



**Zorra Caledonian Society  
March 19, 2018 Meeting  
MINUTES  
7:00 pm @ Embro Legion**

“The Zorra Caledonian Society is a volunteer community organization formed in 1937 to recognize the Scottish heritage of the Village of Embro and the Township of Zorra”

**Board Members Present:** Gord MacKay (President), Kevin Fraser (Vice President), Helen Dowd (Past President), Peter Fleming (Treasurer), Jennifer Moodie (Secretary), Laura Green, Jim Grieve, Geoff Innes, Steve MacDonald, Jack Matheson, Ron Marshall, Alan Normand, Angus Thomson, Holly MacDonald (Coordinator)

**Members Present:** Sandra Alyea, Graham Hart, Katherine Grieve, Jim Knudsen, Jim Walton

**Guest** – Jim Connolly, CATOWA

**Welcome**

President Gord MacKay called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

**Roll call** – “What are you looking forward to most in our move to COP?” was answered by the 20 people present. Answers included new location, level ground to park cars on, one gate, cleanup done by 7 pm, more help to come out to help, perfect weather, new site plan, more room for the dancers, close to 40,000 people, new opportunities, wide open spaces, :

**Agenda**

**Motion to approve as circulated with an addition under New Business – Review of Contract from Canada’s Outdoor Park - M/S Carried.**

**Minutes from the Previous Meetings were approved**

**General: Jan 15, 2018 M/S Carried. Board: Feb 26, 2018 M/S Carried.**

**Treasurer’s Report**

Peter Fleming reported that the signing authorities will have to be updated at the Royal Bank and that he initiated the process. He completed the 2017 return for the incorporation and submitted the updated directors listing to the government. **Motion to receive his report M/S Carried.**

Peter then presented the draft ZCS 2018 budget which was previously circulated to the Board in the AGENDA package. He went over the income and expenses line by line and answered questions. Peter will look into HST again and bring an update to a future meeting.



### **Coordinator's Report**

Holly MacDonald gave the Coordinator's Report (attach to the minutes). Eight new members signed up at the AGM. Holly met with Dave Knox regarding social media and they are looking at some different platforms (like a YouTube channel) that we may want to investigate to reach other generations and different demographics. Holly has been looking into costs and specifics involved online for other Games in Ontario. She and Steve will get the history to the archives shortly.

### **Old Business**

#### **Report on Medals & Trophies (Laura)**

Direction was given to have Dragonfly Ink create 3-4 medal designs for the April meeting. **Motion that the medals will have Embro Highland Games Since 1937 on them (presently read Zorra Highland Games) M/S Carried.** It was noted that the design should be unisex and be a symbol that appeals to dancers, pipers and road race winners. Other options are to incorporate symbols of Scotland: the thistle is the floral emblem of Scotland, Scotch pine, the national tree and heather brings good luck. Alan Normand had suggested a combination of a thistle and maple leaf. No medals will need to be ordered for 2018 but a few trophies may need the new image.

#### **Review of 2018 AGM**

Gord suggested that next year we have the election of officers while the membership is still present. All agreed this was a valid point. **Motion that the AGM be booked at the Legion for Monday Feb 25, 2019 5:30 pm Social 6 pm Dinner 7 pm AGM and that Janice Mitchell be hired to cater. The cost should be set at a breakeven basis based on 40 guests. M/S Carried.**

#### **Report on March Break Scottish Day**

Jennifer presented her PowerPoint that she had prepared for the 11 children who were in attendance on March 16<sup>th</sup> at the Zorra TWP March Break camp at the EZCC. The 2018 EHG rack cards were sent home with the kids along with their shortbread cookies and their crafts. Jennifer commented the tug of war was a big hit. Helen thanked Jennifer for doing such a great job in planning and running the day. We hope to be invited back for 2019.

#### **Report on National Tartan Day April 6**

The food sign-up sheet was sent around for directors to bring some Scottish treats. Tickets sold are 33 of 70, with more handed out after the meeting. It is breakeven if we sell all our tickets.

#### **Report on Caledonian Scottish Open (Golf Tournament)**

Everyone is encouraged to sign up now by calling Stonehaven Golf Course and providing a VISA number. We would like to have 40 golfers on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are trying to appeal to new people to expand our membership. Jennifer is to confirm what the actual costs are as we have advertised retail \$ 50 for 9 holes of golf, cart & supper or \$ 25 for just the meal.



### **Review of ZCS Board Year-End Self-Evaluations from 2017-18**

Gord and Helen reviewed the six of 11 surveys that were returned. Gord thanked the previous Board for getting things in place which he acknowledged will make this year smoother for the current Board. Helen shared with Gord the 2012 Strategic planning document and feels it is time to do the exercise again. She will circulate it for the April meeting as we have accomplished a lot of what we set out to do. We will revisit this in the Fall again once the Games are over.

### **Report on Thistle Theatre March 29 Ushering & Snacks**

Details have been worked out and a sign-up sheet went around for food. The volunteers will be sent directions on Monday March 26<sup>th</sup> of the final details. Plan to arrive at 6:30 pm. We will wear white shirts, black pants and ZCS tartan.

### **New Business**

#### **2018 Board Handbook**

Minor updates were added and the document is now complete.

**Motion to approve and distribute to the Board M/S Carried.**

#### **2018 EHG Summary of Pitch Pages**

Helen updated NEW information between meetings and it was highlighted in yellow. A reminder that this is the document that we will be using to plan the 2018 Games so it is up to each individual chairperson to keep it current by sending updates to Helen as they become known.

#### **Tug Of War**

Jim Connolly from CATOWA was present and gave a 25 minute presentation. All the teams who have come here over the years are affiliated with tug of war associations and therefore accountable and responsible to those governing bodies. All teams are insured and sign waivers. Last year they were disappointed EHG was not part of the circuit. All sanctioned pulls are registered for at their April meeting. It was suggested that we make an official application by this April date (second week in April). The price is \$3, 500 for 3-5 teams but this is NOT guaranteed. The money goes to overhead costs, insurance, prize money and incentives for the teams to come. They have never paid travel expenses to anyone and would ask that Embro refrain from doing this "under the table". **Motion for direction that Jack Matheson apply to CATOWA for the EHG to be included in the 2018 circuit M/S Carried.**

#### **2018 EHG Organizational Chart**

Gord reviewed the organizational chart one final time. We have everything completed.

**Motion to approve as presented M/S Carried**



White director shirts will be ordered shortly, please give Helen your sizes. They cost \$ 50.53 each and this is at everyone's own expense. They are for directors and chairpeople to wear.

### **2018 COP Site Plan Preview**

Gord went over the plan in detail but it was decided an onsite visit would be best. As well a better map will be used going forward – one that is more “real life” as the one COP provided was not to scale. Gord will organize ASAP a day that we can all meet to have a tour of the new grounds.

### **Review of Contract from Canada's Outdoor Park**

Gord went over the contract with the members and made notes about what was to be added. He will send changes to COP so we can get a second revision to review.

**Kai Restoration Project** – was deferred until the next meeting.

**President BBQ July 8<sup>th</sup>** – will begin at 1pm at the home of Gord & Jo MacKay

**Zero Waste Oxford** – Jessica Stacey (Community Oxford Partnership) requested complimentary space for their Sustainability Trailer at the EHG. Discussion surrounded the fact that they need to help us prepare for our event (as the organizers) not be preaching to the crowd. No one offered to step up to handle this area, so it was suggested that Holly try and source information. We would welcome them only if they agree to help our event become a zero waste event.

**Next Combined Meeting** – April 16, 2018 7 pm at Embro Legion

**Adjournment at 11:30 pm. M/S Carried.**