

BLOOMING BOULEVARDS
MINUTES of the 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Thursday October 22, 2020; 7- 8 PM
Online Via Zoom

PREAMBLE

Meeting attendees:

Chair: Jeanne McRight, President

Treasurer: Mary Jean Kucerak

Secretary: Ramona da Cunha

Directors: Wayne Cardinalli, Angela Jordan, Murray Moore, Tim Oliwiak

Advisors: Sheila Cressman and Jim Judge

Members: Martine Andrews, Heliya Babazadeh, Barbara Booth-Moore, Jitendra Chaudhari, Ella Dicker, Joyce Dougherty, Janet Fraser, Sharon Johns, Julian Kenney, Amber Lammers, Diane LaPointe, Peeter Poldre, Alan Schaubel, Carolyn Sherk, Heather Smyth, Nadine Spizzirri, Barry Stevens, Michele Ward, Doris Wukasch, Rick Wukasch

Observers and Apologies: Nil

MEETING

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** The annual general meeting of Blooming Boulevards was called to order at 7:00 PM on October 22, 2020 by Jeanne McRight. The meeting took place via ZOOM online. Attendance was recorded and quorum was declared.
2. **MOTION: Approval of the 2020 AGM Agenda** was unanimously approved as distributed.
3. **MOTION: Approval of Minutes of the 2019 AGM** was unanimously approved as distributed. Please refer to APPENDIX A - Blooming Boulevards 2019 AGM Minutes.
4. **Slide show 2020: Year in Review "Making Beauty Happen: Butterflies, Bees and Wildflower Gardens"** was presented by Jeanne. Content included:

- Mission and goals: an affirmation of purpose for our conservation focus in gardening and outreach activities.
- Review of key community education and outreach activities.
- Image gallery showing stages of plant propagation and distribution.
- Image gallery comparing maturation progress of gardens installed in 2019 and their current state in 2020.
- Image gallery showing stages of progress in gardens installed in 2020.
- Video interview with 2020 Garden Steward of the Year award winner Jitendra Chaudhari.

5. Annual Reports

5.1. Chair's Report:

- 5.1.1. More than 20 in-person and online educational workshops and presentations were conducted by Jeanne from fall 2019 - fall 2020. Hosts included the Erin Mills Horticultural Society, the Cloverleaf Garden Club, Mississauga Master Gardeners, the Riverwood Conservancy, Heritage Mississauga and Mississauga Parks and Forestry.
- 5.1.2. A flourishing public pollinator garden in Port Credit's Spruce Park was installed by Blooming Boulevards in October 2019, supported by a Mississauga Small Projects Grant. We were able to perform adequate maintenance in 2020 while respecting Mississauga's COVID safety requirements limiting volunteer access.
- 5.1.3. In September 2019 we partnered with the TRCA and the Small Arms Society to conduct a nature walk at Port Credit's Arsenal Lands.
- 5.1.4. BB increased its social media presence by establishing its own You Tube channel.
- 5.1.5. Between May 2019 and June 2020, Blooming Boulevards installed 56 boulevard pollinator gardens. The Garden Committee propagated over 3000 native plants, which were donated to garden stewards across Mississauga and used for establishing new boulevard pollinator gardens. The goal for 2021 is to add another 75 to 100 gardens.

5.2. Treasurer's Report:

- 5.2.1. M.J Kucerak presented a Financial Report from May 2019 to December 31, 2019. Operating Revenues = \$4066.92, Expenses =

\$2890.93 with a balance of \$1175.99. The reported surplus totals \$1175.99. Gordon Maxwell Smith conducted an independent, voluntary review of the Financial Report and reported no inconsistencies.

5.2.2. MOTION: **Approval of the 2019 Financial Report** was unanimously approved as distributed.

5.2.3. Please refer to APPENDIX C - 2019 Financial Report for the Balance Sheet and Income Statement, along with G. Maxwell-Smith's review.

6. Committee Reports

6.1. Garden Committee:

6.1.1. Committee members, co-headed by Jeanne and Catherine Fleming, coordinated plant propagation, distribution, garden maintenance and volunteer management activities to the best of their ability during challenging COVID restrictions. We conducted a successful COVID-safe outdoor fundraising event: our First Annual Native Plant Sale held in late June - early July 2020.

6.2. E&O Committee:

6.2.1. Committee members attended 2019 and early 2020 in-person events and contributed to our four newsletters with Murray as editor. Jeanne and Wayne conducted the numerous online presentations during 2020. Jeanne maintained our website and social media connections. Murray, Wayne and Jeanne expanded our community networks, especially in Applewood, Erin Mills and Port Credit neighbourhoods.

7. Special Resolutions:

7.1. **Returning Officers** It was resolved that all current officers and board members will continue to fulfill their terms of service.

7.2. **Election of New Board Directors** Jeanne nominated M.J. Kucerak as Treasurer, replacing former treasurer Susan Aiken; also, Jeanne nominated Murray Moore to replace Catherine Fleming as Director-at-Large. Both nominees accepted.

7.2.1. MOTION: **Approval of New Directors** was unanimously approved as nominated.

7.3. **Amendments to the Charter By-Law** were proposed by Board Advisor Sheila Cressman.

7.3.1. Please refer to APPENDIX B - Proposed Changes to Charter.

7.3.2. The rationale behind these proposed changes is to improve the Board's retention of knowledge and expertise during the succession process.

7.3.3. MOTION: **Approval of Amendments to the Charter By-Law** was unanimously approved as distributed.

8. **Recognition and Honours:** Blooming Boulevard's First Award of Recognition recipient was unanimously selected by the Board and went to Jitendra Chaudhari for his outstanding ongoing efforts to promote boulevard pollinator gardens in his neighbourhood. Jeanne presented him with a 2020 Garden Steward of the Year certificate, a bee hotel and a book, *One Hundred Easy-To-Grow Native Plants* by Lorraine Johnson.

9. **New Business:**

9.1. Jeanne reported on Blooming Boulevard's submission of a 2021 Mississauga Community Grant application; updates to follow in the Spring.

9.2. Dr. Peeter Poldre volunteered to be Blooming Boulevard's photographer.

9.3. Jeanne outlined Blooming Boulevard's new Native Plant Propagation Program and a call for volunteers, beginning in Fall 2020 and continuing through to May 2021. Doris and Rick Wukasch volunteered to help with plant propagation and was advised to sign up using the Newsletter link.

9.4. Angela Jordan and Jim Judge thanked Jeanne, Wayne and family for all their hard work and efforts especially during COVID when hands-on volunteer help was limited by safety restrictions and other obligations.

10. MOTION: **Adjournment of the AGM** was unanimously approved.

The Chair concluded the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Ramona Da Cunha

Approved by: Jeanne McRight

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A - Minutes: Blooming Boulevards 2019 Annual General Meeting

Held Saturday, August 17th, 2019 - 2pm to 4pm at 1295 Mineola Gardens, Mississauga

1. Meeting was called to order at 2.04 pm. Jeanne welcomed everyone. In attendance were all 10 members of the Board namely Jeanne McRight, Wayne Cardinali, Susan Aiken, David Aiken, Jim Judge, Catherine Fleming, Cornelius Fleming, Tim Oliwiak, Angela Jordan and Ramona da Cunha and 12 club members/ spouses namely Barry Stevens, Ken Cole, Gerrard Bonello, Michele Ward, Melissa Zentner, Raluca Popov, Sheila Cressman, Martha Kantorczyk, Punitha Kandasamy, Siva, Dash Saswata and Warren Singer (latecomer) for a total of 22. Ramona declared quorum and the meeting commenced.
2. MOTION to approve the Agenda was put forth by Jim, seconded by David and carried.
3. Annual Reports
 - 3.1. President's Report – Jeanne
 - Jeanne spoke about the current crisis we have with pollinators. There are 20,000 species of bees worldwide of which 750 species are found in North America. We should have 400 species of native bees but several of those are now critically endangered.
 - Calgary promoted a pollinator highway project which brought back endangered bee species within 3 years.
 - BB is focused on putting in between 20-50 pollinator gardens per year to provide forage for native bees. Bees do not sting as wasps do, something people need to be made aware of to encourage planting these gardens.
 - Jeanne called for volunteers to sign up as garden stewards and help with growing more plants.
 - 3.2. Treasurer's Report – Susan
 - Susan asked everyone to refer to the Agenda for a brief Financial Statement. As of July 31st, 2019, BB has \$448.55 as total assets and \$756.25 as liabilities.
 - Susan proposed that BB was hoping to acquire funding through grants, private donations, hosting workshops and sale of seeds in the near future.
 - She also mentioned that a Raffle of items like posters, a pottery vase would be held after the meeting, the proceeds of which would help BB.
 - Susan praised Jeanne and Wayne for their generous contributions of plants to start off the gardens.
 - MOTION to approve the Treasurer's Report was put forth by David, seconded by Jim, carried.
 - 3.3. Garden Committee Report – Catherine
 - 12 gardens were designed and installed in Mississauga which have been monitored twice so far, records maintained and the respective stewards given advice as needed.
 - Members need to be informed about sod removal, weeds, soil, watering and mulching; setting up workshops and providing handouts were decided upon to achieve this goal.
 - A trial of growing seeds under lights vs in an insulated raised bed outdoors will be conducted by Jeanne and Catherine/Neil respectively.
 - As the number of gardens increase over time, it was proposed that a supervising Garden Steward be appointed for a cluster of gardens.
 - A privacy clause should be included regarding usage of pics of the Steward's garden/steward as well as a waiver absolving BB of any responsibilities for the gardens.
 - MOTION to accept Catherine's report put forth by Angela, seconded by Susan, carried.

- 3.4. Pollinator Meadow Report – Jim
- Jim mentioned that Steven Dasko was responsible for introducing him to BB.
 - Through Jim’s assistance, the TRCA and Small Arms have allotted BB a 100x60 ft garden area to grow native pollinator plants and harvest seed for future gardens.
 - BB Board members and other volunteers worked hard to layer the field with cardboard and woodchips to prepare the area for seeding in the Fall.
 - Jim mentioned that TRCA and CVC are going to help with supplying seed.
 - MOTION to accept Jim’s report was put forth by Raluca Popov, seconded by Wayne, carried.
- 3.5. Education and Outreach—Tim
- Community and school based workshops will be held to raise funds; fees will be charged to cover the costs of running the workshops. To be sustainable, workshops will not be offered at a financial loss.
 - Workshops under consideration are Build a Bee Hotel, Seed Saving 101, Growing Plants from Seed, Understanding Your Soil, Indoor Vermicomposting, Designing Your Pollinator Garden,
 - Workshops that we are considering to run, pending interest: Weed Identification
 - Outreach would involve setting up booths at community events as has been done already ex Mississauga Garden Festival; Jeanne was recently interviewed for a podcast with Eco Source. Jeanne mentioned that she also does presentations for garden clubs and community groups which help recruit members and can generate income.
 - Currently looking for a knowledgeable and capable volunteer to manage the website blog, Facebook and Twitter pages and to set up and manage an Instagram page.
 - Through Jim’s assistance, we are exploring partnerships with local like-minded groups / agencies.
 - MOTION to accept Tim’s report was put forth by Jim seconded by Neil, carried.
4. Nomination and Election of the Board of Directors
- Jeanne briefly introduced all who were willing to serve on the Board Directors with a short biodata.
 - MOTION to accept the nominees for a period of 1 year was put forth by Sheila Cressman, seconded by Raluca Popov, carried unanimously.
5. Charter Presentation – David
- David said the Charter is a legal document for the administration of BB dealing with items such as appointment terms for Directors, terms of office, Not for Profit terms ex no remuneration for Directors to mention a few.
 - The Charter is available for perusal on the BB website.
 - David mentioned he was currently working on the Code of Ethics.
 - MOTION to accept the Charter was put forth by Susan, seconded by Angela, carried.
6. Recognition – Jeanne
- Jeanne mentioned that David Ward from the University of Guelph was impressed with BB ideals and would like to integrate BB into his university course. Hopefully that would generate more interest in the project and bring in more volunteers for BB.
7. Announcements
- Jeanne mentioned she had done a podcast with Eco Source that all were welcome to listen in to.
 - She also suggested reading 2 good books by Heather Holm namely “Bees; Identification and Native Plant Forage Guide” and “Pollinators of Native Plants” .
 - Jeanne suggested that for seed variety, seeds could be collected from various BB planted gardens or from NANPS. The latter has a seed exchange program for members.
8. MOTION to adjourn was put forth by Jim, seconded by Tim, carried.

APPENDIX B - Proposed changes to Blooming Boulevards Charter

Proposal: To amend the current provisions as follows: (changes and additions in italics and underlined)

Section 3 - Directors

3.01 Election and Term

1. The members will elect the directors at the first meeting of members and at each succeeding annual meeting at which an election of directors is required, and the directors shall be elected to hold office for a term expiring not later than the close of the third annual meeting of members following the election.

Directors are eligible to serve for a maximum of 2 consecutive terms.

2. *There will be a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 12 directors on the Board.*

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Section 6 - Officers

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6.02 Term of Office

An Officer shall be appointed for a term of 2 years and may only hold such office for a maximum of 2 consecutive terms. *Amend "maximum of 2 consecutive terms" to "maximum of 3 consecutive terms".*

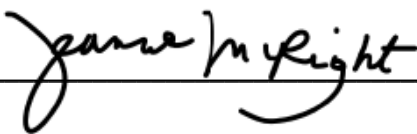
Any officer shall cease to hold office

- a) in the event that they are no longer a member of the Board or
- b) upon resolution of the Board.

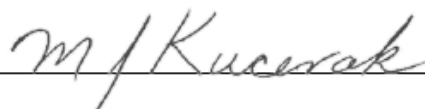
APPENDIX C: BLOOMING BOULEVARDS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2019

Blooming Boulevards Financial Statements 2019

Balance Sheet (as at Dec 31, 2019)						
Assets						
Cash					0.00	
Income/Loss				1,175.99		
Bank Balance						1,175.99
Total Assets						\$1,175.99
Liabilities						
Equity						
Retained Earnings at year end				0.00		
Current Earnings				1,175.99		
Total Liabilities and Equity						\$1,175.99

Signed:  Dated: September 21, 2020

Position: President

Signed:  Dated: September 21, 2020

Position: Treasurer

2019 Blooming Boulevards			
as of Dec 31, 2019	Actual	2019	
	Y-T-D	Budget	
Revenue			
Membership	700.00	0	
Workshops	231.50	0	
Donations	600.00	0	
Grants	2,500.00	0	
Bank fees Refunded	35.42		
<i>Total Revenue</i>	4,066.92	0	
Expenses			
Governance			
Incorporation	280.67	0	
<i>Total Governance</i>	280.67	0.00	
Programs			
Workshops		0	
Gardens		0	
Spruce Park	2,560.33	0	
<i>Total Programs</i>	2,560.33	0	
Marketing			
Brochures	0.00	0	
Business Cards	0.00	0	
<i>Total Marketing</i>	0.00	0	
Outreach			
<i>Total Outreach</i>	0.00	0	
Miscellaneous			
Bank Fees and Cheques	47.12	0	
Paypal fees	2.81	0	
General supplies	0.00	0	
<i>Total Miscellaneous</i>	49.93	0.00	
<i>Total Expenses</i>	2,890.93	0.00	
Revenue Over Expenses	1,175.99	0	



Blooming Boulevards Financial Review
June 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019
Gordon Maxwell-Smith
October 18, 2020

Ms Jeanne McRight,
President
Blooming Boulevards
1295 Mineola Gardens, Mississauga,
ON L5G 3Y5
www.bloomingboulevards.org 905-271-1998

Dear Ms. McRight,

You sought an independent review of the financial records for Blooming Boulevards (BB) which I completed for the period June 1 to December 31, 2019.

The financial records were provided to me by the Treasurer of BB, Ms. M.J. Kucerak on September 21, 2020 and consisted of the following:

1. Blooming Boulevards Bank ledger
2. Financial Statements to December 31, 2019
3. Back up receipts for disbursements
4. Back up for deposits & bank statements

I note that you also confirmed that these records are the only financial records for Blooming Boulevards for the period ending December 31, 2019.

My review consisted of matching receipts and disbursements to the bank statements and account activity printouts made available for BB along with a review of the Balance Sheet and Income Statement at December 31, 2019. In addition to a review of the records I also conducted an interview with yourself and the Treasurer in which you provided an overview of the operations of BB.

The results of my review are as follows:

1. I substantially verified the records of receipts and disbursements.
2. The Balance Sheet and Income Statement were prepared on a cash basis and the ending bank account balance of \$1,175.99 ties to the excess cash reported at December 31, 2019 in the Income Statement and Balance Sheet for BB.

In closing I note that my financial review was conducted on a voluntary basis and completed without interference or influence by yourself or the Treasurer.

Yours Truly,

Gordon Maxwell-Smith