



**ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING, July 29-31, 2016
Crowne Plaza Hotel,
Kitchener/Waterloo**

"Experience the Grand"

FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2016

Registration desk and vendors' area were open before the start of the convention for delegates to visit. An early bird draw was held prior to the start of today's session.

The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom, Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Convention Theme: *"Experience the Grand"*

Opening Ceremonies:

Master of Ceremonies: Gary Brenner, District 19 Director and Convention Host welcomed everyone to District 19 and the beautiful Kitchener/Waterloo.

The Executive of the Ontario Horticultural Association were introduced to the membership present in the Grand Ballroom. We opened the convention with O Canada.

Introduction of Dignitaries: Gary introduced our special guests and dignitaries to the 110th Convention. Greetings were received from Holly Pearson, Miss Oktoberfest, Berry Vrbanovic, Mayor City of Kitchener and Helen Scutt, Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs. Greetings were brought by Catherine Fife, Kitchener Waterloo MPP, Ken Seiling, Chair, Region of Waterloo, Elaine Rennie, Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies, Denis Flanigan, Landscape Ontario, Claudette Sims, Master Gardeners of Ontario, Claudette Smith, Garden Clubs of Ontario. Regrets were sent by Shawn LaPalm of Co-operators Insurance.

Mission Statement: Anne Jamieson, District 12 Director read a mission statement for all societies of the OHA.

OHA President's Welcome: Suzanne Hanna, OHA President welcomed the Dignitaries, Executive, District Directors, and Past Presidents of the Ontario Horticultural Association. Suzanne welcomed all delegates to Kitchener/Waterloo and provided the President's Welcome.

In Memoriam: Sandra Hartill, District 18 Director was introduced and read two poems for those that we have lost since the last convention. Past Presidents' Madeline Hobson, John Sellers and Gordon Winter were acknowledged. The names and several pictures were highlighted on the screen by district.

Roll Call: Kelly Taylor, OHA Secretary was introduced and called on each District Director and District to be recognized.

Minutes of the 2015 Convention: The minutes of the 2015 OHA Convention were made available on the OHA GardenOntario website for review and posted back doors of the convention room. OHA Secretary, Kelly Taylor noted that the minutes will not be read out loud.

MOTION 16-54: That the OHA Convention Minutes of July 3-5, 2015 be approved as circulated. M/S: Dennis Miluck, District 4/Lisa DeYoung, District 9. Carried.

Nominating Committee: Gary Brenner introduced Past President and Nominating Committee Chair, James Graham who presented the report of the Nominating Committee and introduced the candidates as follows:

President
Vice President

Suzanne Hanna
Rose Odell

No other nominations were put forth from the floor at this time. The elections will take place on Sunday, July 31, 2016. The Secretary and Treasurer are appointed positions and not voted upon.

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS – PAT GRAHAM, DISTRICT 10 MEMBER:

There is a maximum of 287 votes on the floor with 17 proxies through the OHA Secretary.

Resolution 16-1: Be it resolved that: the Ontario Horticultural Association express appreciation to the Province of Ontario for the assistance provided to Horticultural Societies and to this Association by means of grants and by the continued review and implementation of policies aimed towards the promotion of interest and participation in horticulture. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-2: Be it resolved that: the Ontario Horticultural Association convey to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, his Deputies and Staff, our thanks for the support, assistance and co-operation accorded this Association by Ministry Personnel. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-3: Be it resolved that: the Ontario Horticultural Association extend its thanks to the Director, Assistant Directors, Societies and members of District 19 who worked to plan and conduct the 2016 Convention, and to all others who had any part in contributing to its success. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-29: Be it resolved that: A new By-Law be written as follows

By-Law 17 - Gender Neutral

It is understood that where the masculine gender is used in the Constitution and By-Laws, that the feminine gender shall equally apply. 0 Opposed, 3 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-27: Be it resolved that: By-Law 12, 12.1 be amended as follows

Current wording

12.1 Any two of the President, Secretary and Treasurer shall sign all cheques, drafts or orders for the payment of money, and all notes and acceptances and bills of exchange.

Amended wording

12.1 The President or the Vice President together with the Secretary or the Treasurer shall sign all cheques, drafts or orders for the payment of money, and all notes and acceptances and bills of exchange. 0 Opposed, 3 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-28: Be it resolved that: By-Law 12, 12.2 be amended as follows

Current wording

12.2 The President or the Vice-President together with the Secretary or Treasurer may sign contracts, documents or any instructions in writing requiring the signature of the Association. The Executive Council has power from time to time by resolution to appoint any Officer or Officers to sign contracts, documents or instruments in writing relating to special projects. (13/1)

Amended wording

12.2 The President or the Vice-President together with the Secretary or Treasurer may sign contracts, documents or any instructions in writing requiring the signature of the Association. The Officers have power from time to time by motion and approval by the Board to appoint any Officer or Officers to sign contracts, documents or instruments in writing relating to special projects. (13/1). **TABLED to a later time in this convention.**

Resolution 16-26: Be it resolved that: By-Law 11, 11.8 be amended as follows

Current wording

11.8 The Board of Directors shall manage the affairs of the Association between general meetings, and report its activities at the Annual Meeting.

Amended wording

11.8 The Board of Directors shall provide leadership and assist in the promotion of education and interest in all areas of horticulture and related environmental issues in Ontario, through an expanding network of Association Horticultural Societies dedicated to the beautification of their communities between general meetings, and report its activities at the Annual Meeting. 4 Opposed, 2 Abstentions. **Carried.**

MOTION 16-55: That the resolution be conducted in the order in which they were presented in the Trillium: M/S: Martha Brandigan, District 15/Anne Reeves, District 3. 32 Opposed, 26 abstain. Defeated.

Highway of Heroes: Scott Bryk, Executive Director of the Highway of Heroes Project discussed the Highway of Heroes Initiative and shared that they plan to plant 117,000 trees for lost Canadian Soldiers.

Highway of Heroes Presentation: Suzanne Hanna, OHA President, presented Scott Bryk, Executive Director and Mark Cullen, Board Chair with the OHA donation to the Highway of Heroes Project in the amount of \$27,337.25. There are still cheques in the mail from members and societies so the final total is yet to come.

Announcements: Gary noted that the flower show and competition rooms will be open for viewing from 12:00 – 8:00 p.m., various bus trips will be departing promptly at 1 p.m. and various seminars would be available in the afternoon from 1:30 – 2:30 and 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Delegates were reminded of the evening banquet and to join in on the fun of the silent auction.

Banquet Highlights: Highlights for tonight's dinner include an Oktoberfest dinner, Silent Auction and live entertainment featuring Oktoberfest entertainment.

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 2016

Registration desk, vendors' area and competition rooms were open before the start of the convention for delegates to visit.

TREASURER'S 2015 FINANCIAL REPORT: Mary Donnelly, OHA Treasurer thanked the many people that assist with the OHA business through the year. Mary presented the audited financial statements to the delegates, reviewed the Statement of Operations and Fund Balances.

Revenues from 2015: Convention - \$97,554, Membership - \$84,944, Insurance - \$44,373, Fundraising - \$20,121, Donations - \$12,676, Supplies - \$7,958, Interest - \$3,709, Advertising & Newsletter - \$549

Donations from 2015: General - \$7,376, Societies/Loblaws - \$2,050, In Memoriam - \$1,905, GardenOntario Week - \$946, Conservation & Environment - \$200, Website - \$200

Expenses from 2015: Convention - \$73,947, Insurance - \$47,591, Meetings & Projects - \$29,598, Professional & Admin - \$26,541, Fundraising - \$14,933, District & Executive - \$13,155, Education & Promotion - \$10,386, Operational Expenses - \$8,892, Awards & Donations - \$8,324, Loss on Investments - \$7,900, Tree Planting Grants - \$3,352

For 2015, the OHA realized a profit of \$29,445.

OHA Charitable Tax Number: Societies are not permitted to use the OHA Charitable Tax Number. This number allows the OHA to issue tax receipts for donations the OHA receives. If a society is requested to issue a tax receipt they can only do this if they are a registered charity. Societies may not request the OHA tax number to give a donation receipt.

OHA Insurance: One contact per society to request Certificates of Insurance. Please verify information is correct before requesting certificates to save time.

MOTION 16-56: That the Treasurer's Report be approved for 2015 as presented. **M/S: Celia Roberts, District 6/Donald Wick, District 17.** 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. Carried.

MOTION 16-57: That we retain Takalo & Burt as our auditors (Chartered Accountants) for the 2016. **M/S: Sharon Nivins, District 8, Susan Lusted, District 9.** 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. Carried.

SECRETARY'S YEAR 2015 ACTIVITY REPORT

The OHA membership numbers reported for 2015 were 278 societies with 27,534 members. The membership number has decreased by 938 members from 2014.

The OHA Volunteer Hours for 2015 were 511,604.95 hours which included District Executive hours of 18,318 hours. This is a decrease of 11,234.1 volunteer hours.

MOTION 16-58: That the Secretaries Report be approved for 2015 as presented. **M/S: Marilyn Trunks, District 17/Gilbert Lambert, District 18.** 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. Carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Suzanne reported that a lot of tasks were completed thanks to the use of teleconferences and dedicated committee members. GardenOntario Week, held June 11-19th this year, enjoyed a new micro site created by Urban & Company that registered just under 100,000 hits between April and June. The Canadian Garden Council promoted our event on their site and Lee Valley agreed to be our official sponsor. They provided cash and gift certificates that led to the creation of the "for the Love of Gardening" 18 month calendar fundraiser. Currently, our old tired OHA web site is undergoing a radical transformation which we hope to accomplish by late fall. In 2016, a new Treasurer and Trillium Editor were hired as a result of recent retirements and we marked the passing of three Past Presidents who served the OHA with distinction. The board & executive solicited donations from individual members, societies and districts and raised close to \$28,000 to support the Highway of Heroes Living Tribute to honour Canada's fallen soldiers. All in all it was a very challenging but satisfying year of industry.

MOTION 16-59: That the President's Report be accepted as presented. **Kathy Smyth, District 11/Ralph Cox, District 5.** 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. Carried.

MOTION 16-60: That we accept the decisions of the OHA Board of Directors for the previous year. **M/S: Wayne Pfeiffer, District 8/Sandra Mitchell, District 1.** 1 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. Carried.

NOMINATIONS:

James Graham asked for any nominations from the floor. No nominations were put forth from the floor at this time.

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS – PAT GRAHAM, DISTRICT 10 MEMBER:

Resolution 16-4: Be it resolved that: By-Law 5, 5.1 be amended as follows:

Current wording :

5.1 The BOARD OF DIRECTORS shall consist of the Officers of the Association, together with the Directors, and a member of the Past Presidents' Council.

Amended wording:

5.1 The BOARD OF DIRECTORS shall consist of the Officers of the Association and the Directors. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-5: Be it resolved that: By-Law 5, 5.2 be amended as follows

Current wording:

5.2 The OFFICERS of the Association shall be the President, Immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. (13/1)

Amended wording:

5.2 The OFFICERS of the Association shall be the President, Immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two Directors one from each identified region of the province.

0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-6: Be it resolved that: By-Law 5, 5.5 be amended as follows

Current wording

5.5 The EXECUTIVE COUNCIL shall consist of the Officers of the Association, two Directors appointed from and by the Board from different regions of the province and the District Director hosting the upcoming convention. (13/2)

Proposed amendment: Remove this section in its entirety. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-7: Be it resolved that: By-Law 5, 5.6 be amended as follows

1. Renumbered to read 5.5

2. Current wording

5.6 All Officers shall serve for a one-year term, unless re-elected or re-appointed.

Amended wording

5.5 All Officers except the Secretary and the Treasurer shall serve for a one-year term, unless re-elected. The Immediate Past President shall remain so long as a new President is not elected. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions.

Carried.

Resolution 16-8: Be it resolved that: By-Law 5, 5.7 be amended as follows

Remove this section. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-9: Be it resolved that: By-Law 5, 5.8 be amended as follows

Renumbered to read 5.6. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-10: Be it resolved that: By-Law 5, 5.9 be amended as follows

1. Renumber to read 5.7.

2. Current wording

5.9 The Board of Directors may empower the Executive Council to act with the full authority of the Board.

Amended wording

5.7 The Board of Directors may empower the Officers to act with the full authority of the Board. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-11: Be it resolved that: By-Law 5, 5.10 be amended as follows

Renumbered to read 5.8. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-12: Be it resolved that: By-Law 5, 5.11 be amended as follows

1. Renumbered to read 5.9

2. Current wording

5.11 The Executive Council shall meet at the call of the President, or any three of its members.

Amended wording

5.9 The Officers shall meet at the call of the President, or any three of its members. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-13: Be it resolved that: By-Law 6, 6.1 be amended as follows

Current wording

6.1 The Board shall appoint the Secretary and Treasurer. All other positions are elected annually by the general membership.

Amended wording

6.1 The Board shall hire the Secretary and the Treasurer. The Board shall appoint from within itself two regional representatives from different identified regions of the province to serve as Officers. The President and Vice President are elected annually by the general membership. 0 Opposed, 4 Abstentions. **Carried.**

For information purposes, the Director representing South and South-West Ontario: Districts 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 17, and 19. The Director representing North and Eastern Ontario: Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 13, 14, 16 and 18.

Resolution 16-14: Be it resolved that: By-Law 6, 6.8 be amended as follows

Current wording

6.8 For an Officer of OHA who is unwilling or unable to carry out the responsibilities of office, the Board shall appoint, for the balance of his term, a replacement from among themselves, subject to succession by the next ranking Officer. (10/2)

Amended wording

6.8 For an Officer of OHA, except for the Secretary and the Treasurer and the Immediate Past President, who is unwilling or unable to carry out the responsibilities of office, the Board shall appoint, for the balance of his/her term, a replacement from among themselves, subject to succession by the next ranking Officer. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-15: Be it resolved that: Under By-Law 6 a new section be created

Current wording – none

New wording

6.9 If the Immediate Past President is unwilling or unable to carry out the responsibility of the office, the Board will approach the Chair of the Past President's Council for guidance to fill the position for the remainder of the term. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-16: Be it resolved that: By-Law 7, 7.1 be amended as follows

Current wording

7.1 President. The President, as Chief Executive Officer, shall be responsible for the general management and direction of the business and affairs of the Association, and perform duties incident to the office and those prescribed from time to time by the Executive Council and the Board of Directors. The President shall be a member of all Committees, ex-officio. The President or designate shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Council, Board of Directors and meetings of members.

Amended wording

7.1 President. The President, as Chief Executive Officer, shall be responsible for the general management and direction of the business and affairs of the Association, and perform duties incident to the office and those prescribed from time to time by the Officers and the Board of Directors. The President shall be a member of all Committees, ex-officio. The President or designate shall preside at all meetings of the Officers, Board of Directors and meetings of members. 0 Opposed, 1 Abstention. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-17: Be it resolved that: By-Law 7, 7.2 be amended as follows

Current wording

7.2 Past President. The Immediate Past President shall advise and assist the President in the performance of his/her duties, as necessary

Amended wording

7.2 Past President. The Immediate Past President shall advise and assist the President where needed. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-18: Be it resolved that: By-Law 7, 7.5 be amended as follows

Current wording

7.5 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and account annually, or as often as may be required by the Board and applicable government authorities, for all monies, bonds and other securities belonging to the Association, which shall be invested in accordance with the direction of the Finance Committee. All books and records of the Association shall be audited at the end of the fiscal year. The Treasurer shall submit all invoices for payment to the Secretary who shall sign them for approval of payment. The Treasurer has a voice but no vote.

Amended wording

7.5 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and account annually, or as often as may be required by the Board and applicable government authorities, for all monies, bonds and other securities belonging to the Association, which shall be invested in accordance with the direction of the Finance Committee. All books and records of the Association shall be audited at the end of the fiscal year. The Treasurer shall submit all invoices for payment to the Secretary who shall sign them for approval of payment. The Treasurer chairs the Finance Committee and on a regular basis reports all financial matters to this committee. The Treasurer has a voice but no vote. 1
Opposed, 5 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-19: Be it resolved that: **By-Law 7, 7.6 be amended as follows**

Current wording

7.6 Directors. Directors are expected to attend all Board meetings, serve on committees and may be appointed to represent the Association on other Boards. If a Director is unable to attend an Association Board Meeting, they are required to send a competent individual from their District Executive to the meeting.

Amended wording

7.6 Directors. Directors are expected to attend all Board meetings, serve on committees and may be appointed to represent the Association on other Boards' Meetings. If a Director is unable to attend an Association Board Meeting or other Boards' Meeting, they are expected to send a competent individual from their District Executive to the meeting, when possible. At Association Board Meetings, this individual has a voice and no vote. 0
Opposed, 2 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Announcements: Gary noted that the various bus trips will be departing promptly at 1 p.m. and various seminars would be available in the afternoon from 1:30 – 2:30 and 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

GALA DINNER & AWARDS HIGHLIGHTS:

Highlights for tonight's gala dinner included Rose Odell, Master of Ceremonies and Key Note Speaker Dr. Ken Shonk who presented on "Garden Laughter".

District 2 Director, Kathryn Lindsay, announced the following awards to honour OHA members for their contributions to their society and OHA.

Community Improvement Award – 2 awarded: presented to The Literacy Garden & Holland Landing, c/o East Gwillimbury Garden and Horticultural Society, District 5 and also presented to the Brant County Roadside Tree Planting Group, c/o St. George Garden Club, District 6. This award is a plaque provided by the Ontario Horticultural Association. It may be given to an individual, organization or company that, in the estimation of the Awards Committee, has enhanced the beauty of the landscape and/or added to the quality of life of a community with a horticultural project.

Youth Leader Award – 2 awarded: presented to Anna Peterson, St. Marys Horticultural Society, District 10 as well as Janice K. Wagler, Wilmot Horticultural Society, District 19. This plaque is presented to a person who has been a Youth Club leader for a minimum of 5 years.

Honour Roll presented to Bette Hall, Cloverleaf Garden Club of Mississauga, District 15. Nominations should be for members of a horticultural society with at least fifteen years of service to one or more societies should have made a contribution of horticultural service to the community, district or association and should have given outstanding service at the society and district level.

Award of Merit presented to Sheila Oddy, Ancaster Horticultural Society, District 6. The certificate is given to an individual for notable contributions to the programs of the Association or a Society with notable contributions in special beautification, outstanding work in the science or art of horticulture or supporting individuals or

organizations in the area of communication or any other worthy efforts such as contribution towards advancement of sound horticultural practices, ecological and conservation practices.

Trillium/Silver Fir Award presented to Irva Stewart, Parry Sound & District Horticultural Society, District 18. This award as designated in 2009 is given to the 2 most worthy candidates who have given outstanding service to horticultural societies and to the Ontario Horticultural Association.

OHA Tree Grants: The following societies received tree grants, up to \$200, in 2015.

- Kanata-March - District 2
- Petawawa - District 2
- Land O' Lakes - District 3
- Lennox & Addington - District 3
- Riverdale - District 5
- Clifford & District - District 7
- Guelph Township - District 7
- Moorefield & District - District 7
- Shelburne & District - District 7
- Wingham & District - District 8
- Niagara Falls - District 9
- Ridgeway & District - District 9
- Aylmer - District 10
- Kirkton - District 10
- Tilsonburg - District 10
- Espanola - District 13
- French River - District 13
- Lake George - District 13
- Thessalon - District 13
- Geraldton - District 14
- Streetsville - District 15
- Swansea - District 15
- Midland - District 16
- Argyle - District 18
- Elmira & District - District 19

OHA Special Project Grants: To assist Societies in meeting the objectives of the Ontario Horticultural Association, the board will provide a Special Project Grant to a maximum of \$500.00 for each project.

- Ennismore & District Horticultural Society – District 4
- Clifford & District Horticultural Society - District 7
- Timmins Horticultural Society – District 12
- Galt Horticultural Society – District 19

Community Garden Grants: The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) encourages its member societies to create or contribute to community gardens whether urban or rural. OHA will award a grant of \$500 to assist in the funding of a new community garden or the upgrading of an existing community garden.

- Niagara Falls Horticultural Society, District 9

Youth– Ruby Lobban Award: A \$25 award, based on the highest point aggregate for a Youth Club in the Youth Competition.

Adult Society Competition Award: Waterloo Horticultural Society won a new \$100 award for the society with the highest point aggregate in the adult competitions.

OHA Membership Challenge Trophy: A trophy, donated by Fines Flowers of Ottawa is to be awarded to a District with the highest percentage membership increase overall for the year. This year it was awarded to District 11. Kathy Smith, District Director accepted the award on behalf of the District.

SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2016

An early bird draw was held prior to the start of today's session.

Suzanne Hanna, OHA President welcomed everyone back to the convention.

FINAL NOMINATIONS:

The slate of Officers as received by the Nominating Committee was presented on the first day of the Convention. Final calls were made for further nominations. Nominations were closed.

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS – PAT GRAHAM, DISTRICT 10 MEMBER:

Resolution 16-20: Be it resolved that: **By-Law 8, 8.1 be amended as follows**

Current wording

8.1 Finance. The Finance Committee, chaired by the Treasurer, and consisting of the Officers of the Association, shall be responsible for the preparation of the recommended annual budget of the Association, for approval by the Board at its Fall Board meeting. It is imperative that the Treasurer present an initial budget proposal to the Board at its pre-convention meeting so that any questions which might arise on the floor of the convention can be answered.

Amended wording

8.1 Finance. The Finance Committee, chaired by the Treasurer, and consisting of the Officers of the Association, shall be responsible for the preparation of the annual budget and for the monitoring of its performance. The Association's annual budget is to be presented and approved by the Board of Directors at the fall meeting. The Finance Committee is also responsible for reviewing investments, insurance plans, fundraising, expense reimbursements policies, financial controls and other matters related to the financial well-being of the Association. The Committee shall make recommendations on these matters and provide advice to the Board of Directors as needed. 0 Opposed, 1 Abstention. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-21: Be it resolved that: **By-Law 8, 8.2 be amended as follows**

Current wording

8.2 Awards. The Awards Committee, chaired by the President, and consisting of the Officers of the Association, and the Chair of the Past Presidents' Council, shall select award winners in recognition of their outstanding work in the pursuance of the objectives of the Association. Regulations for the presentation of awards are presented in a separate Awards document.

Amended wording

8.2 Awards. The Awards Committee, chaired by the President, and consisting of the President, the Vice President, the Immediate Past President, the Secretary, the Chair of the Past Presidents' Council, and the two Directors as identified in By-Law 5, 5.2, shall select award winners in recognition of their outstanding work in the pursuance of the objectives of the Association and the budget approved by the Board. The Awards Coordinator shall attend all Awards Committee Meetings. The Awards Coordinator has a voice but no vote. Regulations for the presentation of awards are presented in a separate Awards document. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-22: Be it resolved that: **By-Law 10, 10.1 be amended as follows**

Current wording

10.1 A quorum for meetings of the Executive Council shall be 50% plus one of the voting members. At all meetings of the Council, every question shall be decided by a majority vote. In case of a tie, the Chair shall cast the deciding vote.

Amended wording

10.1 A quorum for meetings of the Officers shall be 50% plus one of the voting members. At all meetings of the Officers, every question shall be decided by a majority vote. In case of a tie, the Chair shall cast the deciding vote. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-23: Be it resolved that: By-Law 10, 10.2 be amended as follows

Current wording

10.2 A quorum for meetings of the Board of Directors shall be twelve. At all meetings of the Board, every question shall be decided by a majority vote. In case of a tie, the Chair of the meeting shall cast the deciding vote.

Amended wording

10.2 A quorum for meetings of the Board of Directors shall be twelve voting members. At all meetings of the Board, every question shall be decided by a majority vote. In case of a tie, the Chair of the meeting shall cast the deciding vote. 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-24: Be it resolved that: By-Law 11, 11.3 be amended as follows

Current wording

11.3 In the event that a Society does not have a full number of delegates attending the Annual General Meeting, then the proxy voting rights of the non-attending delegates may be assigned to any other delegate or to the Association Secretary.

Amended wording

11.3 In the event that a Society does not have a full number of delegates attending the Annual General Meeting, then the proxy voting rights of the non-attending delegates may be assigned to any other voting delegate or to the Association Secretary. 0 Opposed, 4 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-25: Be it resolved that: By-Law 11, 11.4 be amended as follows

Current wording

11.4 Any Officer, Director, and all Past Presidents shall have voting rights at annual meetings or any special meeting of the Association.

Amended wording

11.4 Any Director, all Past Presidents and any Officer except the Secretary and the Treasurer shall have voting rights at annual meetings or any special meeting of the Association. 0 Opposed, 5 Abstentions. **Carried.**

Resolution 16-28: Be it resolved that: By-Law 12, 12.2 be amended as follows

Current wording

12.2 The President or the Vice-President together with the Secretary or Treasurer may sign contracts, documents or any instructions in writing requiring the signature of the Association. The Executive Council has power from time to time by resolution to appoint any Officer or Officers to sign contracts, documents or instruments in writing relating to special projects. (13/1)

Amended wording

12.2 The President or the Vice-President together with the Secretary or Treasurer may sign contracts, documents or any instructions in writing requiring the signature of the Association. The Officers have power from time to time by motion and approval by the Board to appoint any Officer or Officers to sign contracts, documents or instruments in writing relating to special projects. (13/1). 0 Opposed, 4 Abstentions. **Carried.**

ELECTION OF ASSOCIATION OFFICERS – JAMES GRAHAM:

Suzanne Hanna was declared, by acclamation, the President for 2016-2017.

Rose Odell was declared, by acclamation, the Vice President for 2016-2017.

Wilma Wood will be representing the Past Presidents' Council as the Immediate Past President for the year 2016-2017.

PAST PRESIDENT'S AWARD: Suzanne presented James Graham with a "James" Hosta as a gift of appreciation for all of his years on the board and his support through this convention. Suzanne asked James Graham to say a few words.

THANK YOU TO RETIRING DIRECTORS: Suzanne thanked the retired Treasurer and Directors for their years of service and dedication to the OHA. Thanks went out to Sharon Hill, OHA Treasurer, D18, Shirley Robson, District 14, Carole Spraggett, District 15, and Russ Talbot, District 16.

PRESIDENT'S SPEECH: Suzanne noted that there have been many challenges, but this board is ready for the year ahead and will continue to work hard on the many project currently underway.

CHAIN OF OFFICE: Suzanne maintained the OHA Chain of Office for 2016-2017 as she was reappointed by acclamation, and thanked everyone for their support this past year.

HASTY HORT HUMDINGER: Jane McDonald discussed how to engage the youth and millennials in our society activities.

SPEAKER: Pat Rettinger, K.C.I. Green Industries, presented on "The Greening of an Inner City School".

THANK YOUS: Suzanne noted a special thanks to Carole Spraggett for the Corporate Report, Barb O'Malley for her work as Registrar, Marilyn Cox for her work on In Memoriam, Lisa DeYoung and Bernice Green for their work as Trillium Distributor and Editor, Don Matthews for his work on Supplies.

ANNOUNCEMENT – For the Love of Gardening Calendar Contest: Donna Hussey, District 6 Director announced that D7 won for third place with \$150, D6 won for second place with \$250 and D14 was the winner with \$400 of the For Love of Gardening Contest, sponsored by Lee Valley. Lee Valley participated in the judging of these entries.

CLOSING CEREMONIES

INVITATION TO 2017 OHA CONVENTION – CINDY SCYTHES: Cindy announced the 111th Annual Convention will be held in District 5, July 21-23, 2017 at the Sheraton Parkway North with the theme "*Green from Shore to Shore*". Cindy noted that there would be tours, and much more made available to the delegates. The Sheraton Parkway North (Leslie and Hwy 7) and the Best Western make up the convention facility for next year.

PRESENTATION OF AWARD TO WINNER OF ACTIVITIES CHALLENGE: Brenda Stericker presented the Activities Challenge Award to District 6.

QUILT RAFFLE WINNER: Gary announced that Mary Sim, French River Horticultural Society was the winner of the beautiful Quilt.

THANK YOU – GARY BRENNER: Gary thanked everyone for attending the convention and thanked everyone who displayed their photographs, floral, and art as well as thanked all those who participated in seminars and bus trips.

PASSING OF OHA FLAGS: Gary gave the association flag to District 5 Director, Cindy Scythes.

ADJOURNMENT – SUZANNE HANNA: Suzanne Hanna, OHA President, thanked the delegates for attending. She expressed appreciation to Gary Brenner, and the many volunteers for making this convention a memorable event.

The 2016 Convention was declared closed.

Signature of President