

Geocaching Edmonton & Area Association
Annual General Meeting Minutes 2019

Tuesday April 23, 2019,
630pm-8pm

Garrison Memorial Golf & Curling Club
298 Falaise Avenue, Lancaster Park, AB T0A 2H0

1. Call to order at 6:32 pm
2. Establish Quorum
 - a. Attendance; Quorum is met.
Craig Arnold (craidarnold),
Lori Blyth (protonspiner),
Ken Chamberlain (k'n'i),
Bryan Chartrand (Meanie09),
Dustin Creviston (Kiwibirdman),
Heather (Eyestonesaga)
Harry Henshaw (h**2),
John(jock) Howard (jOckser),
Tamara Krebs (TamarackGurl),
Muryl Marler (hip2hip),
Tim Neufeld (willowzilla),
Mark Perry (MKPerry),
Marion Rex (GeoGuider),
Chris Sandstra (Boombear),
Eric Schulz (SigShark & Janski),
Tyson Schymizek (fuzeebear),
Terry Wilcox (twilc33),
Bill Wilson (ScouterBill174)
 - b. Regrets; (by email) none
 - c. Absent; (no show) all those members not listed above.
3. President's address and introductions of Board of Directors. President Eric Schulz spoke to all those present.
4. Approval of Agenda; Motion made by Mark Perry, second by Jock Howard, with correction of year, should be 2019. All in favour, motion carried.
5. Adoption of minutes from AGM held April 23, 2018. Motion to approve the minutes from last year, made by Tim Neufeld, seconded by Tyson Schymizek, all in favour, two abstained, one against, motion carried.
6. Reports
 - a. Annual Financial report for 2018 (Heather) was shared with all present.
 - b. Auditor's Report (Heather) Audited to be without error.
 - c. 2019 Budget. Motion to approve the 2019 budget as circulated, Chris Sandstra, seconded by Mark Perry, all in favour, motion carried.
 - d. 2020 Budget (Heather) Motion to approve the 2020 budget as circulated, Muryl Marler, seconded by protonspinner, all infavour, motion carried.
 - e. 2020 Membership fees (Eric) Motion to keep the 2020 membership fee at \$10/year, made by Tyson Schymizek, seconded by Tim Neufeld, all in favour, motion carried.
7. Committee Annual Reports
 - a. CARW2019 (Dustin) CARW2019 went ahead despite it being the coldest February in Alberta in 40 years with extreme cold warnings in place in Edmonton for 14 of 28 days the month! Nonetheless us resilient cachers went outside, due to being stir crazy, insane, or perhaps both! CARW2019 saw the format changed from a weekend event to

an event spanning nine days. There were 119 caches hidden, with 18 events associated with CARW2019 in name, making for a total of 137 potential smileys. Unofficially there was a 16-day event streak up for grabs. The hiding rules were relaxed this year which I believe was met with overall approval and ranged from park and grabs in Sherwood Park to deep woods hikes in Ministik. We had an awesome new piece of GeoArt added to the Edmonton, a lovely string of caches which made us really have to pry in the memories of our childhoods, and some very well-built caches, some of which really strained our trivia abilities! The kick-off event saw a reversion to the 2016 CARW style taking place at Dairy Queen Sherwood Park, requiring no hall rental fee from the association. The Chili Cook Off was also dropped. The event had approximately 55 people filter in over the two hours. The wrap up event took place at Uncle Glenn's Eatery & Sports Pub in the West End at the suggestion of Cynthia Plazier (Iamgrateful). Uncle Glenn's opened three hours early for our group and I believe the proprietor was satisfied with attendance and business brought in. Apart from a tip for the society, this also did not cost a hall rental fee. Our group was welcomed back and would recommend the wrap up event take place at this location again. The event saw around 45 attendees with an award show presentation style to allow for efficient presentation of the awards. A CARW2019 feedback survey was sent out April 2, and as of April 12 had 31 responses. Overall the week-long CARW was well-received with some minor tweaks suggested for out-of-towners, slightly more pleasant weather, and the thrill of a 36-hour event. The longer duration allowed for more finds, more time to seek out renowned CARW hides from that year, more informed voting due to a wider diversity of finds, and more time to tabulate voting results.

CARW2019 Survey results

38 total responses 68% (26) are GEAA members

94% (34) rules are just right

Date of CARW

45% (17) just right

32% (12) too early

21% (8) conflicting plans

66% (25) said radius was just right

37% (14) had no option where the circle should move

78% (28) liked the week-long CARW experiment

47% (18) liked the kickoff venue, 45% (17) did not attend

58% (22) liked the wrapup venue, 40% (15) did not attend

87% (32) think having food to buy at wrapup is important

Even 1/3 split between too many, too few, and just enough satellite events

93% (26) did not think the wrapup was too long

74% (23) thought there were just enough prize categories

Unanimous approval of online voting

Suggestions for new categories

Best cache page (1 response)

Best written log(s) (1 response)

First to find all geocaches (1 response)

Best series (3 responses)

Cache with the greatest % of favourites given (1 response)

Most helpful cacher! (1 response)

Categories to remove

Most FTFs (10 responses)

Most caches found (9 responses)

Pulled from ditch (7 responses)

Leave as is (9 responses)

Overarching comments

A bit too cold, move it back a couple weeks

Move the circle out of Edmonton to make more space for hides

Week long event was well received and allowed for more finds and informed voting but tweak to bring back rush of weekend event and accommodate out of town would be appreciated

Motion of thanks made by Marion Rex, seconded by Jock Howard, all in favour, motion carried.

b. Webmaster report (Terry), attached.

c. Committee for Bylaws, Policies & Procedures (Jock). Nothing to report at this time.

8. Executive Director's Reports

a. Membership (Tamara), we have 39 members, last year we had 73 (three of these were youth). There were multiple membership drives held October 1 2018 to January 31, 2019, hosted by myself. Membership forms were given to GeoGuider and Jockser for distribution to potential members at the events that they host. Membership drives were only hosted by myself, not because I have to host them, but because I was the only one to step up and have membership drives. There has been some misconception over the term founding member. Some people have thought that being a founding member equated to a lifelong membership, this is not the case. Founding memberships expired on December 31, 2018. A suggestion from the floor was to make a membership committee, separate from secretary. The committee idea is great, but no volunteers came forward. An email to members will be sent out.

9. Review Special Resolutions

a. Amend Bylaws (Jock)

Bylaw ORIGINAL TEXT:

8.15 Secretary

8.15.1 The duties of the Secretary shall be:

f. None

Bylaw PROPOSED TEXT:

8.15.1 F All original documents & forms that are property of GEAA, will be held in safe keeping by the Secretary. Changes to the original forms & documents will be conducted by the secretary only. Back up copies of originals will be kept in a location as agreed upon by the secretary and president.

RATIONALE:

Currently original documents (bylaws, Policies and Procedures documents) are not being held by the secretary or board of directors. Obtaining the originals is sometimes difficult. This change is logical and having all the intellectual property of GEAA in one place just makes sense. Currently original documents (bylaws, Policies and Procedures documents) are not updated by the secretary or board of directors. The secretary has access to the minutes where changes made are recorded, following through to make sure the changes happen would be easier if the originals were held by the secretary

Motion to accept the proposed changes as listed above, made by Tamara Krebs, seconded by Harry Henshaw, all in favour, one abstention, motion carried

b. Amend Policies & Procedures (Jock)

POLICY ORIGINAL TEXT:

Policy 2.3.6 Amendments must be submitted to the Secretary, with enough advance warning that it can be emailed to the general membership two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.

POLICY PROPOSED TEXT:

Policy 2.3.6 Amendments must be submitted to the Secretary, with fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting that it can be emailed to the general membership seven days prior to the Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting.

RATIONALLE:

Two weeks notice is not enough time to get members to send in their input, before having to turn around then send the compiled revisions to the members. Seven days would be better. Also provides a nice reminder to members about the upcoming meeting, prevents the email with the changes from getting buried in individual's email inboxes.

Motion made by Tamara Krebs to accept the proposed changes as listed above, seconded by Mark Perry, all in favour, motion carried

POLICY ORIGINAL TEXT:

None

POLICY PROPOSED TEXT:

Members of the board of directors will be members of GEAA, and in good standing with GEAA, before nomination into their position. If voted into a position, shall remain members with GEAA for the duration of their term. If a member of the board of directors does not renew their membership during the renewal timeframe (October 1 to December 31), or during the grace period (January 1 to 31), then the member of the board of directors will forfeit their position on the board. Recruitment will begin for that vacant position as soon as possible.

RATIONALE:

Although this is implied that board of directors will also be members of GEAA, it is not written anywhere. 2019 saw one member of the board of director fail to respond to messages and fail to renew their membership.

Motion made by Tamara Krebs to accept the proposed changes as listed above, seconded by Tyson Schymizek, all in favour, motion carried

POLICY ORIGINAL TEXT:

None

POLICY PROPOSED TEXT:

8.0 CARW

8.1 Two Tone Coins

The two tone coins will be awarded for the following reasons:

- Trophy Winner Best Overall (cup)
- Trophy Winner Best Use of Theme (smiley)
- Trophy Winner Best Park and Grab (hubcap)
- Honourable mention as decided by the board of directors
- ~~· CARW organizer(s)/host(s) of wrap up as decided by the board of directors~~

A maximum of seven coins will be distributed each year. Each person will earn one coin per design per lifetime. All efforts will be made to award the coins at the CARW wrap up. Coin distribution will be retroactive to CARW2018. A list of previous coin winners will be kept with the two tone coins.

RATIONALE:

Although similar & far less wording is documented in the Board of Directors minutes, there is not an easily accessible location for the members to access this information. In the interest of transparency, this is a logical place to put it.

The first four bullets have already been decided by the board. Motion made by Tamara Krebs to accept as presented above, seconded by Tim Neufeld, Motion to amend the proposed motion by removing the last bullet (CARW organizer(s)/host(s) of wrap up as decided by the board of directors) made by Tim Neufeld seconded by Marion Rex, all in favour, amendment carried. Vote on amended motion, all in favour, Motion carried. Suggestion from the floor, in future make an extra special CARW organizer/host super special coin.

POLICY ORIGINAL TEXT:

None

POLICY PROPOSED TEXT:

9.0 Special Committees

9.1 Committees shall be appointed by the president to carry out specific duties and shall exist for the time that they are required. The President shall be ex-officio a member of all committees. Committees are asked to send reports to the secretary & president before each board of directors meeting and the Annual General Meeting. Committee chairpersons may attend the board of directors meetings at the invitation of the president, may speak on matters in their area of responsibility but shall not vote on any motions decided at that meeting.

RATIONALE:

Nothing is in our bylaws or policies to explain committees. In the interest of transparency, this is a logical place to put it.

Motion to accept the proposed changes as listed above, made by Tamara Krebs, seconded by Marion Rex, all in favour, motion carried.

10. Election of Office

- a. President, 2 year term. Current nominations Eric Schulz. Call for nominations from the floor, no further nominations. Eric Schulz is Acclaimed.
- b. Treasurer, 2 year term. Nominations for Mark Perry. Call for nominations from the floor, no further nominations. Mark Perry is Acclaimed.
 - i. Signing authorities on the bank account will be; Eric Schulz president, Dustin Creviston Vice President, Mark Perry Treasurer, and Tamara Krebs Secretary.
- c. Director at Large (3), 1 year term, everyone gets 3 votes. Nominated Tyson Schymizek, Tim Neufeld, & Jock Howard. Call for nominations from the floor, no further nominations. Tyson Schymizek, Tim Neufeld, & Jock Howard are Acclaimed

11. Old Business

- a. GEAA Geocache at EIA (Dustin) Dustin- nothing to report, no progress has been made since this project began a year ago. Tamara had made a FB post on the page "You might be a geocacher if..." here's a summary of the responses received in the first 48 hours.
 GCHQ guidelines state no caches in airports,
 GCHQ guidelines state that geocachers can not interact with staff at the establishment (asking for the geocache at the lost and found desk).
 Airport security does not like unattended containers/items in the airport, they think it's a bomb.
 Airport security does not like locked boxes in the airport, they think it's a bomb.
 A possible geocache option would be to glue a piece of paper into the yellow pages of the phone book at the airport payphone. Hint "you need a plumber". The cache can't hold anything, but is still a find, as either a puzzle or multi cache to locate the correct payphone. This one suggestion would make security happy.
 Comments from the floor included that TB's that are dropped off in or near airports tend to get stolen, never to be seen again. A TB hotel in or near the airport is not a good idea.
 Dustin will contact the reviewers Cache Effect and Cache Chameleon, to get their blessing on a possible future airport geocache. If the reviewers don't give their blessing, then there is no point in approaching Edmonton International Airport.
- b. GEAA Legacy Caches (Eric) The legacy caches are a fundraiser for GEAA, where the purchaser decides what size (bison tube or ammo can), what title, what will go on the cache page, and what quadrant of the city it will be in. It would be a great for a spouse or friend to purchase a legacy cache for someone's birthday, milestone, wedding anniversary, etc. We need a committee of volunteers to get this going. The Legacy cache idea came from AGM 2018. Call for volunteers from the floor, no one stepped forward. An email request for volunteers will be sent out.
- c. Fundraising AGLC (Tyson) We looked at getting fundraising approval from AGLC, for a 50/50, etc. AGLC categorizes GEAA as a hobby and not a sport. We can do silent auctions and selling merchandise. We can not do anything that has an element of risk, such as raffles, 50/50, etc. We would have to do fancy paperwork with AGLC to appeal their decision, to prove that geocaching is indeed a sport, the board of directors have decided not to pursue this avenue, at this time.
- d. Founding Member Swag (Tamara) We need a committee of people to take this short-term project on. We have a budget for this from 2017-18 fiscal year. Muryl Marler will talk to his merchandise source, and report back. Call for volunteers from the floor, no one stepped forward. An email request for volunteers will be sent out.

12. New Business

- a. Shell Scotford Grant Application (Eric) Be aware of grant availability, bring it up to the board, and let us look into it to see if it's an option for funding. Some grants are very specific with how the money must be spent. Eric would like to know if there's any other

grants that GEAA members might know about. Particularly if funds could be spent on hosting Geo 101 events, CARW, or building GEAA's presence in the local geocaching community.

- b. Motion of thanks made by Marion Rex, seconded by Muryl Marler, all in favour, motion carried.

13. Adjourned at 7:50 pm