

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

# 66<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

# of the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton

# MINUTES

# Monday, June 22, 2020 11:38 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. VIRTUAL MEETING due to COVID-19 Pandemic

Attendees:	Larry Dilanni (Chair) Anna Maria Brownlow Melissa Button Rosaline Dean	Konstantine Ketsetzis David Hennick Laurence Kavanagh Antonietta (Toni) Kovach	Deborah Lancaster Pascale Salloum Ian Preyra John Spatazzo Father David Wilhelm
Recorder:	Filomena D'Amico, Staff		
Regrets:	Jacqueline (Jackie) Bajus	Simone Bilato	
Staff:	Rocco Gizzarelli MSW, RSW, Executive Director		

# Item Description

1.0	WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER Board Chair, Larry Dilanni, called the 66 <sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton to order at 11:38 a.m.	
	The Chair read the land acknowledgment recognizing the traditional territory of the Indigenous people(s) of Hamilton.	
2.0	<b>OPENING PRAYER</b> Father David Wilhelm read a prayer to open the meeting.	
3.0	<b>PROOF OF NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING</b> The Board Chair confirmed that the Notice calling the meeting was sent to all members and others to whom Notice is required, in accordance with the by-laws.	

# Item Description

## 4.0 **REPORT ON ATTENDANCE**

The Board Chair confirmed that there are 13 Members in attendance and that there was quorum present.

## 5.0 MEETING REGULARLY CONSTITUTED

The Board Chair stated that Notice of this meeting having been duly given to all Directors in accordance with the by-laws of the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton and a quorum of the members being present the meeting was therefore duly constituted for the transaction of business.

## 6.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A copy of the Agenda was included with the Notice of Meeting and was in the package distributed at this meeting.

### lt was

**RESOLVED** that the Agenda for the June 22, 2020 Annual Meeting of Members be approved.

MOVED: Melissa Button SECONDED: Rosaline Dean CARRIED.

## 7.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 65th Annual General Meeting

lt was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the June 24, 2019 Annual Meeting of Members be approved.

MOVED: Laurence Kavanagh SECONDED: David Hennick CARRIED.

## 8.0 CONFIRMATION OF PRIOR ACTS

### lt was

**RESOLVED** that all acts, contracts, resolutions, Bylaws, proceedings, appointments, elections and payments enacted, taken, passed, made and done by the Directors and Officers of the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton since June 1, 2019, to the date hereof as the same are referred to in the minute books of the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton or in its financial statements or are otherwise within the knowledge of the Members of the Catholic

Annual General Meeting of Members Minutes June 22, 2020

## Item Description

Children's Aid Society of Hamilton, be and the same are hereby approved, ratified, sanctioned and confirmed.

MOVED: Rosaline Dean SECONDED: Konstantine Ketsetzis CARRIED.

#### 9.0 REMARKS FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Larry Dilanni spoke about the numerous accomplishments during the past year in moving the agency's mission forward while keeping the children, youth and families it served as the focus of the decisions and providing them with high quality, holistic, and strength-based services.

The work of a children's aid society is difficult under any circumstances. This past year has been no different from the many changes and challenges faced by the sector and on the agency; however, the COVID-19 pandemic brought new and different challenges.

Mr. Dilanni, noted that the Board continues to support the agency in addressing the long-standing issues of over-representation of black and indigenous youth, reconciliation with indigenous communities as well as becoming an inclusive agency recognizing the needs of our LGBTQ2S+ community.

In conclusion, Mr. Dilanni recognized Board members, staff, foster/kin caregivers, volunteers and senior staff of the organization for the professional and collaborative approach in serving the needs of the children, youth and families.

### **10.0 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Executive Director reported that the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton continues to be inspired by its vision statement – *Safe and Thriving Children and Youth. Empowered Families. Stronger Communities.* 

There are always challenges faced by the child welfare sector, and this year was no different with the beginnings of the COVID-19 pandemic. The agency went into immediate action by initiating an Essential Services Committee, working together with the government, OACAS, and community partners to ensure that the children, youth, families, and staff were safe while providing services.

The Executive Director highlighted some the agency's key accomplishments during the past year:

## Item Description

- Successfully integrating and reinforcing our Faith-based organizational culture and Faith-based practices while enriching Faith-informed equity initiatives and community outreach with our faith partners in the Hamilton community.
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion continued to be integrated into the agency's service delivery model. It continued work with the community partners to transform the system to better serve and respond to the cultural needs of African Canadian and Indigenous people.
- Family-based care and permanency continued to be an essential component of the services delivered. Admission prevention strategies played an integral role in maintaining children in their own families or with their kin.
- Building French Language Services by participating in a new provincial designation pilot as well as acting as the lead agency supported by Hamilton CAS and Niagara FACS in the implementation of a French Language Team.
- The agency's continued with its commitment to accountability and transparency through its Balanced Score Card and improvement plans.
- The successful implementation of the new privacy legislation effective January 1, 2020, with the proclamation of Part X of the Child, Youth and Family Services Act placing Ontario Children's Aid Societies under the oversight of the Ontario Information and Privacy Commissioner that further ensures the commitment to the protection of personal privacy and accountability to the community it serves.
- Maintaining fiscal responsibility by achieving a balanced budget by finding new and innovative ways to provide quality service.

The Executive Director also recognized and thanked the generous donors, all staff, foster/kin and adoptive families, and volunteers. He acknowledged the strong and committed Board of Directors; His Excellency Bishop Crosby for his guidance and enduring support, the support of the Ministry especially Michael Nowlan and Elaine Pilgrim, Program Supervisors, Senior Leadership Team, Filomena D'Amico, Executive Assistant, and the community partners.

## **11.0 REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

11.1 Treasurer, Dr. Ian Preyra, advised that a copy of the Audited Financial Statements, together with the Auditor's Report for the year ended March 31, 2020 were received by the members. The agency's Audit and Finance Committee met with the team from HGK Partners to review the financial statements and audit findings report in detail on May 21, 2020. The audited financial statements were approved at the Board Meeting on May 25, 2020.

## Item Description

#### It was

**Resolved** that the Financial Statements of the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton for the year ended March 31, 2020, and the Auditor's Report thereon be received and approved by the Members.

MOVED: Dr. Ian Preyra SECONDED: John Spatazzo CARRIED.

### **12.0** APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

#### It was

**RESOLVED** that the contract with the auditing firm of HGK Partners LLP be appointed for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

MOVED: Dr. Ian Preyra SECONDED: Anna Maria Brownlow CARRIED.

### 13.0 REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

David Hennick, Governance Committee Chair, confirmed the By-Laws were reviewed during the 2019-2020 term to ensure it remained current with legislative requirements. The Governance Chair recommended that no changes were required to the By-laws at this time.

### 14.0 RECEIPT OF SLATE OF NOMINEES

- 14.1 Debra Lancaster presented the slate of nominees to the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton Board of Directors for 2020-2021 on behalf of the Nominations Committee:
  - Claudette Mikelsons as Board Director (Francophone representative)
  - Samidha Singhal as Board Director
  - Arthur Smith as Board Director
  - Gary Warner as Board Director

#### lt was

**RESOLVED** that the Slate of nominees for election be received and accepted, and be elected to the Board of Directors of the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton for the three-year term from July 2020 to June 2023.

**MOVED:** Deborah Lancaster

Annual General Meeting of Members Minutes June 22, 2020

## Item Description

SECONDED: Toni Kovach CARRIED.

## 14.2 <u>Election of Directors</u> Deborah Lancaster presented the following motion:

lt was

**RESOLVED** that the persons whose names appeared on the slate hereby elected as Directors of the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton for the July 2020-June 2021 term.

Mr. David Hennick	Incoming Board Chair	
Ms. Antonietta (Toni) Kovach	Incoming 1st Vice Chair	
Mr. Konstantine Ketsetzis	Incoming 2nd Vice Chair	
Ms. Deborah Lancaster	Incoming Secretary	
Father David Wilhelm	Incoming Treasurer	
Ms. Jackie Bajus	Director	
Ms. Melissa Button	Director	
Ms. Rosaline Dean	Director	
Mrs. Claudette Mikelsons	Director	

Dr. lan PreyraDirectorMs. Samidha SinghalDirectorMr. Arthur SmithDirectorMr. John SpatazzoDirectorDr. Gary WarnerDirector

MOVED: Deborah Lancaster SECONDED: Laurence Kavanagh CARRIED.

## 15.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OUTGOING CCAS BOARD MEMBERS –

The Board Chair publicly thanked his fellow Board members for their outstanding service to the Board of Directors over this past term. Outgoing Board Directors Simone Bilato, Pascale Salloum, Laurence Kavanagh, and Anna Maria Brownlow were acknowledged for their commitment and contributions to the CCASH Board.

The Executive Director thanked Larry Dilanni for his past ten years of service, and for being such a strong supporter of CCASH; adding it was an honor to work with him.

Annual General Meeting of Members Minutes June 22, 2020

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16.0	NEW BUSINESS There being no further business, the Board Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.	
17.0	ADJOURNMENT OF AGM BUSINESS MEETING	
	It was	

**RESOLVED** that the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton's Annual General Meeting of Members be adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

**MOVED:** Anna Maria Brownlow SECONDED: Father David Wilhelm CARRIED

**APPROVED:** audlennik Board Chair

J. D'Amico Secretary