

**Governor General's Foot Guards Regimental Association
2023 Annual General Meeting Minutes
Saturday, October 28, 2023. 7:00 pm
CSDH Sergeant's Mess**

Meeting chaired by Mr. Paul Keogh
27 members present.

Documents handed out:

1. Meeting agenda.
2. Balance Sheet as of July 1, 2023.
3. Budget 2023-24.
4. Association Whiskey Program.

I. Call to order

Mr. Paul Keogh introduced as the Chair for the AGM and called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Welcomed Association members to the Sergeant's Mess and advised that the President, Mr. Darren Fleming, would not be present and gave his regrets.

Motion by Chair to accept agenda. Moved by Mr. Brian Lypps, seconded by Mr. Mark Mathesen. Motion carried.

II. Period of Silence for the Fallen

LCC Jamie Bell stood to mark the passing of Maj. Nicholas Fysh on October 10, 2023, providing his accomplishments with the Regiment and called for a minute of silence in remembrance.

III. Introductions

Each of the 27 members present introduced themselves.

IV. Quorum determined

The Chair confirmed that the required quorum of 15 members was satisfied and noted that all current serving members of the Regiment are also members of the Association.

V. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Postponed and deferred.

VI. Reading of Correspondence

None received.

VII. Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Report

Chair introduced Maj. Gray Shanahan to provide the report.

Maj. Shanahan spoke to the Balance Sheet document (as of July 1, 2023-the start of the fiscal year) advising that the Association has \$47,266 cash assets, , \$71,290 in the Youth Award funds, and \$6,959 in investments in the Sentry Fund. Association dues have not been collected in years. In inventory, there remains a stock of bottled whisky and two barrels maturing in 2027 and 2033.

Total assets are \$369,667 with total liabilities of \$215,953. The liabilities are mostly due to expenditures for the 150th celebration. Currently, there is \$47,266 in the bank account.

Two large events have been initiated for 2024 with the Guards Ball in February and the Boxing event in March.

We expect to recoup the costs for the two barrels of whisky. \$19,000 is expected to be given out for Youth Awards but this does not factor into what we will bring in.

Question from Mr. Marty Lane: What about the kit shop and expenses? Response: This is included the liabilities column under 'Museum', \$1,831. There is no breakdown of the inventory or material. There is also no accounting for the Canex kit shop. We need accounting for this. The July 2023 Balance Sheet was created new with no previous document(s) to follow upon. We are reporting on what has occurred over the past year. Contributions at the end are estimates from last year's budget.

Action item #1: The Association to request and receive accounting reports from the Museum and Canex kit shops.

Mr. Wayne Youngusband rose to speak to the Sentry Fund. It was originally an endowment fund with a protected value invested, managed by trustees. We have been working quietly over the last 13 years. There used to be a Foundation and an Association. No donations or activity since 2017. No Guards Star Publication to promote it. Have set aside \$3,300 for the housing fund. Have \$18,000 in the bank. We have \$23,000 available for good works (minus the \$65,000 seed money). Currently we have \$70,000 invested for a potential bonus of 20%. A very important fund controlled by donations with a protected core. We will send the finances (paperwork) to the CFO. The funds are in the same bank as the Association account and is managed by three Trustees: Mr. Wayne Youngusband, Mr. John Brockway, and Mr. Richard Nolan. Mr. Brockway and Mr. Nolan have requested to be replaced. Article 36 of our current Association by-laws govern this endowment fund.

Action item #2: The CFO to request, receive, and review a financial report from the Sentry Fund.

Action item #3: The Association to identify replacements for two of three Sentry Fund trustees.

Mr. Marty Lane rose to speak to the Barbara Ann Scott Museum Fund which is intended for the acquisition of artifacts for the museum. The museum receives operational funds from the DHH which can fund projects such as renovations but cannot be used for artifact acquisition. The Association is currently holding approximately \$11,000 from the Barbara Ann Scott Museum Fund and Mr. Lane is requesting the funds be returned to the Museum.

LCC Bell, as former CFO of the Association, advised that it has been established that the funds are earmarked for the museum and, when required, will be reallocated to their intended purpose, rather than simply being returned to sit in the museum's account.

Mr. Younghusband rose to advise that as a former CFO of the Association, he recalled the original donation by Ms. Scott was \$5,000 USD, the funds are indeed for the use of the museum, and are simply being safeguarded by the Association. Chair Keogh stated that the matter would be addressed with the new Association under new business.

Further discussion on the Barbara Ann Scott Museum Fund led to uncertainty on the actual amount being held by the Association (ranging from \$5000 USD, to \$8,000-\$10,000 CAD, plus interest accrued). There was also uncertainty as to when and why the funds were received by the Association to hold for the Museum, and whether it was in the form of a "loan" to fund 150th activities or for safekeeping years previous.

Action item #4: That the Association address the placement holding of the Barbara Ann Scott Museum Fund.

The Chair asked for a motion to accept the CFO report. Motion by Mr. Marty Lane, seconded by Mr. Joe McNulty. Carried.

VIII. VP Social Activities

No written report.

The Chair asked the Association to recognize the many members that were involved in the 150th anniversary celebration events.

Mr. Marty Lane proposed a motion for a letter to be sent to L/Col. Fran Chilton-Mackay to recognize and thank her for her leadership on the 150th. Seconded by Mr. Mark Mathesen.

Action item #5: That the Association draft and send a formal letter of thanks to L/Col. Fran Chilton-Mackay for her leadership on the 150th celebration.

IX. VP Communications

No written report.

Comments and concerns were raised regarding the suspension of the Guards Star publication. A valuable tool for communicating with the membership. Chair suggested that this could be an initiative for the new executive.

Problems with the Member 365 system, used by members for event registration. Maj. Gray Shanahan advised that he is : Working with Member 365 for a solution. The data base needs to be cleansed.

Action item #6: Association executive to consider steps to re-institute the publication of the Guards Star.

Action item #7: Association executive to action cleansing of the Member 365 membership database.

X. VP Fund Raising

Chair provided an oral report on the Youth Awards and the boxing event.

The first boxing event was April 1, 2023 with over 500 persons in attendance. The event was the forum to promote, fund, and present awards to four deserving youths. There is momentum and the next boxing event will occur on March 2, 2024, with the boxing teams already in training. In 2023 we did a bit better than breaking even. The Youth Award was initiated by Mr. Mike Ward and Mr. Mark Mathesen is instrumental in its continuation. Also mentioned for recognition were Mr. Darren Fleming, Mr. Douglas Agnew, Mr. and Ms. Nicholas and Julie Petit, Capt. Stefan Sikorski, and Airbus Canada. There is enough capital to sustain the Youth Awards well into the future.

XI. History and Traditions

No report.

XII. Additional Committees

No report.

XIII. Unfinished Business

Nothing to move forward.

XIV. New Business- Nominations and Elections of the GGFA-RA Executive

There are a number of executive positions that are currently vacant and it is likely that we will not fill all positions at this meeting. Chair Paul Keogh proposed the consolidation of the Vice President positions into one Vice President position. Permanent consolidation or addressing the re-establishment of specific vice president positions can be addressed by the new executive through the term.

Action item #8: Association executive to review all executive positions that remain vacant and to determine the appropriate course of action.

Chair Paul Keogh called for nominations for President. LCC Jamie Bell nominated Mr. Joe McNulty, seconded by S/M Greg Witol. Mr. Joe McNulty accepted his nomination. With no other nominations **Mr. Joe McNulty was acclaimed as President.**

Vice President: We are willing at this stage to consolidate the four Vice President positions into one Vice President position. President Joe McNulty nominated Chair Paul Keogh, seconded by Capt. Art McKenzie. Chair Paul Keogh accepted. With no other nominations **Chair Paul Keogh was acclaimed as Vice-President.**

Chief Financial Officer: Mr. Marty Lane nominated Maj. Gray Shanahan , seconded by Capt. Dekker LLOYD. Maj. Gray Shanahan accepted. With no other nominations **Maj. Gray Shanahan was acclaimed as Chief Financial Officer.**

Secretary: President Joe McNulty nominated Mr. Chris Renwick, seconded by Capt. Art McKenzie. Mr. Chris Renwick accepted. With no other nominations **Mr. Chris Renwick was acclaimed as Secretary.**

Directors: Three positions.

A question was raised from the floor on the role of Directors. President Joe McNulty referred to page 7-8 of the bylaws that outline the function and duties of Directors, adding that they advise, assist with the Vice President posts, and are essentially the 'work horses' of the Association.

Lcdr. Craig Cook was nominated by Maj. Gray Shanahan, seconded by Mr. Dave Snyder. Lcdr. Cook was not present to accept or decline his nomination.

Capt. Art McKenzie was nominated by President Joe McNulty, seconded by Capt. Dekker Lloyd. Capt. McKenzie accepted.

Mr. Brian Lypps was nominated by President Joe McNulty and declined to stand.

Ms. Ann Gregory was nominated by President Joe McNulty and declined to stand.

There were no further nominations. **Capt. Art McKenzie was acclaimed as a Director.**

Mr. Chris Renwick proposed that the election of the two additional Directors be deferred and for the Association to actively seek nominations from more junior active members of the Regiment. LCC Jamie Bell concurred and committed to further explore identifying a junior member to be identified for appointment.

Action item #9: That the executive inquire with Lcdr. Craig Cook if he accepts the nomination for Director and to proceed with the vote or appointment.

Action item #10: That the executive follow up with the LCC on the identification and appointment of a junior member of the Regiment as a Director.

XV. CFO Funds to be voted upon, if required.

Capt. Gray Shanahan presented the 2023-24 budget which included the 2024 Guards Ball and the 2024 boxing event. President Joe McNulty advised that the 2023-24 budget was already voted in and the executive has the authority to proceed with spending. The bylaws permit the executive to spend up to \$1,000 without seeking membership approval.

Five-minute recess at 8:20 pm, resuming at 8:25 pm.

XVI. President's Draw

Vice President Paul Keogh introduced and welcomed the GGFG Band's Celtic ensemble who will be providing music for the reception to follow the meeting.

Vice President Keogh invited LCC Jamie Bell to provide an update on the Regiment to the Association. LCC Bell spoke to the priority of growing the Regiment from its current 200 all ranks effective strength. LCC Bell spoke of his and S/Maj. Greg Witol's very recent visit to Cut Knife Hill where they met with the Poundmaker Foundation and Parks Canada on plans for a Reconciliation Project from May 3-5, 2024, in the form of the Regiment participating in a powwow.

XVII. Loyal Toast

Loyal toast to the King.

Vice president Paul Keogh introduced Mr. Michel Asboth from the GGFG Cadet Corps who would be offering maple syrup for sale as a fundraiser for the Corps.

Vice-president Keogh announced the Regimental Museum would open after meeting.

A raffle and 50/50 draw followed.

XVIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

XIX. Reception Meet and Great

Minutes recorded by Secretary Chris Renwick.

Minutes approved by President Mr. Joe McNulty

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Dated:_____.