

GLOUCESTER ALLOTMENT GARDEN ASSOCIATION
Annual General Meeting - 8 March 2022
Meeting Location: Zoom

Executive Members present: Irene Harrison, Jacqueline Shaw, Linda Gloss, Catherine Dixon, Steve Vesely, David Lamb, Eleonore Eldridge, Mark Eldridge, Paul Mekis, Jennie Mae Thompson, Margaret Don, David Smith, Anne Ho

In attendance: John ApSimon, Past President

Regrets: Wayne Bissett, Harvey Nuelle

Technical Direction: Mark Eldridge hosted this zoom meeting and advised us that we are using "poll questions" for voting purposes. The meeting was recorded after the call to order.

Call to Order - the meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Irene Harrison, President.

Opening Remarks - Irene Harrison welcomed the members to our third virtual annual general meeting. Irene introduced our invited guests.

Invited Guests:

Laura Dudas, Deputy Mayor and Councillor of Innes Ward remarked that as a long-time resident of Innes Ward, she looks forward to our AGM to mark the start of spring! Innes ward is lucky to have such a strong and vibrant garden community. Councillor Catherine Kitts from Cumberland ward was also in attendance, and the Anderson Garden is in her ward. Councillor Dudas hopes we will be back to in person meetings soon!

Camille Yu-San Koon is the new Engagement Coordinator at Just Food. She works with Harveen Sandhu, the Community Gardening Network Coordinator. Just food offers gardening workshops, promotes projects such as Donate-a-Row and provides resources and advice to all of Ottawa's community gardens.

Erin O'Manique, Executive Director of the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard spoke about the many projects that the GEFC is developing. These include a greenhouse at Gloucester High School, a one-third acre plot at the Just Food Farm, a free farmers market during the growing season and participation in the Arrowsmith Thyme-less Community Garden in Beacon Hill.

David Townson spoke on behalf of Canadian Organic Growers. There is a fundraising organic seed sale taking place at Pantry Plus and an online

Garden Symposium Speaker Series beginning on March 9th with botanist and author, Diana Beresford-Kroeger.

Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on March 2, 2021

Motion: That the minutes of March 2, 2021, be approved as circulated. Moved by Fred Haggart. Seconded by Steve Vesely. Carried.

Presentation of 2021 Financial Statements and 2022 Budget.

Linda Gloss presented the highlights of the 2021 Financial Statement. We had a net income of 4,724.29. We increased fees last year to cover the cost of long-term maintenance projects. These projects were not undertaken and so we had a surplus. We allocated 12,810 for these projects in our budget for 2022. When implemented, this spending will create a net loss of 9,905 and draw down our reserves.

Motion: That the 2022 GAGA Budget as presented by the Treasurer be adopted.

Moved by Louis Doyle. Seconded by Jacqueline Shaw. Carried.

Director's Reports

Steve Vesely, Registrar

Steve advised us that 65% of gardeners had renewed their memberships and paid online with 3 weeks remaining until the registration deadline of March 31, 2022.

Mark and Eleonore Eldridge, Orient Staking

Mark and Elly require 18-24 volunteers to help with staking. If any members know of a source of clean lumber to manufacture replacement stakes (2x4s work well) please let Mark know. We are hoping to purchase a sea container which will be installed as a storage shed at Orient Park. Please contact Mark if you have any leads.

Dave Lamb, Orient Maintenance

Tilling will take place in early May after staking is completed. Compost will be delivered in late May and straw bales will be available to order through our website in June.

Paul Mekis, Orient Roads

Paul has been overseeing maintenance of the Orient Park roads for 9 years. Lafarge generously donates 80 metric tons of gravel every year to help fill potholes. We hope that the City will help us distribute the gravel. Please keep your speed down to reduce damage to the roads. The ditches around

Orient Park have gradually filled in with earth and vegetation. Clearing the ditches will require significant effort and expense.

Margaret Don, Anderson Garden

Margaret and her colleagues are developing a new system for metering water at Anderson garden. A report will be available to the gardeners as the project gets underway.

Jennie Mae Thompson, Fall Clean-Up

We no longer have fall clean-up crews, so it is important that gardeners maintain their gardens and take all garbage home. Most people cleaned up their gardens by the late fall. Our contractor collected designated compost piles and pushed the main compost pile back from the road.

Presentation of Board of Directors

Motion: That the 2022 list of Directors be approved as presented.
Moved by Louis Doyle. Seconded by Robert Palo. Carried.

Member Question and Answer

Issues Discussed:

- whether George Bushell should be named on the Board of Directors as he has moved away from Ottawa
- whether it was possible to install portable toilets at the garden
- can we provide garden plots for Ukrainian refugees
- can the one-foot pathway rule be better enforced
- a question of staking measurement arose, and Mark Eldridge invited any gardeners concerned with staking to participate with the staking crew in May
- is it possible for the police to come by the Anderson garden on a periodic basis

Laura Dudas suggested that if a gardener saw something concerning, they can call 613-236-1222 to report it. She also suggested that we reach out to the Ottawa Police Neighbourhood Resource Teams.

Irene Harrison thanked the members for joining our virtual AGM.

Motion: That the 2022 Annual General Meeting be adjourned.
Moved by Catherine Dixon. Seconded by Linda Gloss. Carried.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Financial Statement for 2021 and Proposed budget for 2022 attached.

Gloucester Allotment Garden Association

Financial Statement for the year ending December 31, 2021

INCOME

Registration Fees net of refunds and discounts	\$23,315.00
Grant, Friends of Mer Bleue, for water at Anderson	2,000.00
Gardener contribution to water use at Anderson	379.00
TOTAL INCOME	25,694.00

EXPENSES

Administration	1,823.08
Tilling	3,559.50
Grass Cutting	3,900.00
Water at Anderson	3,729.00
Compost Delivery and Distribution	4,584.98
Fall Clean-up - Orient	1,695.00
Maintenance - Anderson	1,678.15
Maintenance - Orient	
Long Term Maintenance Projects	
TOTAL EXPENSES	20,969.71

NET INCOME **\$4,724.29**

ASSETS : CASH

Beginning year, January 1, 2021	\$16,306.79
Plus: Net Income 2021	4,724.29
Total Assets as of December 31, 2021	<u>\$21,031.08</u>

Approved by GAGA Board, February 2, 2022

Gloucester Allotment Garden Association

Proposed Budget 2022

	PROPOSED Budget 2022	ACTUAL 2021
INCOME		
Registration Fees net of refunds and discounts	\$ 23,300.00	\$23,315.00
Grant, Friends of Mer Bleue, for water at Anderson	2,000.00	2,000.00
Gardener contribution to water use at Anderson		379.00
TOTAL INCOME	25,300.00	25,694.00
EXPENSES		
Administration	1,920.00	1,823.08
Tilling	3,750.00	3,559.50
Grass Cutting	4,100.00	3,900.00
Water at Anderson	4,000.00	3,729.00
Compost Delivery and Distribution	4,820.00	4,584.98
Fall Clean-up - Orient	1,780.00	1,695.00
Maintenance - Anderson	1,760.00	1,678.15
Maintenance - Orient	265.00	
Long Term Maintenance projects *	12,810.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	35,205.00	20,969.71
NET DEFICIT / INCOME	-\$ 9,905.00	\$4,724.29

* \$10,000 approved at 2021 AGM, but not expended, plus value of income realized from the fee schedule increase instituted in 2021.

ASSETS - as of January 1, 2022

Cash	\$ 21,031.08	
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