

**Special Olympics Ontario – Aurora
Annual Members Meeting
Minutes
Thursday, September 28th, 2017
Magna Room, Aurora Public Library**



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Present: Executive Committee members; Theresa Buck, Cheryl Duckworth, Stefanie Lee, Donna Schweitzer

Absent with regrets: Heather Brookes, Kevin Desforges, Janet Mitchell, Craig Sweeting

In Attendance: Total of 41 in attendance (including members of the Community Council Executive and Council Positions)

1. **Welcome:** Stefanie Lee, secretary, welcomed all and advised she was stepping in for Janet Mitchell, Community Coordinator, who was unable to attend due to the recent passing of her father. Stefanie introduced the members of the executive present and advised that the business portion of the meeting would be as brief as possible, to be followed by guest speakers and presentation of awards. As well, Stefanie thanked all of the sponsors and supporters of Special Olympics Aurora and expressed gratitude for their support thus allowing us to continue to offer quality programs to our community.
2. **Call to Order:** The 2017 Special Olympics Ontario – Aurora AMM was called to order by Stefanie Lee at 7:20 pm
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Approved by Donna Schweitzer and seconded by Cheryl Duckworth.
4. **Minutes of 2016 Meeting:** Approved by Cheryl Duckworth and seconded by Lloyd Brown.
5. **Business arising out of the 2016 Minutes:** to date, no request for funding of representation of Special Ducks logo on glass doors at SARC has been received. Nancy Black advised request would not be coming.

6. Reports: Reports, summarizing the activities of the 2016-2017 season, were available on the website for review. Highlights of the year were mentioned:

- this is our tenth year of operation and we will be looking back, reflecting on our successes and celebrating.
- soccer, our newest sport was launched summer of 2017 and received fabulous feedback. Thank you to Head Coach, Steve Hughes, and his team of coaches and manager.
- there will be no Artisan Craft Sale this fall. It has run its course and greater emphasis will be on the Polar Plunge next winter.
- Sports Technical Coordinator position is being eliminated and its duties will be assumed by the various sports club volunteers. Thank you to volunteer, Lloyd Brown, who has been in this role for several years.
- Fundraising manager position is eliminated and replaced by Activities Coordinator. This is more of a communications role for external driven fundraisers and we will be looking to fill this position.
- Volunteer Coordinator position is vacant, as Julie Powell stepped aside this summer due to work and family obligations. We would like to see this role filled as soon as possible.
- Vice Community Coordinator position is also vacant. We are looking to succession planning and to offload some of the Community Coordinator duties making this position less onerous.
- Swim Team Manager is also vacant and needing filling.

Moving forward, we will be celebrating our Tenth Year. A great Provincial Experience and a successful 50 for 150 Lake Ontario relay crossing kicked off this year. Special Olympics Aurora will be focusing on Community Outreach/Public Awareness programs and continuing to partner with the Town of Aurora on non-sport specific programs such as Fundamentals. Succession Planning will also be key, when programs are launched it is desired they are here for the long term.

No questions asked on reports.

7. Budget: Special Olympics Aurora remains in a very good position heading into the next fiscal year. Notes from Treasurer Craig Sweeting, unable to be present, were as follows:

- included in our revenue stream were larger donations received from the United Way, Knights of Columbus and the Aurora Men's Slo-pitch;
- net results of our fundraising efforts were \$10,000.00 from the Golf Tournament, \$2,800.00 from the Craft Sale and \$3,500.00 from the Polar Plunge.

No questions on the budget.

Motion by Stefanie Lee to accept the 2017-18 Budget as presented in the AMM package and seconded by Cheryl Duckworth. Motion carried.

8. Election of new officers to the SOO-Aurora Community Council: incumbents were running in the following positions:

- Community Coordinator, Janet Mitchell;
- Secretary, Stefanie Lee;
- Treasurer, Craig Sweeting committing to one year only;
- Event Coordinator, Cheryl Duckworth;
- Communications Coordinator, Theresa Buck.

No nominations were received for any of these positions, so all are acclaimed.

9. New Business: Position of overall Athlete Representative is being eliminated. Many thanks to Meredith Allan, for her many years of service in this position. Each sport will now have an athlete representative with a term of 2 years.

Thank you to lead volunteers who have moved on:

- Blaire Coley, Team Manger of swimming;

- Lloyd Brown, Sports Technical Coordinator;
- Jake Sanita, Golf Manager;
- Julie Powell, Volunteer Coordinator.

10. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Stefanie Lee, seconded by Cheryl Duckworth. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

11. Speakers - official business portion of the meeting was followed by speakers;

- Helen and Victor Dudulski spoke on their experience at the Provincial Games;

- special guest speaker, Brendan Black spoke on the 50 for 150 Lake Ontario relay swim;

- athlete representatives, Meredith Allan swimming, Ryan Damiani golf, Jeremy Reid softball, Theresa Conrad bocce, Mary Haberer basketball and Ruby Lappin rhythmic gymnastics spoke on their respective sports.

12. Awards Presentations:

Athlete of the year by sport:

- Swimming Learn to Compete, Doug Sooley;
- Swimming, Christopher Shaw;
- Basketball Development, Candice Dawson;
- Basketball Advanced, Chris Bulmer;
- Golf, Ruby Lappin;
- Bocce, Crystal Hauley;
- Rhythmic Gymnastics, Carly Bryden.

Overall Athlete of the Year – Ruby Lappin

Volunteer of the Year – Rhonda Woods