

Minutes for the
Annual General Meeting
of
The St. George's Foundation

Tuesday, 13th February 2018 at 6.30pm
World Heritage Centre, Penno's Wharf, St George's

1 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Charles Penruddocke welcomed everyone to SGF's 2017 Annual General Meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

Condolences were extended to Cheryl and Henry Hayward and Dr. George Cook on their recent family losses.

The 2016 AGM Minutes were approved without objections and Treasurer Gregory Haycock proposed acceptance and seconded by Secretary Jimmie Amos.

At this time it was announced, that Chairman Penruddocke was going to be stepping down and he will remain on the Board to assist in the search for a replacement.

The Chairman also thanked long time Trustee, Ms. Grace Rawlins who had tendered her resignation from the Board due to increased personal commitments.

The attached list of thirteen Trustees was presented to be considered and approved as new slate of Trustees for the year 2017/18.

Unanimous decision of acceptance was proposed by member Sandra Amos and seconded by member Chrissy Frith.

2 TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Haycock presented the Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report and provided a guide through the supporting notes to the audited statements. Greg noted that the Audit fees are recorded as a donated service and recorded as an expense. In the current financial year the real expensed audit fees will be in the region of \$9,000.00.

There was some general discussion regarding Capital Campaigns and associated problems in the current and evolving fundraising climate in Bermuda.

The attending membership approved the Statements and Audited Report as presented.

The appointment of Auditors for next fiscal year was then addressed and the members approved that Deloitte be appointed again.

3 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Chairman Charles introduced GM Peter Frith.

Frith welcomed the Board, Members, Supporters, and Volunteers.

Special condolences given to Trustee George, Henry, and Cheryl and their Family's for the loss of their son's Phillip, and John who had recently passed.

Thanks were given to volunteers Danielle Daniels, Bobby and Dana Mello, and Charlie Grant who had stepped down. Regular volunteers Gail Butterworth, Delores Simmons, Sherry Wisney-Dodson, Debbie Montgomery, Tanya Stafford, Sandy Pearson and the return of Sue Van Reil were thanked for their continued dedication and service for Second Hand Rose at the WHCtr. A special mention was made for volunteer Carol McCormick who has been assisting GM Frith in the office.

Thanks were extended to Lisa Smith of It Figures Accounting Services who was able to assist Deloitte with getting our audit completed. Extra Special thanks were given to Karen Olsen who has been most helpful throughout the year in keeping our accounts above water!

It was noted that longtime supporter Nancy Hooper had once again stepped up to cover during the vacation of WHC Manager Debbie Loader.

Most sincere thanks go out to Alison for regular coverage at WHCtr and her Husband Jerry who has stepped up to cover on "Deliverance" thanked for their excellent job well done.

GM Frith would be remiss if I did not give extra special thanks to our Project Manager, David Chew who has successfully brought our "Deliverance" back from the brink, with more work to continue this year and in addition who has taken on the restoration of the WHCtr.

The one person he could not do without is WHCtr Manager Debbie Loader!

Last but not least, special thanks were extended to wife Chrissy Frith for her endless support and guidance.

Without this core group of dedicated volunteers and staff we could not operate our two attractions of the World Heritage Centre with 2nd Hand Rose Charity Shop and Deliverance replica.

So our 20th year started with the good news that the BTA agreed to fund our monthly film and lecture series to run through the year to create educational opportunities plus exposure for the WHC.

Our first event was in March with collaboration with the St. George's Historical Society with a presentation by photographer Scott Stallard highlighting his adventures in Iran.

Then in June during America Cup we hosted Hartley Watlington telling us the colourful history of the magnificent 'J' Boats.

July had our own Saskia Wolsak tell of her research into our endemic Palmetto and all the many uses it has.

Also in the same month found our good friend Michael Jarvis on Smiths Island with his annual archeological field school students digging up more of our past. We were happy to join with the BNT to have a lecture at the Centre and a field trip over to the island to allow our members firsthand experience of a dig in action.

Our final lecture for the year in October was Trustee Meredith Ebbin who told the fascinating story of Seaward 'SS' Toddings, past Editor of the Mid Ocean News.

Along with our promotion of the special uses of the WHCtr we always collaborate with the Dept of Community and Cultural Affairs on their "Bermudian Heartbeats" series. We hosted two last year with the 1st in Jan with the showing of "Bermuda Depths" and then in August we hosted special

guest speakers Charles Zuill and Margaret Smith tell stories of the artist Emile Antoine Verpilleux and the beautiful murals on display.

The GMs favourite event of the year, back in April, just prior to the Peppercorn Ceremony, saw the launch of the Historical Atlantic Triangle where we have now “tripled” with Lyme Regis, England; Jamestown, Virginia; and St. George’s, Bermuda! Our friends from Lyme and Jamestown gave an excellent lecture along with our own Dr George Cook about some of our first settlers. Our own Mayor Francis was part of the celebrations and the appropriate dedication proclamations were signed by all 3 Mayors.

America’s Cup did indeed bring additional action and excitement to the Town and we were thrilled to take in more revenue in May and June at 2nd Hand Rose than we had seen in a long time, an increase of approx.. 15% overall!

Thanks to our friend Kristin White, Hub1 Cultural Tourism Manager, we were part of the beautiful Festival of Sail out on the Plaza and the new Penno’s dockside space. Also we participated in the Pirates and Plunder fun day on one of the off sailing days. These and other promotions throughout the event keep everyone busy in the town!

In August, the Bank of Bermuda approved our exhibition in Town Hall of the Roy Taylor fish paintings which has been done in partnership with the Corporation of St. George in order to drive donations on our behalf for restoration of the roof. A special opening ceremony was attended by the Mayor along with members and friends of the Taylor Family who were very grateful to our curators Dr. Charlotte Andrews and Mrs. Sandra Rouja plus installer David Chew.

2017 saw us celebrate our 20th Anniversary and our major fundraiser was our Anniversary Raffle of 1,000 tickets @ \$50 each to win a \$10,000 Travel Voucher which was won by Rory Manuel. Due to the change in its mandate, the Bank of Bermuda Foundation was unable to sponsor our prize, so after expenses we were able to clear just over \$16,000.

We had hoped to also host a Gala Dinner however for all sorts of reasons we were not able to so and decided to postpone till May of 2018. Now after careful thought and consideration we have decided to host several smaller fun events throughout the year. Our 1st will be a ‘Bingo Night’ on Friday 20th April to celebrate the theme ‘St George’s Day’. On that Monday, 23rd April, the true St George’s Day will see the Annual Peppercorn Ceremony performed.

In May will see us celebrate a Mini Festival of Sail on the WHCtr Plaza with the visiting Sail Training Ship “Oosterschielde” and one other join our own “Spirit of Bermuda” alongside Penno’s.

In September we shall host a “History” Quiz Night.

A new fund raising venture is the addition of Special Interest Group Walking Tours guided by GM Frith.

A special group of visiting yachts during America’s Cup sponsored by the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club were anchored in the harbor and were escorted on a walking tour of the town.

Other groups such as the Drayton Hall Directors from Charleston, SC; Colonial Dames of Virginia; and the Ford’s Colony of Virginia; along with visiting corporate groups from Black & Decker; Computer Associates; and the BW Group were all provided with tours.

as the Charity of Record for the annual Marine Expo on Sun. 8th Apr where

Five excellent history and cultural events were hosted in the WHC along with three weddings that brought in much needed revenue.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Snaith rose to congratulate GM Frith and informed all that he had passed his probation period!

Founding Member Rowntree then addressed all with a brief reason on the formation of the SGF and how he and other charter members really felt the Foundation had come a long way in its 20 years and he confirmed he will remain available to contribute as much and as long as he is able! A warm round of applause was given and thanks for his major contribution over the years.

There being no other business, the Annual General Meeting was concluded.