



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 Friday March 25, 2022, via Zoom at 1:00 pm (EDT)

Present at the meeting:

Bert Mitchell
Janet Bumstead
Lorne Pollard
Don Watt
Rod Jendrysik
Derin Denham
Christopher Naese

Regrets:

A copy of the financial statements was emailed out by Amy Atkinson for review prior to the start of the meeting due to the absence of Chris Naese.

WELCOME

R. Jendrysik, President of Friends of University of Guelph, called the meeting to order via Zoom.

Meeting began with introductions of all in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

Motion: To accept the agenda as presented – B. Mitchell

Motion seconded – L. Pollard

Motion approved unanimously

Carried

GREETINGS

Amy Atkinson, Director, Major Giving Advancement brought greetings on behalf of the University of Guelph.

- Presentation on Major Gift Team Fundraising
- \$38,034,145 raised to date of the 40-million-dollar goal set for 2022
- President Charlotte Yates installation set for March 26, 2022 – University of Guelph's first female President
- Presidential Installation of Dr. Charlotte Yates: <https://youtu.be/GAE9mbBnqWU>
- Her vision includes diverse and global recognition for the University, outstanding student experiences, investing in One Health, which brings together researchers to look at the relationship between, animal, human and environmental health

Questions/comments/actions:

Derin, would like to hear more on President Yates' vision and get more information on those topics.

Action: Amy will send the president's dedicated website to Derin.

Bert questioned the use of the capital funds and how are they used.

Mixed uses of student support, scholarships, chairs and sometimes used on capital projects if indicated as greatest needs.

501 (c)(3) Management Update by Duncan Malcolm, Director, Advancement Services

- Previous experience - looked after Friends of Laurier organization
- Report on last year findings and making few changes this year
- New legal counsel partnerships with Hodgson Russ LLP and Lumsden McCormick
- Internal review for supporting the board and friends, will move to Duncan's role and the Advancement Service's Team
- **Update from Lauren Hanlon, Associate Director, Financial Services**
- Items were learned from last year on accepting large donations and the particular the IRS public Sector Test
- External CPA firm Lumsden McCormick hired to look over such gifts and assisted with 2020 filing
- A few very large donations, over a few years could cause problems under IRS rules – using the term "unusual gift" on IRS filing as per the consultants avoids any issues

Action: Lauren to respond directly to Lorne's question about direct donations from his IRA

Questions/comments/actions:

Bert, respect to our bylaws as well as the statement of purpose, current membership section unnamed and the role of Alumni Affairs secretary in respect to the organization, needs definition and to be sorted out.

Action: Duncan, discussions with the external vendor to get the guidance needed with this process. Will have that done by the end of April. First order of business with them so May / June plan to regroup with their support on bylaw review.

Action: Lauren will prioritize to have gift of stock program set up for Friends of Guelph

Chris messaged and he will be joining the meeting shortly

Motion: To regroup in May/June with support of external vendor on bylaw review – B. Mitchell
Motion Seconded – by L. Pollard
Motion approved unanimously
Carried

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE March 29, 2021, MEETING

R. Jendrysik called for acceptance of the March 29, 2021, meeting minutes.

Motion: To accept the March 29, 2021, minutes as presented – D. Watt
Motion Seconded – B. Mitchell
Motion approved unanimously
Carried

REVIEW OF BOARD MEMBERSHIPS AND OFFICERS

8.1 2022 Board of Directors

No one has indicated they are not willing to serve so that will be taken as an indication to serve

R. Jendrysik, suggested to go ahead with the memberships and officers and directors moving forward for 2022.

TREASURER'S REPORT

C. Naese joined the meeting at this time and was unable to give the update on Financials.

Lorne suggested reviewing the financial statements personally and send an email to Amy and copy Lauren and Rod to accept or reject. All in agreement

New Business

Bylaws important for 501(c)(3) status

Format of meetings current process – Zoom is working

Priorities

- Outside consultants hired by the University will assist with bylaw reviews
- learning how to accept large stock grants/ donations
- Laws and regulations updated and addressed at that time
- Special board meetings may be necessary

Next Meeting

Current Frequency – 1 per year annually

May need to adjust – single agenda meeting could be a possibility

Timing of Annual meeting

End of Fiscal is April 30th for University, Friends of Guelph fiscal year end is December 31.

Beginning February to end of March ideal time for annual meeting so there is time for sign off before sending filing to the IRS – can be a Zoom meeting

Don, suggested to leave the timing, no reason to change it

Florida Alumni meeting is usually first Wed in March

Possible to bring groups together with Hybrid meetings – zoom and on-site speakers

Demographics – Historically there has been a lot of Alumni in Florida in Maple Leaf Village

Florida picnic attendance is declining

There is a need to reach more successful younger graduates and how do we identify those people. Find out what resonates with them, what would make them come to face to face gathering. What are other Universities doing for these types of events.

Who are we trying to attract – kid friendly events to engage younger professionals will be more beneficial

Bert to explore bringing groups together for 2023 AGM with Derin's help

To assist with the challenges of geography, Frances Houston, Director Alumni and Annual Giving should be included in these conversations for engagement strategies – Duncan to take it to Frances

NEXT MEETING – TBD

Date:

Location:

ADJOURNMENT

R. Jendrysik called for the meeting to be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting – D. Watt

Motion seconded – L. Pollard

Motion approved unanimously

Carried