

**Community Fund of North Kootenay Lake
Minutes of the AGM May 23, 2014
The Langham Theater**

Present: 20 members and 11 guests attended the meeting.

The meeting was convened: at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of agenda: Moved by Sean Kubara; seconded by Stephanie Judy

Approval of the 2013 AGM minutes: Barney Gilmore gave a summary of these minutes and moved their acceptance. Seconded by Lorraine Symmes. Passed unanimously.

Report from a 2013 grant recipient: Chelsea Van Koughnett reported on the grant to Hospice last year. That grant facilitated the growth and development of their organization. Its name is now the Hospice Society of North Kootenay Lake and it serves most of Area D in the Regional District. It offers end-of-life support in homes, and at the Kaslo hospital. Hospice held their first AGM during the year, and were able to expand their library for the use of volunteers and for the families of the dying. They hope to facilitate more local talking about, and easing of the stresses associated with, death and dying.

President's Report: David Stewart began his report reminding us all of the deeper meaning of philanthropy and the CFNKLS philanthropic mission. He quoted Einstein on the importance of compassion and our connection to countless others. The quote concluded *"Many times a day, I realize how much my outer and inner life is built upon the labours of others, both living and dead, and how earnestly I must exert myself in order to give in return as much as I have received."*

David reported that CFNKLS has now exceeded half a million dollars in endowments, allowing us to make grants in excess of \$23,000 this year. Our goal is to double these endowments before ten more years have passed. He described a retreat the directors participated in, and the work it identified that is needed by CFNKLS over the next few years.

David described some of the work of the directors and the value of their joint efforts and varied talents. His report ended with a quote from John McKnight concerning the importance of citizens action in concert for the common good.

Greetings from the Osprey Community Foundation: Vivien Bowers, the ED of the Osprey Foundation, joined us on her way home from a Penticton meeting of all B.C. Community Foundations. She was told while in Penticton that Osprey is "batting above its weight" in the province, and she had reasons to praise CFNKLS for doing better than Osprey in certain respects. CFNKLS started with one donation (from the McKinnons) and has grown remarkably since. Vivien emphasized that the legacies of every donor to our endowment funds endure for all time.

Report from a 2013 grant recipient: Anne Heard described for us the improvements made last year to the Community Garden with help from our grant funds and from the volunteers who donated the labour involved. She gave particular thanks to Ian McKinnon for volunteering his time and backhoe to bury and extend the water system in the garden. She underscored the growing importance (and the importance of growing) of a garden culture in today's world.

Treasurer's report: Sean Kubara presented an accounting of our Society revenues and expenses for 2013. These moneys are for the expenses that CFNKLS incurs in the course of its administrative work, and they come in part from member dues, and from other donations, e.g. from Osprey, from the Columbia Basin Trust, the RDCK, Kootenay Savings CU, and sometimes from individuals. Endowments to our funds go directly to the Osprey Foundation in Nelson and are eligible for charitable receipts. Donations to CFNKLS are not so eligible.

There were special complications in this year's accounts that are not likely to repeat. These were due to some endowment funds given to CFNKLS late in 2012 but not transferred to Osprey until after the start of 2013. Total new receipts in 2013 were \$2,914.67 (of which 6% came from membership dues). Total expenditures in 2013 were \$1,757.84. And our CFNKLS closing balance on December 31, 2013 was \$2,112.55.

Sean moved acceptance of this report. Elaine Toffan seconded. Passed unanimously.

Report from a 2013 grant recipient: Elizabeth Scarlett described the "Health Matters" articles published during the year concerning the developing status of our Health Care clinic and associated health care providers in North Kootenay Lake. Community Services used our grant money to keep us informed on these issues and encouraged a variety of health service workers to contribute information to these articles.

Election of the 2014 CFNKLS Directors:

Four directors have one year remaining in their terms of office: David Stewart, Paul Hunter, Sean Kubara, and Debra Barrett.

Four directors were nominated by the current board for re-election to a two-year term: Barney Gilmore, Elaine Toffan, Honora Cooper, and Catherine Whitehead.

The bylaws of the Society mandate a maximum of eight people act as directors.

It was moved by Karen Pidcock and seconded by Elizabeth Scarlett that nominations be closed. Passed unanimously, and the nominees were declared elected.

Motions Put Before the Membership:

On behalf of the Board, it was moved by Barney Gilmore and seconded by Paul Hunter, that the CFNKLS bylaws be amended to read as follows: **"25 (1) The president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, the past president, and one or more other persons are the directors of the society."** And, that the CFNKLS bylaws be further amended to read as follows: **"27 (3) If the past president is unable or unwilling to be a director, or if the past president resigns as a director, the post of past president shall be left vacant for**

that year and another director may be added to the Board in his or her place, subject to Items 25 and 27 (1) of these bylaws.

The purpose, and the Board's reasons, for proposing these changes were described as a way of easing the transition of a new President/Vice President into the responsibilities associated with those offices. There was a brief discussion and then a vote. The motion was passed unanimously.

On behalf of the Board, it was moved by Barney Gilmore and seconded by Paul Hunter that **“As of January 1, 2015, membership fees shall become \$15 for one year, \$20 for two years, \$25 for three years, or \$50 for a lifetime membership.”** The motion was discussed at some length. There was concern that having different membership expiry dates for different people would overly complicate the job of the treasurer or secretary. The job of record keeping would largely fall on the secretary, but Barney (our Secretary) argued that this would make it easier to keep track of who was still a member in good standing, and to communicate with members, than soliciting all new members each year. A person who misses one AGM could still be a member in good standing if they had enrolled earlier, without having to contact the secretary and send in the membership dues, which they probably would not elect to do. The question was put and the motion passed.

Report from a 2013 grant recipient: Eva Kelemen described the success of last year's Summer Reading Fridays. The library event attracted 225 visitors during the seven occasions it was held.

Report from a 2013 grant recipient: Ellen Watters described the improvements made last year to the Argenta Friends meeting hall. The hall continues to be a centre of activity in Argenta.

Announcements of the 2014 CFNKLS grants from the McKinnon Family Funds, totalling \$2,975: Ian McKinnon brought a broad smile to most of the faces in our audience before presenting a cheque for \$1,487 to Robert Nellis on behalf of the **Kaslo Victorian Health Centre Society**. The funds will be used for programs in the Residential Care facility. The audience smile was in appreciation for the wonderful risqué joke that constituted the now-traditional start of his AGM addresses to us.

Next, Ian presented a cheque for \$744 to Eva Kelemen for the **Kaslo Library** collection development.

And he informed us that a **bursary award** of \$744, for studies in a technical trade, will be announced at the JVH Graduation to take place on June 20th.

Announcements of 2014 CFNKLS grants from the remaining CFNKLS Funds, totalling \$20, 456. David Stewart distributed these cheques as follows:

To the **Kaslo Concert Society**, \$1,000 for Concert Presentations in the 2014–2015 season. Received with thanks by Karen Pidcock.

To the Victorian Hospital of Kaslo Auxiliary, \$1,000 for further improvements by the **Kaslo Community Garden Club** in the Community garden. Received with thanks by Ann Heard.

To the JV Humphries School, \$613 for Nordic Club ski purchases by the **Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society**. Received with thanks by Ken Butt.

To the JV Humphries School, \$1,500 for the 2014 Bike Camp by the **Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society**. Received with thanks by Ken Butt.

To the **JV Humphries School**, \$500 for the upcoming Grade 6/7 Field trip education program. Received with thanks by teacher Rod Dunnett.

To the **Argenta Monthly Meeting**, \$1,500 for repairs to the Meeting House plumbing and floors. Received with thanks by Ellen Watters.

To the **St. Andrew's United Church** \$560 for concert venue lighting and related upgrades. Received with thanks by Mary Stickel.

To the **North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society**, \$2,000 for further work on "Age Friendly Kaslo." Also, \$1,200 for the Emergency Services information network project. Received with thanks by Laura Smith.

To the **Kootenay Lake Historical Society**, \$500 for wheel restoration of the freight wagon. Received with thanks by Sara Moffatt.

To the **Hospice Society of North Kootenay Lake**, \$1,950 for attendance by the Executive Director at a professional development program in Victoria. This will permit her to train local volunteers as well. Received with thanks by Debra Barrett.

To the **Lardeau Valley Historical Society**, \$1200 for museum improvements. (Yet to be delivered.)

To the **Kootenay Lake Independent School Soc.(Periwinkle)**, \$2,000 for facility upgrades. (Yet to be delivered.)

To the **Kaslo Trailblazers & Community Forest Society**, \$500 for their Trail Building Youth Engagement summer partnership program. Received with thanks by Erika Bird of Community Forest Society.

To the **Langham Cultural Society**, \$2,384 for technical upgrades in the theatre. Received with thanks by Shelly Ross.

To the **Kaslo & District Public Library**, \$550 for their 2014 Summer Reading Club. Received with thanks by Eva Kelemen.

To the **Health Arts Society**, \$1,500 for their 2014-2015 Concerts in Care program. (Yet to be delivered.)

Member Discussion, Suggestions and Comments:

Elizabeth Scarlett reported on the status of her long standing project preserving and digitizing rare archival audio tapes held by the Kaslo Historical Society. She has completed this cataloguing and digitizing work and thanked CFNKLS for its earlier support of this project.

Lorraine Symmes enquired if there might not be large display boards that CFNKLS could use to advertise its contributions and services at the summer Saturday markets in Kaslo. She and a few others expressed a willingness to operate such a table if CFNKLS so desired.

Debra Barrett observed that the Community doesn't seem to know very well how we can help them but also CFNKLS doesn't always know what help community groups might be needing. The directors were urged to consider meeting this apparent challenge in the coming months.

Dirk Rinehart wondered why those who donate significant amounts to our endowment funds are not thereby automatically eligible members of the Society and able to vote on its affairs at the AGMs. The meeting was told that this question had recently been raised with the Board, but that no consensus had emerged on what changes, if any, might be appropriate regarding the current policy on membership eligibility. (The board always tries for full consensus in its decisions.)

It was pointed out that membership dues have recently constituted a small proportion of the funds that the Board has available for carrying out its administrative work, so membership dues are not necessarily required to enable our work.

In the coming months, the directors were urged to revisit the question of potentially appropriate changes to the rules of eligibility for membership.

Erika Bird asked if commitments for grants for periods longer than a single year might be acceptable in the future. CFNKLS doesn't know how much grant money it will have available each year until sometime in February. For now we have rather more requests for grants than we have money available to distribute. We would need a significant increase in our endowments to allow us safely to commit to further grants a year in advance.

David Stewart thanked all those who came to the meeting, and he invited all to consider the residual art work on display in the theatre, from the McNabb estate, art that CFNKLS would like to place in appreciative hands.

The meeting was adjourned: at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: J. Barnard Gilmore
CFNKLS Secretary