

**The Royal St. George's Society of Halifax**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**November 17, 2019 at 2 p.m.**  
**870 Young Avenue, Halifax, Nova Scotia**



1. Brian Penney called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m.
2. The following members were in attendance: Carol Dodds, Brian Penney, Sylvia McCleave, Aron Spidle, Vera Schwartz, Beverley Woodward and Peter Duffy. David Redman and Peter Matthews joined at 2:35 p.m.
3. President Carol's report – President Carol noted that the year was a quiet one, as far as society activities was concerned. A successful buffet breakfast was held early in the year and the annual April 23 dinner at Saint Margaret of Scotland Church Hall was a success, with an excellent meal provided. The Executive agreed that guest speaker Cindy Day was a highlight of the evening and a donation to the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia has been made in her name. Carol also mentioned several Society activities that were proposed in 2019 but came to nothing, due to a poor response. The Executive noted that this – and our stagnating growth – was a worrying trend, albeit one common to many groups like ours these days. One reason could be that that young people now gravitate to organizations where they can “network”, to further their careers. President Carol wondered whether reducing or eliminating our annual dues (now \$20 for a single, \$30 a couple), might attract new members? Or perhaps if a current member brought in a new recruit, the new member could be offered free membership for a year? The Executive agreed these suggestions could be explored at a future meeting. Following a wide-ranging discussion, Peter Duffy volunteered to contact other St. George's societies to glean ideas for successful activities plus ways to boost membership. Also, President Carol was instructed to contact member Rob Place with a view to up-dating our Society's moribund web page and gather ideas for a Social Media presence.

4. President Carol asked those in attendance to observe a moment's silence for members, or family members, who have died since the last AGM. Those acknowledged were: Margaret King, Anthony Lamplugh, Doreen Russell and Marcus Redman.
5. Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting were reviewed, Brian moved the minutes be adopted as amended. Seconded by Aron Spidle. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Treasurer Vera Schwartz presented the 2018 Annual Financial Report. The book balance at the start of 2018 was \$5,668.44. Income from dues and the annual dinner totalled \$1,720. This figure, combined with the book balance, totalled \$7,388.44. Expenses for the period, including banking charges, the annual dinner, administration and a donation to the Halifax Refugee Clinic of \$500, amounted to \$2,132.95, for a book balance at December 31, 2018, of \$5,255.49. When combined with our Scotiabank investments (\$14,837.38) and interest (\$66.55), our society has \$20,159.42 to its name. Peter Matthews moved adoption of the financial report. Brian Penney seconded. Carried unanimously.
7. Nomination and Election of the New Executive - The following members were named by acclamation to the Executive for 2019/20: **President:** Carol Dodds; **Treasurer:** Vera Schwartz; **Membership secretary:** Bev Woodward; **Secretary:** Peter Duffy. **Members-at-large:** Sylvia McCleave, Brian Penney, David Redman and Aron Spidle. Moved by Brian Penney, seconded by Peter Matthews. Carried unanimously.
8. Donations. After some discussion, and in keeping with one of our Society's founding principles – namely to give back to the community – a decision was made to donate \$500 to the Society of Atlantic Heroes. This is a non-profit, recovery and reintegration organization that supports active and former first responders and members of the military. Motion is moved by Brian Penney and seconded by Peter Matthews. Carried unanimously.
9. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.