

**MINUTES**  
**Powell River Hospice Society Annual General Meeting**  
**October 29, 2019**

**In attendance:** Lee Coulter, Megan Gros, Jodie Young, Anna Byrne, Julia Adam, Rose Adams, Heather Baldwin, Diane McKendrick, Rod Paynter, Jodie Young, Sandy McCartie, Cathy Fisher, Kim Barton Bridges, Tim Wall, Lynn Shervill, Sheila Peters, Susan Dawkins, Hilary Decker, Rosemary Entwistle

**Rosemary**

**Call to order:** 7:04 pm

**Welcome and introductions**

- Kim introduced the Board and Steve Beck, auditor from dmd

**Approval of agenda**

- Moved: L. Coulter/S. McCarty:**

*That the agenda be approved with the following amendments:*

- move President's Report to after Financial reports

**CARRIED**

**Approval of previous minutes**

- Moved: H. Baldwin/D. McKendrick:**

*That the minutes of the November 22, 2018 Annual General Meeting be approved as distributed.*

**CARRIED**

**Finances**

- Steve Beck, dmd**

- Review Engagement Report this year, not an audit
- our statements meet the criteria for non-profit societies

- Moved: T. Wall/R. Paynter**

*That the Financial Staments be accepted as presented by Steve Beck.*

**CARRIED**

- Moved: T. Wall/L. Coulter**

*That we retain dmd as our accountants for the next year.*

**CARRIED**

**President's Report – Kim Barton-Bridges**

- difficult to imagine life on the PR Hospice Society board without Heather Baldwin, who has served since the Society's inception, and has likely forgotten more about the workings of the board than we will ever know
  - thank you to Heather for all her hard work, sweat and tears
  - the fact that this little, fledgling society has blossomed into the respected hub of activity that it is today is testament to Heather's commitment

- Heather has said that she will continue to support our efforts going forward
- Jodie Young is stepping back from the Board
  - thanks to Jodie for all she's done while serving on the Board, including her monumental undertakings when it comes to fundraising, and for her commitment to support our efforts as we go forward even though she will not be sitting at the Board table
- Pat Buckna joined our board earlier this year, answering our call for a fundraising chair, and he has worked diligently to bring funds into the organization and establish some great connections for us; Pat will continue to lend his support where he can.
- every organization needs a money person, and ours is Tim Wall; we appreciate his knowledge and experience, and will draw on that even more as we embark on our fundraising campaign
- Sandy McCartie has also been around since the Society's humble beginnings, and her depth and breadth of work experience along with her understanding of how hospice clients and their families are best supported has been reflected in our progress over the last 5-1/2 years
- Rose Adams' background in community health is a huge asset to our board and we look forward to working with Tla'amin to ensure that our building and services are sensitive to their needs and reflect their culture
- thanks to Rod Paynter, our membership is growing; when not drumming up the membership at every opportunity, he is working hard on our policies and procedures
- thanks to Cathy Fisher for recording our meetings so well, and for her hard work on our Personnel Committee; she sends out the minutes of a meeting before we've had a chance to get in our cars and head home
- we are thankful that Dr. David May has agreed to continue as an ex Officio director of our Hospice Society Board; David's experience and insight into hospice and palliative care is invaluable, and we are lucky to have him as an advocate and resource
- we could not have accomplished all we've done over the last few years without our Hospice Coordinator, Anna Byrne
  - Anna is always going above and beyond
  - she is truly passionate about hospice care and is a gift to our community
  - she is highly respected amongst the health care professionals in Powell River, and has been instrumental in our working relationship with Powell River Division of Family Practice
- we are excited to have Megan Gros join our staff to do some admin and program support; with the hiring of Megan part-time, we are moving in the right direction as we transition from a working board to a governing board
- the Hospice office is quite the hub, and we just learned that Jack Barr and the Powell River Town Centre are renewing our free lease for another year
  - the space is crucial to for program delivery, meeting with clients and their families and housing our books and other resources, so we are grateful for this in-kind support and generosity
- Powell River is getting closer and closer to having a Hospice building
  - your PR Hospice Society has been working with VCH to reach an agreement on the plan and scope, and soon we will be signing off on our support and commitment to raise the balance of the \$3.944M cost
  - we've asked for private patios, accessible from each bedroom, as well as a permanent office space, and things are looking good
  - we will be planning a road trip to visit the newly opened, four-bedroom hospice in Squamish sometime soon, so that we can hopefully learn a thing or two from their experience

- we hope that we can count on all of you to help us in our fundraising efforts
- please consider attending the PRHS Burger & Beer at the Carlson Club on November 9<sup>th</sup>
  - tickets are \$15 for burger, beer or wine, salad and dessert, and are available at the Hospice office
  - there will also be lots of great prizes
- we are thrilled to have joined forces with the Powell River GoGos to bring you Art from the Attic
  - we are looking for donations of paintings, drawings, photographic prints, collages and two-dimensional work that can hang on a wall
  - sale will be in Spring 2020
- it has been a great year in many respects, and that is due in no small part to the work of our volunteers; we could not do what we do without them
  - it's been a difficult year, too, as we've lost two of our own
    - Georgia MacLennan and Kathy Kiernan were passionate about Hospice and volunteering and their deaths were hard on our Hospice family
    - we are better for having known them, and are grateful for their service to our Society and clients
    - let's keep on doing the great work we do in their honour

#### **Program Committee Chair Report – Sandy McCartie**

- membership of this committee: Sandy McCartie, Jodie Young and Anna Byrne
- this year has been a very busy one from a programs and services perspective
- several of our programs were fortunate to have received support through grants from various organizations
- programs offered for calendar year 2019
  - Grief Support group (10 participants) is a closed group for 8 weekly sessions; began this October and is facilitated by 2 volunteers
  - Caregiver Support group (5 – 6 participants) is an open group that meets monthly, facilitated by 2 volunteers
  - Overdose Grief Support group offered over 4 weeks in March (10 participants), closed group; joint partnership between Hospice, VCH and PREP Society's SUSTAIN program
  - Advanced Care Planning sessions were made to more than 80 seniors at the "Seniors Together" group and in three follow up workshops, as part of National ACP Awareness Day
- in January of this year, Anna gave a grief workshop to the care workers at a residential care home operated by Community Living BC; she also attended the weeklong course given by Victoria Hospice titled "The Psychosocial Care of the Dying and the Bereaved"
- accompanying representatives from Powell River's Division of Family Practice, Anna gave a presentation at the B.C. Patient Safety and Quality Council in Vancouver on our partnership with our local Division; participants were very impressed with the progress and number of programs offered by our organization; our early months of existence were supported through our partnership and grants from the Division
- Anna also did a presentation to the Seniors Council in February
- we had an information booth at the Seniors Community Resource Fair in May
- Anna attended the "Understanding the needs of seniors" forum in October

- there are also plans in the works to do a general hospice information session on Texada Island in the next few months
- Hospice assisted the Powell River Division of Family Practice to conduct its second annual **Palliative Care Survey**; 40% of respondents had learned of palliative care through PRHS
- we received a grant from the **Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem** to assist us in providing our bereavement support programs, including a second grief group due to overdose loss
- PRHS was a finalist in the Not-For-Profit category for the Chamber of Commerce Business Awards
- we provided the practicum oversight for Julia Adam, as she completed her degree in Music Therapy
  - with the assistance of a grant from the **Powell River Community Foundation**, Julia went on to implement a weekly Music Therapy program on the fourth floor of the hospital, called Tea & Tunes, which has been hugely successful, as there is no other programming happening in acute care
- we are currently holding an 8-week training session for 11 new volunteers
- we welcomed Megan Gros as our new contract Administrative and Program Support person in September
- in November we will once again partner with a number of community organizations to have the Momento Mori event at Cranberry Cemetery
- special thanks to our coordinator, Anna, who clearly keeps the wheels on the bus and does an exception job of that, our committee member, Jodie Young, as well as to all of our volunteers; without them, there would be no Powell River Hospice Society and our communities would be poorer for that

#### **Membership Report – Rod Paynter**

- at this point last year we had 25 members, some of whom were active volunteers, but most were concerned and supportive community members
- during the last year the Board decided that in recognition of their service to Hospice, active volunteers will be enrolled as society members without charge as of the 2019/20 Hospice fiscal year; to date we have 51 members in that category
- in addition, we have 50 paid memberships from non-volunteering but nevertheless concerned and supportive community members, which gives us a current total of 101 members

#### **Fundraising Report – Pat Buckna**

- since May of this year, a number of activities and fundraising initiatives were undertaken
  - Hike for Hospice in May was a limited success, with donations down from the previous year, but still amounting to \$11,500
    - factors playing a part in this included the Marathon Shuffle the week before
    - due to some mis-communication, the Rotary Club was not involved in the food services
    - through much effort on the part of Heather and Sandy, food service was provided but didn't make a profit
    - we managed to secure some ad sponsorship thanks to Raymond James
    - the performers (Roger Langmaid and Old Enough to Know Better) donated back most of their honoraria to the society
    - another miscommunication meant we didn't receive a city grant-in-lieu for the use of the Willingdon Beach site
  - in May we hosted a beer garden as part of PRISMA on the Beach

- although well-attended, due to city and provincial licensing fees and insurance we made a modest profit of approximately \$100
- most Board members and a number of our volunteers put in long hours setting up and operating the beer garden
- we received a grant-in-lieu which offset the cost of the city permit for the use of the site
- Raymond James paid for six months of advertising in Powell River Living, which has gone a long way in raising the profile of the Society and is greatly appreciated
- a private donation paid for the creation of a large capital fundraising sign which was on display at the beer garden and will be erected on the future site of the Hospice House once an agreement is signed with Vancouver Coastal Health
- during the summer, musicians Pat Buckna and Geoff Allan and Scott Ritter (Old Enough to Know Better) donated money on behalf of the society from their performances in Lund at the Boardwalk Restaurant
- a \$130,000 commitment for furnishings for the Hospice House was received this year from the Hospital Auxiliary
- we received three grants - one from the city fo Powell River for \$1500 as a grant in aid, another from the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem for \$5000 and one for \$4200 from the Powell River Community Foundation for the creation and delivery of Advance Care Planning workshops to be held in the spring in Powell River and Texada Island
- we have partnered with the Sunshine Gogos for an art auction to be held next spring, with profits and organization being shared by both groups
- a beer and burger night at the Carlson Club has been organized for November 9<sup>th</sup>
- joint fundraising Art Auction with Powell River Gogos this spring
- we set up an information and membership tent at the Sunshine Music Festival in September
- we submitted a significant grant request to the New Horizons Program from the Federal Government which, if successful, will go a long way toward funding some of our 2020 programs

#### **Coordinator's Report – Anna Byrne**

- total number of active volunteers this calendar year: 35
- total number of volunteer hours: almost 1300 and we still have 3 more months to report on yet (2018 — 1300 total)
- number of palliative referrals: 56 (2018 — 60; 2017 – 36; 2016 –30)
- number of bereavement referrals: 21 (2018 – 30; 2017 – 23; 2016 – 15)
- thanks to the Board for being so responsive to whatever is brought to them, and to our volunteers, who multiply what Anna is doing on a daily basis

#### **Elections of Directors**

- resignations – Pat Buckna
- nominations
  - Kim Barton-Bridges
  - Cathy Fisher
  - Lee Coulter
  - Moved: D. McKendrick/S. McCartie**

***That we accept by aclmation those who were nominated as Directors.***

**CARRIED**

- Moved: C. Fisher/T. Wall**

*That the Board be authorized to fill any unfilled Director positions.*

**WITHDRAWN**

**Adjournment**

- Moved: M. Gros**

*That the meeting be adjourned at 7:49 pm.*

DRAFT