

**Minutes of AGM for Pocket Community Association
September 9, 2020
Phin Park, 115 Condor Avenue, Toronto**

NOTE: The AGM was postponed from May 27 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Present: Approximately 40 people attended, including nine members of the current Executive. “Friends of the Pocket” and others were also present.

Welcome: Lori Zucchiatti O’Neill as PCA Chair called the meeting to order by welcoming all participants, introducing our guests and providing the traditional land acknowledgement.

Our invited guests were City Councillor Paula Fletcher, MPP Peter Tabuns, and MP Julie Dabrusin. Trustee Jennifer Story sent regrets.

Lori introduced and thanked the current Executive: Vice-Chair Robyn Switzer; Treasurer Coline Morrison; Secretary Linda Blake; Communications Coordinator Daryl Boshart; Fundraising Coordinator Zhiizhii Prince; Membership Coordinator Gemma Parker; Member-at-Large Allison Evans; Member-at-Large Dalreen Fobler (regrets); Past Chair Susan McMurray. Lori thanked outgoing Executive members Robyn Switzer, Allison Evans and Dalreen Fobler.

Confirmation of quorum/Secretary’s report: Linda confirmed that we had quorum based on the current membership. Linda reported that the Executive had eight meetings during our 2019-20 year, and the minutes of meetings were published on the PCA website.

Approval of 2019 AGM minutes: Susan McMurray moved, Diane Smith seconded, and the members approved the minutes of the 2019 AGM (June 10, 2019), as circulated.

Nomination & Election Committee summary of nominating process; introduction of 2020-21 slate; election/motion to approve: Lori introduced the members of the Nomination & Election Committee. Committee Chair Nina Littman-Sharp described the process used in identifying members who were willing and qualified to serve as Directors for 2020-21, seeking to ensure we also reflect the diversity of our community. This List of Nominees was circulated to members prior to the AGM. For the nine elected positions, the Committee received one name for each position. Nina read out the name and position recommended, as follows:

Chair	Lori Zucchiatti O’Neill
Vice-chair	Eadit Rokach
Treasurer	Coline Morrison
Secretary	Linda Blake
Communications Coordinator	Daryl Boshart
Fundraising Coordinator	Judith (Zhiizhii) Prince
Membership Coordinator	Gemma Parker
Member-at-Large	Gail James
Member-at-Large	Michelle Kushnir
Past Chair	Susan McMurray (this is not an elected position)

Bryan Dale moved, David Langille seconded, and the members approved that we elect the full list by acclamation.

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Chair's report: Lori thanked all who contributed to the PCA mission during a year in which COVID-19 changed and challenged us. In summary:

- *Our Executive of the past year*
- *Nina as Volunteer Coordinator and N&E Chair*
- *Linda and Michelle for joining the N&E Committee*
- *The Chairs of our other Committees: Jeff Otto & Dean Miller for the Events and Phin Park/Greening Committees + David Langille & Craig Jasman for the Pocket Change Committee, and thanks go to the Pocket Change Executive*
- *Our 25 Street Captains, who had a special role this year when we called upon them in March to do a mailbox delivery of a flyer and an April delivery for pandemic outreach*
- *Ellen Titus for managing our Street Captains*
- *The many volunteers at our events*
- *The monetary and in-kind sponsors of our events*
- *The over 50 people who registered as COVID-19 volunteers to do tasks ranging from door-to-door information deliveries to grocery shopping and delivery*
- *The nine people who joined me on March 13th to form our ad hoc PCA COVID-19 Committee: The team is comprised of our five Neighbourhood Support Committee members and five other residents: Chuck Mariotti, David Langille, Eden Rockett, Jeff Otto, Gail James, Gord Fraser, Nina Littman-Sharp, Susan Fraser, Susan McMurray. Thanks to the COVID-19 team and dozens of Pocket volunteers, we delivered essential information to every home in mid-March and again a month later, created a website as a source of credible and comprehensive information, set up a Pocket hotline, shopped for and delivered essentials to people who were self-isolating, ill, disabled or working on the front lines, arranged for subsidized home cleaning for a vulnerable resident, and provided emotional support to ease someone's loneliness and isolation*

Treasurer's report & motion to approve: Coline provided a breakdown of revenues and expenditures for 2019 (fiscal year January 1 to December 31 of 2019), reporting that the PCA's net income for the year was \$34.43. Primary fundraising drivers this year included new memberships and donations. Trish O'Reilly-Brennan moved, Nina-Littman-Sharp seconded and the meeting approved the Treasurer's Report.

Other Executive and Committee reports:

- **Communication:** Daryl outlined information posted to the PCA website, Twitter and Facebook accounts, and the Pocket Facebook group, such as events supported by the PCA, including ones organized by Wandering Spirit School and Madinah Masjid, COVID-19 information and Pocket Change updates. He advised that our website is moving from a WordPress platform to a new one in 2020/21 and described the process to select a new platform/vendor.
- **Events:** Jeff Otto thanked his co-chair Dean and the volunteers who supported the following events:
 - Temporary repair of the stone perimeter of the Phin Park herb garden

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- A neighbourhood tree tour and shrub giveaway conducted by LEAF. LEAF prepared an urban forest stewardship action plan for The Pocket, to be shared with residents in 2021
 - Replacement of a dead tree and tree trimming in Phin Park by Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation
 - The Pumpkin Parade
 - Santa's Frozen Festival did not take place in 2019, but \$400 was raised for the Toronto Humane Society, and residents donated to Eastview Neighbourhood Community Centre's food bank and holiday toy drive
 - The Pocket Skating Party
 - The 2019 Annual Neighbourhood Party was attended by about 500 people; the event was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19.
 - The Spring Fling and Pocket Pride Parade lifted neighbourhood spirits while respecting pandemic restrictions
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- **Neighbourhood Support:** Lori described the committee's programs: *Sip and Chat*, with thanks to host Motorama Restaurant; welcome bags for new residents; pandemic support.
 - **Fundraising:** Zhiizhii reported that \$887 was raised at the 2019 Pocket Party Silent Auction and thanked individuals and local businesses that donated gifts. \$94 was donated at the Pumpkin Parade and \$42 at the Skating Party. \$1,000 was donated by the Scotiabank Employee Volunteer Program via Rebecca Nelson, former PCA secretary.
 - **Outreach and Membership:** Gemma reported that COVID-19 information flyers were delivered to 1,100 households thanks to Ellen Titus, Street Captains and other volunteers. Forty-two eblasts were sent to members this term—more than usual because of the pandemic. We have 170 PCA memberships, significantly fewer than usual because the pandemic prevented a door-to-door membership drive and other events where people may sign up.
 - **Art in Phin Park:** Lori reported on the 6th year of this project (2019), which provides artistic development for Pocket children and adults, and thanked artist Jerry Silverberg for leading the program. Though the PCA did not receive a grant from the Toronto Arts Council in 2019, the project continued, largely thanks to an employee volunteer donation from Scotiabank. Art in the Park was not offered in 2020 due to COVID-19.
 - **Pocket Change:** David highlighted the Eco Fun Fair and grant applications. The team hosted Pocket parties to raise awareness for climate change. David thanked resident Robi Levi for donating his time to produce a video about the program. Pocket Change held its first Trailblazers Party in January 2020. The City has asked The Pocket to pilot a program, and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority wants to support Pocket Change via social media. David thanked our local political representatives for their support.

Closing remarks and adjournment: Lori declared the AGM to be adjourned at 8:00 p.m., with thanks to all participants and guests.

Minutes prepared by PCA Secretary Linda Blake on October 18, 2020.