



Royal St. George's Society of Halifax

Annual General Meeting

November 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

University Club, Dalhousie University

1. President Carol Dodds called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Regrets were received from Bev Woodward and Bob Younker.
2. The following members were in attendance: Carol Dodds, Vera Schwartz, Peter Matthews, Iris Newman, Sylvia McCleave, Brian Penney, Bonnie Hutchins, Peter Duffy and newcomer Stephen Latham of Sydney, who was welcomed warmly.
3. A moment of silence was observed for members who had departed since the last Annual General Meeting:
Gloria Younker
Joan Stead
4. Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting were distributed and reviewed. Moved by Peter Matthews and seconded by Vera Schwartz that the minutes be approved, Motion carried unanimously.

5. Treasurer Vera Schwartz distributed copies of the 2017 Annual Financial Report. Income for the period December 31, 2016 to August 31, 2017 from dues and the annual dinner amounted to \$1,560.00. This figure, added to the book balance as of December 31, 2016, amounted to a total of \$7,113.48. Expenses to August 31, 2017, including banking charges, totalled \$1,651.97 for a balance of \$5,461.51. When this is added to our Scotia Bank investments, our society has \$20,150.28 to its name.

Moved by Brian Penney and seconded by Sylvia McCleave that the Treasurer's Report be adopted as presented. Carried unanimously.

6. President's Annual Report – President Carol said the society had experienced a good year and had attracted four new members, one in Sydney, two in Truro and one in Halifax. She gave an account of the Annual Dinner and the excellent presentation by guest speaker, John Hennigar-Shuh, president of the Canadian Maritime Heritage Foundation.

President Carol listed a number of joint social events held this year between our society and members of the Royal Commonwealth Society, with more anticipated in the future, including a reception at Government House in the New Year to meet Nova Scotia's new Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon. Arthur J. LeBlanc.

President Carol said she felt very positive about the Society and its future.

7. Nomination and Election of the New Executive – The following members were named by acclamation to the Executive for 2017/18:

President: Carol Dodds agreed to serve for one more term;

Treasurer: Vera Schwartz agreed to serve for another term;

Membership secretary: Bev Woodward agreed to serve for another term;

Secretary: Peter Duffy offered to serve for one term;

Board members at large: Sylvia McCleave and David Redman agreed to serve for another term. Brian Penney offered to serve for a term.

There being no further nominations, it was moved by Brian Penney and seconded by Iris Newman that the new executive be as named. Motion carried unanimously.

8. New Business – President Carol raised the issue of re-introducing annual membership dues, which used to be \$50 per couple and \$30 for singles. These have not been charged for several years, due to a decline in our activities. The president observed that, now more events are taking place, it would be reasonable to begin charging annual dues again. She suggested \$30 per couple and \$20 for singles.

After a discussion, Brian Penney moved that dues be re-introduced, effective January 1, 2018, and that any member who had already paid for 2017 will receive a credit. The motion was seconded by Sylvia McCleave and approved unanimously.

9. Peter Matthews raised the issue of attracting new members and suggested we try harder to raise the public profile of our society than merely relying on word-of-mouth. He thought a greater effort on our part could be particularly rewarding these days, given the increasing number of Britons who are living and working in Nova Scotia, especially along the South Shore. The meeting agreed there was a need for a greater effort and discussed ways of involving both mainstream media and social media. Brian Penney and Bonnie Hutchins volunteered to approach “tech-savvy” acquaintances to update our society’s dormant web page.

10. Adjournment – 8:05 p.m.