies were intended to be spent to subsidize Club events. Judy suggested, in light of the current circumstances, that the Club choose to ignore that policy.
 - Pauline Simpson recalled that the policy was meant to state the funds should not go below \$5,000. Judy said that, in fact, the policy was designed to ensure the club did not accumulate too much money. Pauline then suggested that we enforce a policy to not allow the funds to go below a certain amount.

- Betty Dick recalled discussions in the past where members did not want too much money in the bank as they preferred to benefit within the current year.
 - Judy Miller said that it sounds like we should have a policy that the funds should not fall below a certain amount and should not exceed a certain amount.
 - Anne Goulden said that she feels \$5,000 is adequate. Maggie McCormac and Veronique Sokohl feel that \$5,000 is too much. Veronique said that it should be capped at \$1,000.
 - Debbie Taylor suggested that we plan for the account to be a certain amount by the end of the year and plan how to use the monies to achieve that.
 - Betty Dick suggested that the activities committee should say what events to subsidize.
 - Judy Miller recapped that at the AGM we know the previous year balance and then we can make decisions on what to subsidize for the next year.
 - Jill Kapuscinski cautioned that we don't set the balance too low.
 - Laura Egglshaw suggested that we organize the activities for the entire year ahead.
 - Debbie Taylor proposed that we establish an annual budget that uses the majority of the funds up to \$3,000 or an appropriate amount and ear-mark those funds for activities that engage the membership of the ILC.
 - Jan Robshaw suggested that we look at the accounts for the past three years and average a figure of the amount it takes to run
 - Judy Miller summarized the discussion and suggested that the members leave the matter with the Committee to manage it over the year and bring forward a plan at the next AGM.
 - Peg Smith recalled that 1) an executive decision was made a couple of years ago to subsidize more events to lower the balance and, 2) the membership has changed making it difficult to figure a budget in advance.
 - Judy Miller asked that we move that the Committee is directed to project for next year and come up with a number over the course of the year to not have excessive funds but to ensure there are sufficient funds to operate the club.
 - Faye Lippitt made that motion, Helen Haines seconded. Motion was approved.
- Membership Report given by Mary Brickner: Current membership is 93 ladies, 58 ongoing in 2014, 35 new. This is an increase of 21 over the 72 members as of 31 October, 2014.
 - Activities Report was given by Maggie McCormac.
 - Maggie reported that we had had a variety of activities including bowling, paddle-boarding and spa day. There was no Christmas dinner last year for a variety of reasons and the Committee hopes to set an event for January.
 - The on-going activities include:
 - Mahjong on Tuesday, organized by Ann Elliott
 - Mahjong on Friday, organized by Veronique Sokohl
 - Needle-crafters on Wednesday, organized by Helen Haines
 - Book Club on the second Tuesday of the month, organized by Ruth Kellow
 - Bridge lessons, organized by Helen Haines
 - Happy Hour on the fourth Friday of the month, organized by Roxanne Berry
 - Coffee Mornings/Breakfasts on the first Thursday of the month, organized by Mona Rose
 - Lunches on the third Thursday of the month, organized by Helen Haines

- Suggestions for additional activities were for tennis and golf. Debbie Taylor may be willing to organize the tennis. An email will be sent regarding the golf.
- Judy reminded the membership to watch the ILC website, Facebook and email for notifications regarding upcoming events.
- A motion was made to accept the activity report by Diane Hardy, seconded by Anne Goulden.
- Constitutional Amendments
 - A motion was moved and seconded by the Committee that new membership fees collected in September and October are applicable to the next fiscal year, beginning on November 1. This motion was approved by the general membership.
 - A motion was moved and seconded by the Committee that the activities committee be reorganized into one group with the various activity organizers all serving as part of the general activities committee. This motion was approved by the general membership.
 - Liability for hosting events in members' homes. The fine print on the membership form waives liability if you attend a function. Members who elect to waive responsibility should apprise their guests.
 - Pauline Simpson asked who will tell the guests. Judy Miller replied that the homeowner should take responsibility to inform the guests. It is not the responsibility of the member who is bringing the guest(s).
 - Jan Robshaw said the property is a place of liability; therefore it is the owner's responsibility to inform their guests.
 - Pauline Simpson felt that, in that case, people will not want to host an event.
 - Anne Goulden said that condo associations have liability insurance.
 - Motion was moved and seconded by the committee - carried.
- Committee Members
 - Judy Miller asked if there were any volunteers for nominations and election of committee members.
 - Laura Egglshaw made a motion to accept the Committee as it stands, seconded by Veronique Sokohl.

Motion to adjourn was made by Helen Haines, seconded by Ali Thorburn.

Introduction and Recognition of 10 new members present:

Anna Abbott	Nicky Bellis
Kirsti Bjerkholt	Sarah Bolton
Maryanne Cuomo	Irene Gut
Laura Hardman	Kim Kerslake
Katia Radwanski	Olive Wilkin

Prior to the meeting the members enjoyed a presentation by Her Excellency – The Governor – Helen Kilpatrick. After a very informative and interesting talk, the Governor was awarded an honorary ILC membership. At the conclusion of the meeting, founding member Madge Tomkins was acknowledged for her years of contribution and participation in the club. She was awarded an honorary ILC membership.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Brickner