**Minutes – General Meeting – January 20, 2015**

**1**. Call to Order – Grace and Toast 6:10 p.m. by Pat Dowling President.

**2.** Welcome to Guests and Visitors - Update regarding Olga Gil fighting lung cancer and reading of the letter from Paddy Silverthorne by Pat Dowling.

**3.** Approval of Agenda, Motion to approve by Heidi Bryans, seconded by Oksana Sawiak

**CARRIED**

**4.** Approval of the Minutes of the November 18, 2014 General Meeting- Motion to approve by Lucy Oliveira, seconded by Janet Brousseau

**CARRIED**

**5.** Any Business arising from the previous minutes:

Wendy Humphreys has cancelled Moneris and we are using the Square exclusively to receive credit card payments

**6. REPORTS:**

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

b. Programs – Linda Barker – updated members as to upcoming speakers

c. Corresponding Secretary – Indira Persaud, informed us that she had received a thank you letter from Wellspring Chinguacousy Cancer Support Centre for our donation

d. Publicity & Public Relations – Sheila Walker- spoke about new email format notifying members of upcoming meetings and RSVP instructions to Heidi Bryans

e. Dinner Convener – Heidi Bryans- asked members to please rsvp to dinner meetings on the Friday prior to our meeting

f. Special Events – Barb Hore- announced the next Euchre event March 6, 2015 at the new location at the Scottish Center and a maximum of 84 people will be allowed to purchase tickets.

The date for our golf tournament will be June 11, 2015. She also informed us that the Mississauga club is hosting a High Tea on March 8, 2015 for Women’s International Day.

g. Website – Donna Sauve- absent. Pat informed us that the password has been changed for our website and all members should have received an email with the new password.

h. Membership/Induction of New Members – Karen Armstrong- new member induction Rhonda Paris introduced by Linda Ford

**7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1. 2015 Donation Recipients- St. Louise Outreach (November euchre recipient); Honey church (golf recipient); Walk with me (Golf recipient); Sexual Assault Peel Rape Crisis Centre- Hope 24/7 (March euchre recipient); Wellspring Chinguacousy Cancer Support Centre (golf recipient). \*\* The 2 new recipients that spoke to us in November came in 6th - Victim Services of Peel and in 7th was SNAPSO (Special Needs Adult Program Services Organization).

2. Bursary Committee Update – Janet Brousseau spoke about current recipient Danielle Cleatus, described her focus of study and will invite her to a future meeting so we can all meet her.

3. Club Focus- Pat Dowling thanked Sheila Walker for another amazing issue and asked people to distribute them in areas where new members may be attracted, doctor’s offices etc.

4. Provincial Conference – Pat Dowling spoke about the next Provincial Conference which will be held at the Nottawasaga Inn and described what you could expect if you attended. We will be hosting the 2016 Conference and asked if members would like to attend a brainstorming session at her home on Feb. 10, 2015 and all are welcome.

5. Board of Trade Committee update – Sheila Walker, has handed this portion over to Linda Ford and Camilla Bignell who spoke about the many benefits of maintaining our BBOT membership. Snigdha Malik asked when the President receives information about BBOT events that she informs all members so they may have the opportunity to attend. The report will be sent to all members so that they can make an informed decision in April before the budget meeting.

6. Membership Fee Increase- Pat Dowling spoke about the membership fee increase of $10.00 due to International fees increasing as of May 1, 2015. It was discussed after reviewing our club’s financial statements that our club will pay for $5.00 of that increase through the proceeds raised from the business card ads in the Club Focus and members will pay the other $5.00. Motion to raise the membership fee from $130.00 to $135.00 if paying cash or cheque and $145.00 if paying by credit card. New members’ fee is $150.00 which includes a $15.00 one-time initiation fee if paying by cash or cheque or $160.00 if paying by credit card.

Motion to raise fees as above by Barb Hore and seconded by Camilla Bignell.

**CARRIED**

7. Grace Update – Pat Dowling spoke to the members about considering the changing of the wording of our Grace and/or introducing ‘A Moment of Reflection’ to validate what BPW stands for and to encompass all women around the world. After discussion, it was decided to keep Grace #1 and introduce ‘A Moment of Reflection’ as well to be read by all members at each meeting. Once the final proof has been approved by membership, new Collect/Grace/Reflection cards will be printed.

8. Upcoming Elections in May/15- Pat Dowling encouraged members to participate in the upcoming elections in May. The club is always looking for ‘new blood/fresh ideas’ that come with different members sharing their input for our club. Being on the executive entails you to commit to two nights per month for BPW - one for an executive meeting and one for the dinner meeting. The executive meetings are open to membership so please look at attending one of the upcoming executive meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month to experience a meeting. Linda Ford also suggested starting a group formed by the Past President’s that would meet twice a year to also assist the Executive Members with their experiences.

Announcements

Adjournment at 7:00 p.m.