

DIXON HALL (“the Agency”)
2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

September 15, 2020

1. OPENING MEETING

Chair:

Chair Rod Bolger welcomed members to the 2020 Annual General Meeting of Dixon Hall, and the first virtual AGM. The Chair noted the AGM was being recorded and would be shared on the Agency’s YouTube channel.

The meeting was called to order following a land acknowledgment. The Chair introduced the Board members present: Cameron Scrivens (Vice Chair), Susanne Gossage (Vice Chair), Thompson Egbo-Egbo (Secretary), Scott Bell, Barbara Feldberg, Tim Moseley, Jordana Greenberg, Trevlyn Kennedy, Dave Mun, Kelly Lawless, and Ron Stokes. The Chair also introduced the leadership team present: Mercedes Watson (CEO), Alison Booth, Dwight Anderson, Chris Chow, Laura Stenberg, Eric Philip, Fulya Vekiloglu and Bob McKitrick.

2. DECLARATION OF MAILING

Secretary:

Thompson Egbo-Egbo, Secretary of Dixon Hall read the Declaration of Mailing of the notice of the Meeting, confirming that the notice was properly sent to members.

“I, Thompson Egbo-Egbo, Secretary for Dixon Hall, certify that, a notice of the Annual Meeting for today, September 15, 2020, was mailed to all members of Dixon Hall.”

3. CONSTITUTION OF MEETING

Chair:

The Chair confirmed the meeting had quorum and could proceed, and that those who had purchased their memberships before September 16, 2020 could vote.

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Chair:

The Chair noted that the previous AGM took place in September 2019, and the minutes of that meeting shared on screen. Members were invited to raise any questions regarding the minutes. There were no questions or comments.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting be accepted and approved.

MOVED: Tim Moseley

SECONDED: Thompson Egbo-Egbo
ALL IN FAVOUR: CARRIED

5. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Chair:

Last year was the Agency's 90th Anniversary and we discussed the stock market crash in 1929 and how it led to the opening of Dixon Hall as a soup kitchen one month later. The Agency helped people survive and get through difficult times. While the economy has recovered since then, there have been a number of recessions, and now, with the COVID-19 pandemic, those served by the Agency are suffering in ways they have not in many years.

Thankfully, Dixon Hall continues to do great work and despite the pandemic the Agency's employees have kept working every day. The Agency was still able to provide over 12,500 music lessons, meals on wheels, 12,000 rides for seniors, helped people find jobs, provided over 80,000 warm and dry beds and an additional 14,000 stays at the Out of The Cold facilities. The number of volunteers also went up by 10%.

The Chair thanked the staff, volunteers, donors and members for all that they do for the Agency and for their commitment to Dixon Hall.

6. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Chair:

As the Treasurer was unable to attend the AGM, the Chair addressed the financial statements.

The growth in Dixon Hall's operations year over year is notable. The annual operating revenues grew from \$14.7M in 2019 to \$18.4M in 2020, a growth of 25% over one year.

The Agency had a small operating surplus of about \$60,000 which means that the Agency continues to deploy substantially all of the agency revenues towards key services and program offerings.

The Agency's continued growth from new contracts and new partners is evidence of the impact of the Agency's work and is a testament to the community, staff and volunteers.

7. REVIEW OF AUDITORS

Chair:

The Chair noted that as it is not necessary for the members to approve the financial statements, but asked if there were any questions. There were none.

The next item of business is a little different this year. The Chair asked for a member to move and for another member to second the following resolution:

RESOLVED that since Grant Thornton LLP has been the agency's auditors since 2010, it is timely to review their fees and also consider either retaining them as our auditors or based on our review, seek new auditors for the agency to address our growing and changing needs. This work will be undertaken by the CEO and Director of Finance together with the Finance Audit and Risk Committee and will be approved by the Board.

MOVED: Scott Bell

SECONDED: Cameron Scrivens

ALL IN FAVOUR: CARRIED

8. VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION – ORDER OF DIXON

Chair:

Order of Dixon

At the Agency's 80th anniversary, in 2009, the Order of Dixon was created to recognize those special friends who have made an outstanding contribution to the organization, either through a gift of time, a gift of money or a gift of their special expertise. Each year since 2009, the Agency selects two individuals to honour and recognize. This year the Agency is recognizing Ms. Leona Lowe and Ms. Joan Savage.

Leona Lowe – Dixon Hall volunteer, donor and Community Advocate. Ms. Lowe has been a friend of the Agency and has donated her time since 2012. Ms. Lowe has been a tireless volunteer, donating over 100 hours of volunteer service every year, and was recognized in 2019 for volunteering for over 300 plus hours.

Joan Savage – Meals on Wheels Corporate Volunteer since 2002. Ms. Savage has been volunteering for almost 20 years and continues to volunteer every Friday night even though the corporate sponsor is no longer a participant.

9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

CEO:

Chief Executive Officer Mercedes Watson highlighted how Dixon Hall is centring its work on the social determinants of health, the recent pandemic and the social outcry for equity and justice for all in our society, to help provide a voice to those that need to be heard.

The CEO noted the importance of observing and putting into action Dixon Hall's mission, vision and values within the organization. Equity will be a fundamental tenant of the Agency's policies as racism, discrimination and biases have no place in the work Dixon Hall does. To achieve this goal, the Leadership team have begun work to effectively model positive citizenship for each other and the Agency's staff.

The CEO also discussed some of the critical work the teams at Dixon Hall have done during the pandemic including the opening of the Bill Graham Youth Centre in Regent Park which allowed continued services for children and youth in the downtown East. The Housing team has managed to rapidly address each new initiative placed before it, including the Lakeshore Respite, providing their experience to the City at their hotel sites, and commencing work on redeveloping historical homes on Parliament St. to provide more long-term housing. The Employment services team has been utilizing first time funding to provide wrap-around supports for Ontario Works clients to equip them for future career employment while moving all supportive work to an online platform. The Senior Services team continued with Meals on Wheels, phone checks and also transitioning services online all while exploring a partnership with McMaster Institute for Research on Aging. All of the department efforts have been supported by volunteers, Board of Directors, Finance Team, Philanthropy team and the People and Culture Team.

None of the work would be possible without the staff at Dixon Hall who have made incredible sacrifices, worked tirelessly and remained positive while safeguarding our clients, supporting our community and helping each other.

Following her report, Ms. Watson addressed a question concerning when a full-reopening will occur. While there is no exact date, work is being done to ensure the spaces will be in good repair, appropriately signed for safe use, and healthy spaces in which to operate and run programs as soon as we are permitted to do so.

10. CONFIRMATION AND FORMAL ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Secretary:

Secretary Thompson Egbo-Egbo introduced the candidates for re-election and election to the board:

1. Rod Bolger (Chair)
2. Kevin Hibbert (Treasurer)
3. Thompson Egbo-Egbo (Secretary)
4. Cameron Scrivens (Vice Chair)
5. Susanne Gossage (Vice Chair)
6. Barbara Feldberg (Director)
7. Scott Bell (Director)
8. Trevlyn Kennedy (Director)
9. Tim Moseley (Director)
10. Jordana Greenberg (Director)
11. Dr. Robert Nam (Director)

Introduction of new board Directors to be formally elected by the Members:

12. Dave Mun (election)
13. Kelly Lawless (election)
14. Ron Stokes (election)

Discussion was invited, and none arose.

RESOLVED that terms of the following directors continue in accordance with the by-Laws, Rod Bolger, Kevin Hibbert, Thompson Egbo-Egbo, Cameron Scrivens, Susanne Gossage, Barbara Feldberg, Scott Bell, Trevlyn Kennedy, Tim Moseley and Dr. Robert Nam be re-elected to the Board of Directors. That Dave Mun, Kelly Lawless and Ron Stokes be formally elected by the members to serve their first three-year term.

MOVED: Jordana Greenberg
SECONDED: Susanne Gossage
ALL IN FAVOUR: CARRIED

11. MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

Bob McKitrick:

Bob McKitrick introduced Esther Li, who is a piano student, classical guitar student, choir member, attends Dixon Hall's overnight camps and will be performing Mimi by Sylvain Lemay.

12. TERMINATION OF MEETING

Chair:

The Chair asked if there were any other matters any member would like to raise. Hearing none, he declared the 91st AGM terminated and thanked everyone for attending.

STATEMENT OF VERIFICATION FOR

MAILING OF NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

I, Thompson Egbo-Egbo, Secretary for Dixon Hall, certify that, a notice of the Annual Meeting for today, September 16, 2020, was mailed to all members of Dixon Hall.

Signature: _____ Date: _____