

Minutes of Atlantic Rhododendron Society Annual General meeting 01 Nov 2022

The AGM was held in person, at the Nova Scotia Museum and online by ZOOM. After a quorum was obtained Jim Sharpe (president) called the meeting to order. All pertinent reports had been sent out previously by email.

Minutes of 2021 AGM: Gary Scott moved to accept the minutes of the 2022 AGM, seconded by Rosalind Duffus. The motion was accepted.

President's report: In summary, 2022 was a very active year for the ARHS. There were two garden tours, one in June and a second in September and a very successful plant sale even larger than the one held during the conference in 2021. Programs were carried out as hybrid meetings, in person and by ZOOM. Since the presentations were held online there was no cost for travel for the speakers.

Financial report: Note that the report that was sent out, was not balanced due to a dropped number. When the error was corrected the books were balanced. The income statement shows the plant sale did very well financially. The Seed Exchange was a success thanks to Sharon Bryson. About 120 memberships were purchased at \$30 per member. Program costs were low because we had some local speakers with very little travel cost. The Steele lecture was paid with an honorarium. Expenses are summarized in the attached document. The net income after expenses taken off was \$4769. Thanks to Chris Hopgood who audited the books. The 2023 budget was based on last years budget, adding extra expenses for the Steele lecture. The board is hoping to modify the web site to permit online membership renewal and payment. A motion to accept the financial statement moved by Jennie Sandison and seconded by Nancy Lewis was passed.

Nominations to the board: Everyone currently on the board has agreed to remain. Lynn Brooks (membership) and Jane Rostek (plant sale) will be joining the board. There was no response to a call for nominations. The board for 2023 was declared acclaimed. We are still missing a treasurer. The position of treasurer has been difficult to fill. Nancy Lewis brought up the suggestion of hiring a bookkeeper which the board has discussed. We have a quote from a bookkeeper and this will be the subject of discussion at next board meeting.

The AGM was followed by a presentation by Melanie Priesnitz, conservation horticulturist for Acadia Harriet Irving Botanical Gardens which focuses on Native plants.