

December 3, 2020
Virtual meeting – Via Zoom

1. Call to Order

Diana Chan, Chair of the Board of the Whistler Chamber of Commerce, calls meeting to order 11:01.

Land acknowledge of the unceded, traditional and shared territories of the Squamish Nation and the Lilwat Nation.

2. Ascertainment of Quorum

Quorum confirmed of more than 20 Members present.

3. Adoption of the Rules of Order

4. Approval of the Agenda

5. Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting

With the virtual format, these three agenda items were presented together to allow for efficiency of voting.

The agenda, rules of order and minutes of the last AGM were provided to the members as part of the of the formal notice of meeting, issued on November 25, 2020, in accordance with our bylaws. The notice of the meeting was given with the required 30 days.

The Chair accepted the resolutions as moved by Nick Papoutsis and seconded by Sarah Strother.

That the rules of order for the Annual General Meeting be approved as presented.

That the agenda for the Annual General Meeting scheduled December 3, 2020 be approved as presented.

That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting for the Whistler Chamber of Commerce held December 10, 2019 be approved as presented.

Motions carried.

6. Report of the Board

It was a year of two halves. The first half of the year was focused on providing training and engagement events, as well as advocating for fair taxes, access to labour and a resort wide employee proposition – including childcare, affordable living, and transportation. F2020 was the highest membership in 10 years.

As the pandemic took hold: Whistler Blackcomb closed its operations, and guests and staff vacated the resort on mass, the Chamber responded quickly. This included inviting the Resort partners to come together to support the entire community with weekly calls to respond to the changes in health orders and the economic impact of the pandemic.

Like all our members, the Chamber had to make hard decisions about resourcing as events were cancelled and the RMOW suspended payments under the Chamber's Fee for Service contract. The Chamber's fiscal response ensured that the team stayed focused on members and listening to how the Chamber could support the business community. This was most notable using the Chamber network in BC and across Canada to influence government programs and the financial support available to business. With members input the Chamber was able to make the voice of Whistler heard provincially and federally.

The Chamber team continues to advocate, provide training and benefits that will help businesses, and will engage with the Resort Partners.

7. Financial Report and Financial Statements

The Chamber continues to remain in a solid financial position, primarily due to the support of the government of Canada through the wage subsidy program. This program offset the loss of payment under our fee for service contract as well as the cancelled events in the spring and summer. Your membership provided the assurance for the board to retain the core team of the Chamber to continue to advocate and provide services for the Whistler business community.

F2020 was budgeted to be a deficit year to invest in key programs and initiatives needed by Whistler businesses. The year ended very differently due to a quick response to the economic suppression. Capital projects were deferred, operating costs were tightly controlled including reducing the size of the team, and resources were redirected. The Chamber's financial position at year end exceeded budget and forecasted expectations.

The F2020 income will be reinvesting to ensure affordable access to the many benefits of the chamber including below market pricing for the customer service training as well as ongoing investment in local, provincial and federal advocacy.

The board approved financial statements are available on the Chamber's website for member's review.

There were no questions from the membership regarding the year end statements.

8. Appointment of Accountant

As required by our bylaws and recommended by the Finance Committee of the board, the Chair accepted the resolutions as moved by Sarah McCullough and seconded by Wendy Hargreaves, to appoint BDO Canada LLP as accountants for the F2020/21

Motion carried.

9. Election of Directors

In accordance with our By-laws, the Nomination committee was struck in August 2020, more than 30 days before the AGM and members were notified of the call for Nominations as of Oct 16 through emails, websites, media release and numerous social media posts.

As at the close of Nominations on November 4, a total of four complete nominations were received.

With four director nominations for four open positions, an equal number of nominations for the director positions, there was no need for an election and the candidates have been acclaimed.

New Directors:

- Meredith Bodell – Nita Lake Lodge
- Priyanka Lewis – Brickworks/Noodles on Main St./Three Below
- Sarah Strother (incumbent) – Whistler Publishing
- Christopher Vick – Hilton Hotel

The Chair acknowledged the commitment and service of our outgoing directors, all of whom provided significant support to the board and CEO throughout their terms.

- Bruce McMillan – Whistler Sports Legacies
- Nick Papoutsis – BlueShore Financial
- Claire Ruddy - AWARE

Other board members continuing to serve include Blake Allen, Diana Chan, James Kirkwood, Sarah McCullough, Heather Odendaal and Matt Woods.

10. Other Business

Amendments of the bylaws

As per the notice of the meeting, the board of directors is recommending several changes to the bylaws, most of which are administrative in nature and ensure operational efficiency and compliance with the Boards of Trade Act. The changes also include two substantive changes, one of which provides a new limited authority to the board and the other allows for the appointment of a director to accommodate the pending requirement and expectations of the Resort Municipality of Whistler.

The Chair accepted the special resolution moved by Sarah Strother and seconded by James Kirkwood that the bylaws of the Chamber be altered by deleting the existing bylaws in their entirety to be replaced with the By-laws as attached to the Notice of this meeting.

Motion carried.

CEO Report

Looking forward to 2021 – strong membership, strong financials pacing ahead of budget
Making business better for members through the Power of the Network and Power of YOUR
voice

Moving Whistler Forward – Priority areas of focus for our local advocacy work

Thank you to our Members, Partners, our Board, and the Whistler Chamber team

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11 :30am