**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**February 18, 2025**

Call to Order: 6:20 pm

Land Acknowledgement Statement: Linda Ford

Welcome to Members and Guests: Linda Ford

**AGENDA**

Approval of Agenda

* + Moved by Angela McKinnon
  + Seconded by Barb Hore
  + Carried

Approval of January 21, 2025 Minutes

* + Carried with no objections

No business arising from Minutes

| **Chair** | **REPORT** |
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| **President’s Report**  Linda Ford | Linda welcomed guests and Uzma Aziz Irfan, our evening’s guest speaker.  This evening’s agenda, minutes from our last meeting and treasurer’s report were emailed to all members.  All Information is posted on the club’s website for your reference. |
| **Immediate Past President**  Carol Kollar | Sent regrets |
| **Treasurer Report**  Pat Dowling | Attended virtually.  The Treasurer’s report was emailed to members before the meeting and posted on the club’s website in the Members Area. |
| **Special Events**  Pat Dowling | * The Annual Ladies Charity Golf Tournament is our biggest event of the year. It will be held on June 16 at the Glen Eagle Golf Club. We need prizes and silent auction items. All levels of golfers are welcome. If you have any corporate connections, please contact Pat Dowling. Table vendors will be available at the Tournament to help raise money for our community partners. Communication will be out shortly, along with the ability for members and friends to register on our website. A dinner-only option is also available. * We will hold the Meat and Seafood Drive sometime in April. Details will follow via email and on our website. |
| **First Vice President /**  **International Affairs /**  **Bursary Chair**  Amanda Graham-Rowe | KIVA Micro Loans Projects**:**    Sustainable Artisan Development project (Peru / providing training, market access, and higher incomes for 250+ artisans in Peru – enables Peruvian artisans to gain access to markets)   * Loan amount: US$250 - $27.77 repaid * The first two payments were finally made. The September, October, and November payments are delinquent; however, there is an Irregular repayment schedule. No comments or updates were received. We will continue to monitor. * Full repayment expected by Dec 2025 * 11% has been paid back     Madina from Tajikistan (New in September 2024 – Loan amount USD$125   * Madina is an X-ray specialist in a nearby village seeking a loan for an updated X-ray machine. There is a high demand for her services, which she wants to expand with an updated machine, so radiographs will be more precise, providing better results and treatment for the community. * Loan term: 26 months, with monthly repayments - first repayment scheduled for December 2024. * 11% has been paid   Fully Paid Loans:   * Gotitas De Esperanza 1 Group (Nicaragua / helping members buy supplies for business. Full repayment Dec 1, 2024 * Kana Group (Congo DRC / helping members buy wholesale boards to supplement initial capital – serves entrepreneurs in conflict-affected areas with few opportunities). Full repayment Dec 1, 2024 |
| **Second Vice President / Personal Development**  Nelia De Sousa | Sent regrets.  We are hosting a free virtual educational event on March 22, Mindset Reset with Joe Trimboli. Please visit our website to register. |
| **Membership /**  **District Director /**  **2025 BPW Ontario AGM**  Barb Hore | Membership Update   * The club has 43 members.   BPW Ontario Conference  The 2025 BPW Ontario AGM will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2025, at the  Brampton Golf Club. The Brampton Caledon Club is sponsoring this provincial event. For event details, please visit the BPW Ontario website. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Registration will open on May 20th.  District Director, Golden Horseshoe, and Southwest Ontario  The next Golden Horseshoe and Southwest Ontario Meeting will be held on October 25, 2025, at Betty’s Restaurant in Niagara Falls. The BPW Niagara Club is hosting the event.  District News   * BPW Niagara Falls is holding a Designer Bag Bingo on May 18th. * BPW London will be celebrating 80 years in June. |
| **Resolutions/By-Laws Public Affairs /**  **Website /**  **Secretary**  Mina Di Domenico | **Resolutions:**  This club year has submitted the following to BPW Ontario:   * Resolution: Addressing Gender-Specific Mental Health Needs and Reforming Ontario’s Mental Health Care System (a collaboration with BPW Niagara). Many, many thanks to *Dawn McCormick Tracz* for strengthening the resolution with her feedback. * Commendation: Our members are recognizing Charmaine Williams. She is a Canadian politician currently serving as an MPP for Brampton Centre. She advocates for mental health, community safety, and women's empowerment.   At the federal level, the following three resolutions were shared with members. The feedback deadline for Mina is Wednesday, February 26.   * Federal Income Tax Equity for Single Senior Women. Last week, 67 attendees attended a free educational session. The presentation is available on our website under links and references. * Criminalizing Coercive Control in Intimate Relationships. This resolution is a follow-up to the club’s femicide resolution last year * Standing with Afghan Women and Girls. This resolution calls for increased humanitarian aid, protection of their rights, and international efforts to ensure access to education, healthcare, and safety in the face of ongoing challenges under Taliban rule.   All information can be found on the club’s website in the Members’ Area.  **Website:**  Golf registration and sponsorship opportunities will be available soon.  The references and links tab: added the Malton Women Council link to our website.  **Social Media:**  Social media updates on our upcoming events are being promoted through Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. |
| **Correspondence Secretary & Fellowship**  Sue Perlman | Attended virtually.  Sue shared a thank-you letter from the community.  All letters are posted on our website in the Community Corner area. |
| **Publicity & Public Affairs / Newsletter / Dinner Convenor**  Sheila Walker | Sent regrets. |
| **yBPW**  Rianna Ramesar | Sent regrets.  Rianna continues to work through her role on the BPW Canada board as Vice President, yBPW on the following:   * Leading a project on missing Indigenous women and girls – creating a petition. * BPW International: Young BPW is registering a project with BPW International. The project is an open letter addressed to the Government of India asking that they declare violence against women and girls a national crisis. |
| **Programs & Projects**  Angela McKinnon | 2024-2025 Program   * March 18: Anne Marie Hayes, Flight Club * April 15: Social: Paint Night, Keltic Rock Pub, $40 pp + food & drinks + tip + HST * May 20: Annual General Meeting with speaker Tina Haller, Caledon Villa Inn * June 26: Social Dinner: To be confirmed   Visit our website for details and updates. |
| **Bursary Chair**  Amanda Graham-Rowe  Angela McKinnon | The Club awarded the Patty Silverthorne Bursary to Jasmeen Arora from Sheridan College.  Jasmeen attended in person and introduced herself. |

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Amanda Graham-Rowe did a fabulous job with the BPW International Candle Lighting Ceremony. All attendees participated.

**Next General Meeting:**

Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 5:30 pm at Brampton Flight Club

Empowering Voices: The Role of Advocacy in Shaping Healthier Communities with Anne Marie Mills.

Please visit our website for more information.

Collect

Meeting adjournment: 6:50 PM EST