

2021 Whistler Chamber AGM

December 1, 2021

Virtual meeting – Via Zoom

1. Call to Order

Diana Chan, Chair of the Board, calls meeting of the 2022 Annual General Meeting to order 10:03.

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting was broadcast from the unceded, traditional and shared territories of the Squamish Nation and the Lil'wat Nation and recognized the cultures and stewardship of both nations that all members are encouraged to seek to understand and learn from.

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 2021 AGM was announced on November 22, 2021. The financial statements, rules of order and minutes of the 2020 AGM were provided to the members in advance of the 2021 AGM.

The Chair accepted the resolutions as moved by Wendy Hargreaves and seconded by Blake Allen:

- That the rules of order for the Annual General Meeting be approved as presented.
- That the agenda for the Annual General Meeting held December 1, 2021, be approved as presented, and
- That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting for the Whistler Chamber of Commerce held December 3, 2020, be approved as presented.

Motions carried.

6. Report of the Board

This year your board met for six regularly scheduled meetings and added two additional meetings to review key matters. These meetings do not include the active committee meetings and discussions that directors participated in through the year.

The Chair acknowledged the significant work undertaken by the Advocacy Committee to keep up with the ongoing pace of new health orders and government programs. The committee, chaired by Sarah Strother and included a number of volunteer members at large, assisted with key advocacy positions on labour, such as fair and appropriate immigration policy and extension of critical federal

government programs to support business recovery into 2022 and to inform the provincial government on the burden on Whistler business to enforce Covid related health orders and extending provincial support programs to all businesses in Whistler during the spring 2021 lockdown.

With consideration of the changes in our environment: political, economic, and social as well as the new pace of operational innovation brought on through the pandemic, the board undertook a full review the Chamber's strategic plan. The board engaged with the organizations across our community including the Hotel Association of Whistler, the Resort Municipality of Whistler and Whistler Community Services. One key area of our strategic plan highlighted was the commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Reconciliation through a newly formed committee.

The Chair recognized and voiced appreciation for the workers that showed up every day and faced the full brunt of the pandemic –enforcing health orders and complying with ever changing operational protocols all whilst providing critical customer service to meet the increasing expectations of visitors and keeping our mountain town open.

7. Financial Report and Financial Statements

The Chair of the Finance Committee, Blake Allen, provided a report of the Chamber's financial results and year end statements.

The Chamber continues to remain in a strong financial position, growing the fund balance through the pandemic. A strong fund balance better prepares the Chamber to re-invest in the needs of the Whistler business community.

The financial position is mostly attributed to the government of Canada and the support the Chamber received through the wage and rent subsidy programs. These programs offset the loss of revenue from adjusting the delivery of major events and delays in fee for service-related investment activities. Membership remains a strong indicator of the Chambers financial health.

The board had approved a deficit budget given the significant uncertainty for the continuation of government subsidy programs. Further uncertainty surrounding the pandemic resulted in the deferral of Capital projects and other major investment initiatives. The Chambers operations adapted to the changing demands of our members, and this included taking a cautious approach to large initiative planning. Expenses were scrutinized and reduced where possible. The investment in rebuilding the team to better serve the membership caused expenses to rise resulting in an operational loss. However, due to continued support from Government programs, the financial position at year end exceeded our expectations.

With a strong fund position and continued uncertainty, the board has approved a deficit budget for the year ahead to reinvest this year's net income to ensure affordable and seamless access to the many benefits of the Chamber including the newly released customer service training provided under the revamped Whistler Experience and Spirit pass programs. The investment plan is focused on recovery with an emphasis toward fostering a sustainable and diverse business environment to prepare for any challenges that lie ahead. As always, a strong Chamber allows individual members voices to be heard and to collectively create the changes needed for the business community.

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, It was moved by Sarah Strother and seconded by Meredith Bodell, to approve BDO Canada LLP as the accountant for the fiscal 2022 year and authorize the board to set the remuneration.

Motion carried.

9. Election of Directors

The Chair of the Nomination and Elections Committee, Wendy Hargreaves, provide the report of the committee and the result of the nominations and election process.

In accordance with the By-laws, the Nomination and Elections committee was struck in September 2021, more than 30 days before the AGM and members were notified of the call for Nominations as of October 8, 2021 through emails, websites, media release and numerous social media posts.

As at the close of Nominations on November 3, 2021, a total of five complete nominations were received.

With five director nominations for five 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:

- Blake Allen (incumbent), Vertical Venture Consulting
- Graeme Benn, Delta Whistler Village Suites by Marriot
- Lori Pyne, Whistler Community Services
- Moody Dan, Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre
- Shane Holland, Whistler Hardware

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

- Matt Woods, Coast Mountain Excavations
- Priyanka Lewis, Brickworks and the Noodle Bar
- Heather Odendaal, BlueBird Strategies
- Sarah McCullough, Whistler Blackcomb

Other board members continuing to serve include Meredith Bodell, Diana Chan, James Kirkwood, Sarah Strother, and Wendy Hargreaves.

10. Other Business

The Chair provided an update with regards to the status of the amend bylaws, which were approved at the 2020 AGM, including a provision to allow for the appointment of a member to the board if required for contractual reasons.

The member approved bylaws were submitted to Corporations Canada for registration. Due to an extensive review by Corporations Canada, the bylaws were found to be delinquent. This is the result of a new review process for organizations such the Whistler Chamber that are registered under Part 2 of the Boards of Trade Act and therefore, subject to a higher level of scrutiny and compliance compared with other Chambers and societies formed under the BC Societies Act. The board will undertake a substantial rewrite of our bylaws which will be presented to the membership for its consideration and approval.

11. CEO Report

The CEO reviewed the key objectives of the new Strategic Plan including the focus on a community wide Labour Plan, a review and enhancement of the benefits and programs offered to members under the Chamber's value proposition, increasing the Chamber's efforts on advocacy and reconnecting the community through events and programs.

The Chair thanked the CEO for the report and efforts over the last year to support the members and the broader business community.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32am