



FRIENDS OF UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

MINUTES of the annual meeting of the Friends of the University of Guelph, a non-profit corporation under the laws of the District of Columbia, held Saturday, April 22, 2017 in Chicago, Illinois commencing at 4:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting:

Janet Bumstead (by phone)
Jason Bystriansky
Rod Jendrysik (by phone)
Bert Mitchell (by phone)
Christopher Naese
Lorne Pollard
Don Watt
Karen Bertrand

Regrets:

Cosimo Ferraro
Ron Horning

WELCOME

R. Jendrysik, President of Friends of University of Guelph, called the meeting to order at The Steel Room, Room 800, The Union League Club of Chicago, 65 West Jackson Blvd, Chicago, Illinois.

C. Ferraro, and R. Horning were unable to attend the meeting, and sent their regrets.

Meeting began with introductions of all Directors in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

R. Jendrysik called for acceptance of the agenda as presented.

Motion: To accept the agenda as presented - L. Pollard

Motion seconded - C. Naese

Motion approved unanimously

GREETINGS

K. Bertrand, A.V.P., Major Gift Advancement brought greetings on behalf of the University of Guelph.

Karen also provided an update on negotiations of the Strategic Mandate Agreement and the OMAFRA with the Ontario government discussed at the 2016 AGM. Both these negotiations will determine strategic directions for the University of Guelph for the next five years. Discussions regarding both these items are still underway, and the Strategic Mandate Agreement will be completed this summer.

Of particular interest to the alumni community, Karen highlighted two recent announcements made by U of G – the \$20M gift to establish the Arrell Food Institute, and the announcement of Martha Billes as the new university Chancellor. With this gift – the single largest gift ever provided to the

university – from the family of two graduates, and the new Chancellor being the first University of Guelph graduate to hold this office, Karen characterized these announcements as important symbols of the importance of U of G alumni to the future of the university.

For anyone interested, a video about the \$20M gift to establish the Arrell Food Institute is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nq3l3NTEEnYA>

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 29, 2016 MEETING

R. Jendrysik called for acceptance of the October 29, 2016 meeting minutes.

Motion: To accept the October 29, 2016 minutes as presented - D. Watt

Seconded - L. Pollard

Motion approved unanimously

Carried

BUSINESS ARISING

Karen confirmed that the Portico issued has not yet been resolved, and invited all Directors to forward her information about the arrival date of their Portico magazines.

Action:

- Confirm when Portico magazines received with K. Bertrand – All Directors (*In progress*)

TREASURER'S REPORT

C. Naese opened his report noting that we are now set up for electronic deposits.

C. Naese then presented the 2016 reports, and opened the opportunity for questions.

5.1 Balance Sheet

5.2 Comparative income statement

There was some discussion following this presentation about what triggers a transfer – size of a gift, and regular transfers to get the funds to the University of Guelph.

L. Pollard and C. Naese also provided a detailed list of all the specific gifts that were received in each of 2015 and 2016 for the information of Directors.

B. Mitchell inquired about Directors giving directly to the University vs Friends of University of Guelph, and some discussion ensued about the value/challenges with giving through the respective organizations.

Action:

- Forward additional report with list of specific gifts with minutes – K. Bertrand (*See email forwarded from K. Bertrand to all Directors April 25, 2017*)

Motion: To accept the Treasurer's Report as presented - D. Watt

Seconded - L. Pollard

Motion approved unanimously

Carried

2017 RESULTS TO DATE

C. Naese confirmed that the current bank balance is \$35,394.89, and we have received three deposits year to date.

Action:

- Forward more detailed information on 2017 Results to Date at mid-year – C. Naese

REVIEW OF BOARD MEMBERSHIPS AND OFFICERS

R. Jendrysik noted the recruitment efforts completed this year to date.

K. Bertrand provided a reminder about C. Ferraro, and his ability to attend these meetings. Directors agreed that C. Ferraro should remain as a Director, understanding the restrictions on his ability to attend meetings.

Noting the duplication error on Jason's Cannon ID needs to be corrected.

Action:

- Correct Jason's Cannon ID on the Director's list for 2017 – K. Bertrand (*Done*)

Motion: To accept the Recruitment Report as presented - B. Mitchell
Motion Seconded - D. Watt
Motion approved unanimously
Carried

After some discussion, Directors furthermore agreed to continue to recruit additional Directors to attain quorum required for AGM and special meetings.

Motion: Accept the slate of officers as presented - B. Mitchell
Motion Seconded - D. Watt
Motion approved unanimously
Carried

NEW BUSINESS

In the spirit of Earth Day (which is the same date as the AGM), D. Watt proposed that the AGM materials be sent electronically moving forward. Directors really liked this, but agreed we should confirm if this is acceptable according to the Terms of Reference for Friends of University of Guelph.

J. Bumstead inquired if Beard House event is being held again in 2017. K. Bertrand confirmed that it is. More information about this event is available at <https://www.jamesbeard.org/events/the-flavors-of-canada-3?>

B. Mitchell inquired if Canadian Universities events still occur. D. Watt provided update on the dissolution of those activities (at least as they were formally constructed.) Discussion ensued about the changes in how graduates relate to their alma mater, and how that may have impacted organized events like this, as well as changes in the student experience.

L. Pollard noted that our bank now wants a \$1,500 minimum balance, with a \$12/month charge for the periods this balance is not maintained.

There was also some discussion about the courier charges of \$46 to transfer each cheque to the University of Guelph. It was agreed that we will look into making electronic transfers.

K. Bertrand distributed two reports for Directors' information – Annual US Student Recruitment Activity in the US, and Annual Reporting for Friends of University of Guelph.

D. Watt inquired if the immigration issues in the US are impacting recruitment for U of G. K. Bertrand explained that the sense across Canada is that it is, but the true impact will not be known until final numbers are available in the fall of this year.

Action:

- Confirm if AGM materials can be forwarded electronically according to the Terms of Reference – B. Mitchell
- Review options for electronic transfers – K. Bertrand
- Send out Annual US Student Recruitment Activity in the US, and Annual Reporting for Friends of University of Guelph reports with the minutes – K. Bertrand (*See email forwarded from K. Bertrand to all Directors April 25, 2017*)

NEXT MEETING

Directors agreed to have the next AGM/Chicago Alumni Event on April 21, 2018 at 4:00 pm.

Motion: To accept the date of April 21, 2018 as the date of the next AGM/Chicago Alumni Event, at the Union League Club of Chicago - D. Watt
Motion seconded - C. Naese
Motion approved unanimously
Carried

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting - D. Watt
Motion seconded - C. Naese
Motion approved unanimously
Carried