

**Minutes: NANPS AGM  
FINAL**

**October 28th, 2022, 1- 3pm - online meeting via Zoom -**

Natasha Gonsalves welcomed members, read the land acknowledgement and introduced the Zoom functions.

Quorum was established based on the number of people on the Zoom call.

The 2023 AGM agenda was reviewed. Moved by Natasha, that the agenda be approved. *Carried.*

The 2022 AGM meeting minutes were reviewed. Moved by Natasha, that the minutes be approved. *Carried.*

**Financial Report:** Blair Marik, on behalf of the board, introduced our auditor, Jeffrey Milgram. Jeffrey presented the Financial Statements for the year ending Dec 31, 2022.

- Jeffrey introduced himself and his firm, working mainly with non-profit organizations in the GTA and beyond.
- Statement of operations:
  - He noted that much of the operations are similar to pre-COVID years, mainly due to recovery of most in person events and revenues.
  - Total revenue was decreased in 2022 compared to 2021, mainly due to a decrease in grants.
  - Grants were received in 2021 to specifically fund expenses.
  - General operations were generally consistent or increased in revenues. Increases in expenses were due to mainly inflation.
- Statement of financial position
  - Overall increase in total assets and net assets and good financial health overall
  - Relatively small budget, as NANPS is mainly a volunteer-run organization
- Moved by Blair: to approve the 2022 Financial Statements. *Carried*
- Moved by Blair to approve Jeffrey Milgram as auditor for the coming year. *Carried*
- Jeffrey mentioned other non-profit organizations that he will connect with us.
- Membership pricing has not changed since 2015. Board is in the process of analyzing membership pricing in the upcoming year.

**Changes to the board:** Alice Kong thanked outgoing board members for their contributions and hard work: Janice Keil and Katie MacDonald.

- Katie has been on the board for 1 year and events committee, Seedex events, etc.
- Janice has been on the board for 13 years and many roles (treasurer, secretary, and many others) and committees (retreat, AGM, plant sale, etc.).

Current and continuing board members are Natasha Gonsalves, Alice Kong, Blair Marik, Lynn Wu, John Foster, and Adam Centurione.

Alice introduced Clement Kent, Kim Bell, and Sarah Gladki to be voted as new board members by NANPS membership.

- Sarah Gladki is involved with the Toronto Arts Foundation and many other organizations. She is motivated to join NANPS because of her family involvement with native plants.

- Clement Kent was a part of one of the webinars earlier this year. He is the founder of Parkdale Horticultural Society and Project Swallowtail, and author of native plants.
- Kim Bell was a greeter at the plant sale this year. Kim studied at York University for Bachelor of Environment Studies, and is currently studying for her Masters at University of Guelph. Kim is interested in protecting wetlands.

Moved by Alice, that the new/current board slate be accepted. *Carried.*

### **Year in Review**

The Year in Review was presented by Lynn Wu. It included NANPS accomplishments since our last AGM with details about membership, Seedex, plant sales, webinars, fundraising, e-newsletter, social media and the video garden contest. A few highlights:

- Growth in membership to 797 members compared to 718 last year (as of September)
- Seedex
- Four workshops and webinars, recordings available on website and YouTube
- Successful plant sale at Toronto Botanical Garden
- 5 Community events were attended by NANPS this year

**The Short Video was then introduced by Lynn:** Danforth Pollinator Pathway highlights the value of native plants in pollinator pathways and tells the story of how a Toronto neighbourhood took steps to create an environment attractive to pollinators. The short film features Echo Railton, a community leader of the Danforth Pollinator Pathway project, who describes how her neighbourhood came together to create a network of pollinator friendly gardens at homes and in public spaces and identifies some important features they included to help pollinators thrive. We hope that this story will encourage individuals, groups, and communities to investigate making their own multi-season pollinator-friendly gardens. This video was completed in partnership with the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, the David Suzuki Foundation, and the City of Toronto's PollinateTO program.

### **Land Management Committee updates**

- John introduced Shining Tree Woods (STW) and Zinkan Island Cove (ZIC) as the two properties held by NANPS. Both have native plants with endangered species on the properties.
- In the past year, three visits to STW and one visit to ZIC were made. Two committee meetings were held in addition.
- Risk and safety management plan is also being drafted, along with a number of additional plans
- John acknowledgements for many supporters of the land management committee this past year.
- Question regarding membership excursion in the future - response is that it is under consideration, but needs the right place/right time.

**Garden Video Contest:** Adam Centurione presented contest rules and the 7 videos. A highlight reel video was played.

- Novice gardens:
  - First prize: Sara Mojtehdzadeh
  - Second prize: Elliot Storm
  - Third prize: Ruth Messmer

- Experienced gardens:
  - First prize: Sayeh Beheshti
  - Second prize: Monique Mailloux
  - Third prize: Linda Kapeleris

**Closing remarks** were made by Natasha Gonsalves.

- Seeking Volunteer Event Coordinator for a part time volunteer position - more information to come
- The upcoming Giving Tuesday will be on November 28, 2022

Natasha thanked all attendees for their engagement and feedback - more to come on our discussions.

Moved by Natasha Gonsalves, that the meeting be adjourned. *Carried*