

YMCA of Southwest Nova Scotia
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday May 6th, 2015 - 6 pm
Cornwallis Park, Annapolis County NS

There were present: Alan McMullin, Lawrence Garner, Cara Sunderland, Sharon MacAlpine, Joel Denton, Karen Smith, Arlene Redmond, Louise Cottreau, Beth Earle, Lauren Vail, Carol Barr, Jill Sutherland, Yvonne Smith, Elspeth McLean Wile, John Wright.

- 1) The Chairman, Elspeth McLean Wile welcomed those present and called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.
- 2) Lawrence moved, seconded by Beth, that the proposed agenda be accepted. Carried.
- 3) Beginning with her words of welcome, the Chairman mentioned this was the first AGM of the YMCA of Southwest Nova Scotia to be held in the Fundy location and made mention of the pleasant drive from Bridgewater. She introduced herself and offered her own 'Y' story. As a member of 4H in Pictou County she attended the YMCA in New Glasgow on Sunday nights and learned to swim there. This program was intended to reach out to beyond the town into the more rural area. When she moved to Bridgewater she became a member of the 'Y'.
- 4) There is a tradition within the YMCA community that whenever appropriate, a personal story is told regarding the importance of the 'Y' in the life of that individual. Joel Denton, a member of Fundy since last October had experienced negative issues both in his family life and at work. He was overweight and requested counselling regarding exercise and nutrition. He soon became a gym junkie, lost a great deal of weight, learned new life skills and saw his situation both at home and at work improve greatly. He now has work assignments done on time, deals more creatively with stress and is much more involved with family life. His life has changed dramatically and he owes a great deal to his membership in the YMCA.
- 5) The minutes of the 2014 AGM were then circulated. Having called for any errors or omissions three times and hearing none the Chairman declared them carried.
- 6) The Chairman then welcomed Carol Barr of the accounting firm BDO who had overseen this year's audit. Having presented her report with a special mention regarding her pleasure with the management at both the Fundy and Lunenburg County locations. It was moved by Alan, seconded by Lawrence and carried, that Carol's report be received by the board. Although there had been a small deficit due to changes in the child-care program we are now back on budget. It was moved by John, seconded by Beth and carried, that BDO remain our auditors for the coming year. The Chairman then thanked Carol for her valued support of our mission.
- 7) In presenting their joint report Yvonne spoke of her first leadership position with the 'Y' as a fitness instructor nineteen years ago and of the many opportunities she had been offered over the intervening years. She thanked her staff with particular mention of Jill and Sharon MacAlpine and of Elspeth's leadership. She spoke of many future plans, large and small and praised the collaborative and forward-looking leadership she encountered on all sides. She thanked the County of Annapolis and the Annapolis Health Foundation for their valued support under which the Fundy 'Y' continues to grow. She spoke of the strength of the adult and youth

program and the strict standards maintained regarding child protection. It has been a challenging year for the child-care work but on the whole 2014 has been a strong and growing time for both staff and members. The process of amalgamation in 2013 uniting two branches is something of which she takes pride and which has set the stage for future growth.

In her remarks, Elspeth noted the contribution of the directors and especially the strong leadership from the very beginning offered by Beth and Lawrence as they joined the board from the Fundy branch. Their combined wisdom and understanding of their community opened doors for which she was very thankful. Elspeth then spoke of the valued contributions made during the past year by Yvonne and Jill who has been busy with the quarterly review. Noting that the day to day leadership is offered by the CEO and her staff not the board. They have been working with a three year plan and although there are many common elements in both branches they are at different stages of development. The Lunenburg County branch continues to operate on the Bridgewater NSCC campus which is where we should be. A Memorandum of Understanding between the 'Y' and the Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre has been signed and has already led to a productive meeting of both governing boards. The common thread between the LCLC and the 'Y' includes youth, safe leadership and growth. We continue to provide management and financial services to the Yarmouth 'Y' under an agreement that will hopefully soon be renewed. Elspeth noted that there are at present some 1100 members at the Lunenburg County branch and some 800 members at the Fundy branch which has an emphasis on program and family life. A motion to receive the combined report was made by John, seconded by Alan and carried.

- 8) Alan and Ken acted as this years' nominating committee. In presenting their report Alan named Harland Wyand and Brenda Peters as prospective board members. Lawrence seconded the motion and having called three times for other names and hearing none declared the candidates elected.
- 9) There being no other business, Elspeth thanked all those present for their attendance.
- 10) Beth then move adjournment and the meeting stood adjourned.