**Minutes – General Meeting – February 17, 2015**

**1**. Call to Order – Grace and Toast by President Pat Dowling at 6:15 pm

**2.** Welcome to Guests and Visitors by President Pat Dowling. She gave a brief description of who BPW is and outlined the candle lighting ceremony for this evening

**3.** Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve by Irma Dafoe, seconded by Linda Ford

**CARRIED**

**4.** Approval of the Minutes of the January 20, 2015 Meeting Motion to approve by Marlene George, seconded by Karen Clouter

**CARRIED**

**5.** Any Business arising from the previous minutes: Outlined that there are tables at the back of the room that are selling items to support Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan.

**6. REPORTS:**

a. Treasurer’s Report – Wendy Humphreys-report has been e-mailed to all members

b. Programs – Linda Barker: Brief description of this evening events and outlined the remaining speakers for the year.

c. Membership – Karen Armstrong: No new members to induct this evening

d. Corresponding Secretary – Indira Persaud: Received a letter from Ste. Louise Center thanking us for our ongoing donations and also received a letter from Honey Church thanking us for support after recent honorarium from our November speaker

e. Publicity & Public Relations – Sheila Walker Nothing new to report

f. Dinner Convener – Heidi Bryans: Thanked everyone for responding in a timely manner

g. Website – Donna Sauve (absent) Pat Dowling spoke about using Mail Chimp for some of our mail outs, but other emails will still go in the traditional format due to attachments needed

h. Special Events – Barb Hore Barb spoke about the upcoming Euchre tournament - 65 tickets sold to date with a maximum of 84. She also spoke about the changes to “Walk with Me” and their new mandate. They will no longer offer front line rescue work with the local Police. They will be educating younger children in schools. They do not receive any government assistance and still need support from organizations. A vote was held by ballot to decide if we will continue to support them going forward with either a ‘Yes’, ‘No’ or ‘Split’ of monies raised at the golf tournament. If a split then we will add ‘Victim Services of Peel’. Vote results: ‘Split’ - 13 votes; ‘Yes’ – 3 votes and ‘No’ – 5 votes. Therefore we will have a 4th recipient – Victim Services of Peel from the golf proceeds.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Provincial Conference Donation: Each year a different club hosts the Provincial Conference and the other clubs within Ontario support the conference by making a donation to help towards the cost of hosting the event. Motion made by Carol Kollar for BPW Brampton to donate $200.00 to BPW Barrie for the 2015 Provincial Conference, seconded by Linda Ford. **CARRIED**

2. Bursary Committee Update: Janet Brousseau has contacted the recipient and will confirm if Danielle can attend the March or April meeting to meet our members.

3. Membership Forms- Renewal is coming up May 1, 2015 with the new price increase and forms were being handed out this evening. Please complete forms in full as this is information for the website and the roster.

4. Bling BPW Shirts: We are still able to order these shirts with the cost remaining at $35.00 each. This is a great way to promote our club especially at our euchre and golf tournaments. Sheila Walker is taking the orders and delivery will be by no later than end of May.

5. International Donation: Canadian Women for Women Afghanistan – Dale Butterill was present to update us on what our funds are helping this organization with and received our donation of $1,200.00 from Barb Hore. This money goes directly to the Lantern Fund which will pay for the salaries of three teachers.

Announcements:

Update of Olga Gil who is undergoing treatment and could use help with people to drive her back and forth to her treatments. Barb Hore will find out more details and let membership know. Camilla Bignell suggested starting a list of people who are willing to help.

**Adjournment**: 6:50 pm by Pat Dowling

Candle Lighting Ceremony & Karen Clouter

Snigdha Malik headed the candle lighting ceremony.

We also had Karen Clouter perform a very special song that she wrote: ‘Proud to be a Woman’.