

Minutes: NANPS AGM

October 26th, 2024, 1- 3pm - online meeting via Zoom

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

Quorum was established based on the number of people on the Zoom call. (36 people including Jeffrey Milgram).

The 2024 AGM agenda was reviewed. Moved by Natasha, that the agenda be approved. *Carried.*

The 2023 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, 2023.

- Jeffrey introduced himself and his firm, working mainly with non-profit organizations.
- Statement of operations - Relatively small budget, as NANPS is mainly a volunteer-run organization; main fundraiser is the plant sale, sales were fairly consistent with prior years post COVID
- Statement of financial position - Overall increase in total assets and net assets and good financial health. Main assets are cash and two properties (no major changes from prior years)
- Moved by Blair: to approve the 2023 Financial Statements. Seconded by John Foster. *Carried*
- Moved by Blair to approve Jeffrey Milgram as auditor for the coming year. Seconded by John Foster. *Carried*

Changes to the board: Blair Marik thanked the outgoing board members for their contributions and hard work: Alice Kong, Natasha Gonsalves, and Adam Centurione.

- Adam Centurione: he has been a board member for the past 2 years and most visibly led the video contest, a member of the Land Management Committee, involved with indigenous organizations, and many others.
- Natasha Gonsalves: she has completed a full 3 year term She has led organizing the educational webinars, strategy committee, and many others
- Alice Kong: she has been a very long serving board member; she has led the plant sale and Seedex committees, and many organizational matters.

Current and continuing board members are Blair Marik, Lynn Wu, John Foster, Sarah Gladki, Clement Kent, and Kim Bell.

Blair introduced Anna Crombie, Sibylle Foppa, Elena Koneva, and Jenn MacAusland to be voted as new board members by NANPS membership.

- Anna Crombie
- Sibylle Foppa
- Elena Koneva
- Jenn MacAusland

Moved by Blair, 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 sale, webinars, fundraising, e-newsletter, social media and the video garden contest. A few highlights:

- Membership to 715 members
- Seedex
- Webinars, recordings are available on our website and YouTube
- Successful plant sale at Toronto Botanical Garden
- 5 Community events were attended by NANPS this year
- Garden tour at Sayeh's home

Land Management Committee updates

- John introduced us to Shining Tree Woods (STW) and Zinkan Island Cove (ZIC), the two properties held by NANPS.
- In the past year, the land management committee obtained the deeds for both properties, and a survey map for the Shining Tree Woods property
- Bioinventory planning is in progress as well
- Acknowledgements and thank yous to the volunteers on the land management committee
- Looking for more volunteers in the next year

Clement Kent introduced Stephan Weber, who presented information about the Ontario Seed Orchard Projects

Volunteer of the Year award was presented to Sayeh Beheshti- Alice introduced Sayeh and her contributions to NANPS. Sayeh also thanked the volunteers at the Garden Tour this year.

Garden Video Contest: Adam Centurione presented the contest rules. Highlights of two videos submitted were played.

- Experienced gardens:
 - First prize: Fiona
 - Second prize: Brandie

Closing remarks were made by Blair Marik and Sarah Gladki

- The upcoming Giving Tuesday will be on November 28, 2024
- Thank yous and Seedex coming up shortly

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

Moved by Sarah Gladki, seconded by Adam Centurione, that the meeting be adjourned. *Carried*