

**MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting for Fiscal year 2020- 2021  
Stonegate Community Association (SCA)  
November 6, 2021**

**Present:**

Deric Chan, Eileen Griffith, Barbara Harris, Tracy Lappa-Walker, Bev Leaver, Virginia Gail Newnham, Thomas Norris, John Samborsky, Lanjun Wang.

**SCA Members:**

Ernesto Benitez, Melaine (Mimi) Chiu, Murray Craik, Deborah Creatura, Thelma D’Cunha, Erin Fordyce, Rami Garg, Judy Geary, Emily Griffith, Eric Josipovic, Alessandro Manduca-Barone, Colin Mang, Pacita Maratas-Fave, Diana Martin, Jeewa Mo, Sharon Muszynski, Louis Pike, Gwen Sallans, Frances Scovil, Kateryna Shpir, Allison Trenholm, Mary Wood.

**Staff:**

Charis Romilly Turner (Executive Director), Carol Barbosa, Julia Burden, Yulia Chayka, Shannon Cohane, Stephanie Cullen-Conroy, Sonia de Martinez, Julia Graham, Cristina Hermenegildo, Diane Hermenegildo, Ron Lally, Crystal Lawrence, Jill Macdonald, Larissa Samborsky, Rosalynn Santos, Itamar Tamari, Jyoti Verma, Michelle Benitez (Minute-taker).

**Meeting Called to Order (10:00am)**

**1. Land Acknowledgement**

Larissa Samborsky acknowledged the traditional territories where the Centre lies today, which are the Huron-Wendat, the Anishinabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River First Nations. An ancestral acknowledgement was also made recognizing ancestors of African origin and decent, and acknowledging that all individuals today are Treaty people having come here as settlers, immigrants, and newcomers.

**2. Call to Order and Welcome**

President, Mary Wood, welcomed the SCA members, guests, and Stonegate CHC staff members. Meeting is taking place virtually amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mary noted that local politicians were invited but were unable to attend today’s meeting.

Mary introduced the 2020-2021 SCA Board of Directors in attendance: Deborah Creatura, Erin Fordyce, Rami Garg, Alessandro Manduca-Barone, Colin Mang, Louis Pike, Kateryna Shpir, and Mary Wood. Anita Marziliano, Karen Trzaska, and Alicia Tyson were unable to attend and sent regrets.

Meeting was called to order.

### **Establishment of Quorum**

According to the SCA by-laws, quorum for any Annual or General Meeting is 20 members present, either in person or by proxy. There were 22 members in attendance, and therefore quorum was achieved. Mary reminded members that a simple majority of votes cast carries any motion provided, but a 2/3 majority is necessary to carry a special resolution or to amend, repeal or pass a by-law.

All Stonegate Association members and/or designated proxies are eligible to vote. Today's voting took place by members raising their hand in Zoom.

### **3. Approval of Agenda:**

Mary Wood explained that notice of this meeting and the agenda were sent to members on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, in accordance with SCA by-laws that require such notice of the meeting and agenda be sent at least 15 days prior to the meeting. No further items had been submitted to add to the agenda.

Mary made the following motion on behalf of Stonegate Community Association's Board:

**Motion that the Agenda be approved as presented.**

**Moved By Mary Wood**

**Seconded: none required – motion made on behalf of the Board**

**None opposed. No abstentions.**

**Carried.**

### **4. Approval of the Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting**

Mary made the following motion on behalf of Stonegate Community Association's Board:

**Motion that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of members held on September 26, 2020 be approved.**

**Moved By Mary Wood**

**Seconded: none required – motion made on behalf of the Board**

**None opposed. One abstention.**

**Carried.**

## **5. Report from Nominating Committee and the Election of the new Stonegate Community Association (SCA) Board Members**

Kateryna Shpir presented the report from the Stonegate Community Association Nominating Committee. She explained the process undertaken to fill the vacancies on the Board of Directors. Notices were posted on the CHC website and Facebook page, as well as on Charity Village and Indeed websites. The Nominating Committee interviewed several applicants who live in the Stonegate Community. Following those interviews, the Nominating Committee presented a slate of final nominees to the Board. The slate of final nominees was presented and approved by the Board on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

According to the By-laws, Directors are elected for two year terms and can stand for re-election for a maximum of three terms. The slate of nominees for election and re-election to the Stonegate Community Association Board of Directors were presented. A brief biography of each candidate and all the other Directors was included in the meeting package.

This year the Board has five members standing for first-time election, and four members standing for re-election for an additional term.

### **Candidates standing for election:**

**Judy Geary**

**Melaine (Mimi) Chiu**

**Emily Griffith**

**Allison Trenholm**

**Eric Josipovic**

### **The Directors standing for re-election for an additional term include:**

#### **Entering the First Year of Second Term**

**Colin Mang**

**Karen Trzaska**

#### **Entering the First Year of Third Term**

**Louis Pike**

**Kateryna Shpir**

Mary proposed a motion for acceptance.

**Motion that on behalf of the Stonegate Community Association's Nominating Committee, the slate of nominees, as presented, be accepted for membership on the Board of Directors.**

**Moved By Mary Wood**

**Seconded: none required – motion made on behalf of the Board**

**None opposed. No abstentions.**

**Carried.**

Kateryna thanked the board members that will be retiring – Mary Wood, Alicia Tyson, and Alessandro Manduca-Barone.

## **6. Report from the Treasurer**

Kateryna Shpir presented the Treasurer’s Report. SCA members received the complete financial statements as part of their package. It was noted that detailed financial statements are available by contacting the Health Centre.

The Auditor’s report and financial statements for Stonegate CHC were accepted by the Board on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

There were no questions asked by members on the 2020-2021 financial statements.

Kateryna made the following motions on behalf of Stonegate Community Association’s Board:

**Motion that the Auditors Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2021 be accepted as presented.**

**Moved By Kateryna Shpir**

**Seconded: none required – motion made on behalf of the Board**

**None opposed. One abstention.**

**Carried.**

**Motion that the firm of Hilborn LLP be appointed auditor for the 2021-2022 fiscal year for the Stonegate Community Health Centre and that the Board be authorized to approve the audit fees.**

**Moved By Kateryna Shpir**

**Seconded: none required – motion made on behalf of the Board**

**None opposed. No abstentions.**

**Carried.**

## **7. Report from the SCA President**

Mary highlighted the Board’s achievements in this past year; the full report is included in the 2020-2021 Annual Report available on Stonegate CHC’s website. Mary recognized that this past year has been a challenging one due to the pandemic; however, the Centre’s staff, volunteers and the board have shown resiliency and leadership in responding to the community’s needs. The support from donors and funders has also been key in this past year to address the many emerging needs in the community.

Mary introduced Charis Romilly Turner as the new Executive Director at Stonegate CHC. The Board underwent an extensive search that resulted in many qualified candidates, and Charis stood out as the preferred candidate. Charis has demonstrated exceptional commitment and leadership, and the Board is confident she will be able to lead the Centre forward. Mary thanked Bev Leaver who retired this year.

Bev served this community as Stonegate CHC's Executive Director for 17 years, and she had many accomplishments over the years including securing a new facility for Stonegate CHC.

Mary recognized the importance of new collaborations with community partners and grant opportunities to further expand programming and services. The Centre's Strategic Plan has been key in guiding the Centre in addressing the many new challenges in the current environment.

With Mary retiring from the Board, she introduced Deborah Creatura as the new Board President for 2021-2022 board year, and she welcomed the new board members who will be instrumental in moving the Centre forward.

## **8. Report from the Strategic Planning Committee**

Charis Romilly Turner presented the Strategic Planning Committee Report on behalf of Alicia Tyson who was unable to attend today's AGM. Charis informed that Stonegate CHC undergoes a new strategic plan every 3-5 years, and the last strategic plan was a 3-year plan (2019-2022). Due to the many changes the Centre and the community has faced with the pandemic, the Board recommended delaying the strategic planning process, by extending the planning phase for the entire 5-year period and developing a refreshed plan.

Charis presented the Refreshed Strategic Plan which includes the current strategic goals – Primary Care Access, Health & Wellbeing, Community Capacity & Engagement, and Partnerships & Collaboration. As part of the refreshed plan, these goals will meet the needs of the Centre, its staff, and the Stonegate community. It was noted that the strategic plan's deliverables are adjusted on a yearly basis to meet the strategic goals, taking into account the changing environment.

## **9. Report from the Stonegate CHC Executive Director**

Charis introduced herself as the new Executive Director of Stonegate CHC and she welcomed members and community participants to this year's AGM. Charis highlighted the Centre's resiliency in continuing to provide much needed services throughout the pandemic. Stonegate CHC has been able to quickly pivot to meet emerging needs, demonstrating leadership in supporting the community and still moving forward on strategic goals. In this past year, Stonegate CHC has been able to provide a total of 25,073 service interactions in services and programming offered.

Charis provided a report on progress to date with Stonegate CHC's strategic priorities. A total of 1,975 clients have been receiving primary health care at Stonegate CHC both in person and virtually, equating to 11,989 visits. In addition, Stonegate CHC was a key player involved in the South Etobicoke Vaccination Clinic for Covid-19 vaccines; there were 14 clinics set up and a total of 1,387 vaccines were administered.

During the pandemic, the Centre has continued to promote health and wellbeing through a range of online and outdoor programs, mental health services, and initiatives to remove barriers to vulnerable populations. Through the Stonegate CHC Covid Food Support, the Centre was able to fundraise \$151,439

which allowed for the distribution of Good Food boxes and food vouchers to low-income individuals and families. Mental health services were expanded offering virtual group counselling programs, including mindful and meditation programs, in addition to individual counselling sessions. Stonegate CHC has created strong collaborations and networks.

Recently, the Centre has joined a new network of local agencies serving Central and South Etobicoke to provide support and resources to the most vulnerable in the community during the pandemic. Through this network, workshops have been implemented for older adults to build digital fluency capacity, computers and Wi-Fi hot spots have been distributed to clients, and mutual aid networks have been established for neighbours to support neighbours.

Charis discussed other key partnerships and collaborations that will further enhance Stonegate CHC's services and programming. On November 24, 2020, Stonegate CHC along with other organizations in the West Toronto area received approval from the Ministry of Health to form the West Toronto Ontario Health Team. This is a significant move forward in serving residents of West Toronto by creating a more coordinated and integrated health care service. Stonegate CHC has also partnered with Toronto Employment and Social Services and Rexdale CHC to launch Connect4Health, a six-month pilot program aimed at improving participants' overall social determinants of health through clinical services and wellness programs.

Charis highlighted the importance of innovation and collaboration to continue to grow and expand in meeting the community's needs. She thanked all staff, board and volunteers for their dedication and commitment to the Centre, and especially in this challenging year with the pandemic. Charis gave a special thanks to the out-going Board President, Mary Wood, and past Executive Director, Bev Leaver, for their leadership and support. She indicated that Stonegate CHC is here to serve the community and welcomes everyone.

## **10. Staff Recognition**

A special recognition was made to two staff members that recently retired - Bev Leaver (past Executive Director) and Tracy Lappa-Walker (Family Physician). Staff and board members said a few words to celebrate and acknowledge these two individuals' dedication serving this community for numerous years. Both staff members delayed their retirement to continue to serve the community through the pandemic.

Bev Leaver was Stonegate CHC's Executive Director for 17 years. Colin Mang said a few words on behalf of the Board. He highlighted Bev's vision, integrity, and leadership in providing much needed services and programs in this community. Especially during this pandemic, she demonstrated leadership in bringing forth food security services and removing access barriers to vulnerable populations. It was also recognized that Bev played a key role in ensuring Stonegate CHC had a new home in the plaza's redevelopment.

Dr. Tracy Lappa-Walker was a member of the Stonegate CHC clinical team for numerous years. Dr. Itamar Tamari said a few words on behalf of the staff, recognizing Tracy's dedication, compassion, and empathy to her patients. She will be missed by the clinical team.

Both staff members were in attendance to say a few words. They were appreciative for the recognition and will continue to stay in touch and reconnect with all the staff members at Stonegate CHC.

## **11. Questions & Answers**

Mary opened up the podium for any other business or questions to be raised by members. A member inquired on when the Centre will be resuming in-person clinic visits and programming. Charis discussed the Centre's plan towards to a new normal, resuming more services and programming in a phased approach. The Centre will be providing a hybrid model offering both virtual and in-person where allowed. There are some group programs taking place outside and others, such as the Early Years programs, are taking place at local gyms to allow for more distancing. In-person clinical appointments are available but will be dependent on the reason of the visit. The hours of operation have also been expanded and resumption of more services and programs at the Centre is expected, in accordance with public health measures.

No further items were discussed.

## **12. Closing and Adjournment**

Mary made the following motion on behalf of Stonegate Community Association's Board:

**11:07 am – Motion that the 2021 Annual General Meeting be adjourned.**

**Moved By Mary Wood**

**Seconded: none required – motion made on behalf of the Board**

**None opposed. No abstentions.**

**Carried.**

Submitted by Michelle Benitez

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**Michelle Benitez**

**Minute Taker**

**Stonegate Community Health Centre**

**November 6, 2021**