

CHILDREN AT RISK, OTTAWA
Minutes - Annual General Meeting
June 5, 2019 at 7:00 pm

Mark Lalonde, President of the Board of Directors, welcomed those in attendance (12 members, 6 guests and 4 staff). This is an important year for the charity, marking 40 years of serving people on the autism spectrum and their families. He introduced a member and special guest, Julie Babcock, who made a presentation on behalf of the Ottawa School of Theatre. She provided information on this amazing group, under the direction of Kathi Langston, for all ages and abilities. It provides classes, workshops and camps, as well as two major productions per year. It promotes self-confidence, teamwork and multiple other skills. She answered questions from the audience. The president thanked Julie for her wonderful presentation.

Marcel Cousineau, Michel Lalonde and Ed Mitchell from The Difference Makers – Les Faiseurs de Différence, presented a cheque to Brenda and Mark. They raised \$20,001. over the past year! They indicated that they will direct their fundraising activities to CAR for another year.

A social time with delicious refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Door prizes were then drawn, with everyone receiving a gift.

The business meeting began at 8:30 pm.

1. Approval of AGM Agenda

- a. Moved by Graham Estey, seconded by Rob Gentles. Passed.

2. Approval of Minutes of the AGM held June 6, 2018

- a. Moved by Bill Pocock, seconded by Walter Davidson. Passed.

3. President's Report (Mark Lalonde)

- a. This will be the 9th year for Camp Kaleidoscope, which has grown steadily each year.
- b. There are over 400 members, and the need for more services and support continues to increase.
- c. Mark thanked various organizations who have donated to this charity over the past year.
- d. Mark invited Hazel Smith, the Camp Director, to share the good news that there will be a major expansion to the Leadership Program, thanks to an \$80,000 grant from the city of Ottawa!! It will run throughout the year, and will be geared to higher functioning children, which is currently an under-served demographic.

4. Report on Services (Brenda Reisch)

- a. The number of campers at March Break increased to 52 this year.
- b. The Saturday Fun Club and Family Fun Night respite sessions continue to grow.
- c. Camp Kaleidoscope increased to 356 spots in 2018 (from 334 spots in 2017).
- d. To better reflect the actual service provided, the calculation of service has been changed from "spots" to number of hours, as the various programs are different in scope. There were 18,188 hours of direct service to children from CAR in 2018.
- e. Three children were sent to Walt Disney World through Dreams Take Flight in 2018.

5. Treasurer's Report (Bambina Lemme in Melissa Van Alstine's absence)

- a. The Financial Statements, as of December 31, 2018 were presented. Bambina highlighted that the assets were up over \$50,000 from last year, and the public support has increased as well. Questions from the floor were answered.
- b. Moved by Graham Estey to approve the 2018 financial statements, seconded by Rob Gentles. Passed.
- c. Moved by Graham Estey to appoint Kelly Huibers McNeely Professional Corporation as the auditor for this year, seconded by Rob Gentles. Passed.

6. Fundraising Report & Volunteer Recruitment (Brenda Reisch)

- a. Fundraising continues to be a challenge, with many events earning less revenue due to the economic climate. Brenda highlighted the top fundraising events, and thanked the many donors and volunteers. She acknowledged that there is still a shortfall for Camp Kaleidoscope at this time.
- b. Natasha McRae will again be raising funds and awareness for CAR, this year by competing in five triathlons. Her goal is \$5K. If anyone donates through Canada Helps during the month of June, it increases the odds of CAR winning an additional \$10K.
- c. The Danbe Foundation has indicated that they will again do a matching donation program up to a maximum of \$10K.
- d. The Spring Raffle tickets are not yet sold out, and the draw is on June 23, 2019. If the raffle is not sold out, it represents a loss of funds for the summer camp.

7. Presentation of Candidates for Election to the Board

- a. Seven current board members will return for re-election to the board for another year – Mark Lalonde, Marca McManus, Melissa Van Alstine, Rob Gentles, Graham Estey, Alexandra Jeffrey and Bill Pocock. No new candidates have come forward. The slate of candidates was unanimously approved.
- b. Mark thanked Walter Davidson for his four years of service on the board, and Dr. Linda Kwasnick for her three years on the board as secretary.

8. New Business

- a. The new board of directors may work on changes to the charter to define term limits and a recruitment process.
- b. Ideas to increase attendance at the AGM will be investigated, including providing child-care.

9. Date of Next Meeting/Adjournment

- a. The date of the next meeting will be determined by the new board. The AGM will be held next June.
- b. Moved by Mark to adjourn at 9:00 pm. Passed.