



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
IRANIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY OF EDMONTON (“THE SOCIETY”)**

Date: SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

Location: 8210 111St NW, Edmonton

Time: 2:00pm

Number of attendees: 65

Number of IHSE members with good standing (eligible to vote): 51

- 1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING:** President of the board (acting as chairman of the meeting), Reza Akbari, called the meeting to order at 14:15.

The chairman introduced the board and reviewed the meeting agenda.

- 2. CALLING OF THE ROLE AND CERTIFYING PROXIES:** There were no proxies present as none of the members of the Society authorized a proxy by sending a written request to the board before the meeting. Given that the quorum was achieved at 14:15, there were no further discussion on this issue and the meeting proceeded.

- 3. PROOF OF NOTICE OF MEETING:** Not Applicable

- 4. THE EXTERNAL ACCOUNTANT’S REPORT:** Bryan Chan, a Professional Chartered Accountant (“CPA”), who prepared the Society’s financial statements and the attached notice to readers presented them to the Society’s members (“Members”) at 14:20. Mr. Chan finished his review of financial statements by 14:30.

The Board opened the floor to the Members to ask Mr. Chan any questions regarding the financial statements. Subsequently, Dr. Jamali suggested that the financial statements of the Society to be uploaded to the Society’s website.

Motion by Dr. Jamali and Ms. Shayesteh to upload the financial statements to the Society’s website at 14:35. CARRIED.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Amir Ghahari, the Society's Treasurer, took over the meeting at 14:35. Mr. Ghahari reviewed the details of following activities for the Members:

- a. Installation of new Quick Book Software to organize the financial affairs of the Society in a more orderly fashion;
- b. Introduction of Online Purchasing mechanism and obtaining an ATM machine from the Society's bank to provide payment options to the Members at the Society's events;
- c. Explaining the recent changes to the By-Laws of the Society that were undertaken by the prior board of directors in 2016;
- d. The need for the Society to become more transparent every year.

Mr. Ghahari finished his presentation at 14:40.

6. **READING AND APPROVAL OF 2018 AGM MINUTES:** this was not possible since there was no record of minutes of the last year meeting made available. None of the Members asked any question in this regard.

7. **REPORTS OF OFFICERS:** the officers and the President, Mr. Akbari presented the certificate for Norouz event that was issued by the City of Edmonton. Further, Mr. Akbari also presented the certificate issued by the Heritage Festival that recognized Iranian tent as the second-place tent present in the Festival. The members of the Board each took turn to provide a report of their experience of running the Iran's tent at the Heritage Festival.

8. There are **NO COMMITTEES** to give Committee Report(s)

9. **APPOINTMENTS OF AUDITORS:** After reading the By-Laws relevant section regarding the appointment of auditors, Mr. Ghahari and Mr. Akbari pointed out that the language used in the By-Laws is not clearly mandate hiring an external auditor.

Mr. Ghahari and Mr. Akbari further suggested for the next year the Society should hire an outsider accountant to review notice to reader section of the financial statements.

Ms. Bahareh, a member of the Society, suggested that we should register the Society with the Canada Revenue Agency (“CRA”) as a registered charity.

Dr. Jamali responded to the above suggestion by stating that the nature of the Society is as such that it cannot be registered as a charity with the CRA. He further stated that there was no need to audit financial reports every year as long as finance of the Society is clear and a member of the Society can review them.

Mr. Khani, member of the Society, suggested that an out of board member should review the financial statement of next year.

Mr. Khani proposed a motion to the effect that for the next year, one of the Members who are not on the board of directors should review the notice to reader, and also one of the member of the board of director put together the notice to reader and the internal accountant will review that report, and Ms. Mohammad Zadeh should be elected as the internal accountant.

Motion by Mr. Khani and Mr. Samavat to the give effect to the items summarized in the above paragraph at 15:10. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

10. NEW BUSINESS: From 15:10 to 15:20, Mr. Ghahari opened the floor to the Members to provide ideas about the topics that the Society’s board should consider. The following items was raised by the Members (unless otherwise indicated below):

- a. Updating and modernizing the Society’s website;
- b. Updating/improving the Society’s By-Law in order to become a charity organization and/or improve transparency and accountability;
- c. Increasing operation efficiency so other resources of finances get introduced;
- d. Increasing the investment options for investing the Society’s fund;
- e. Establishing an emergency fund for the Society

11. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE NEW BOARD: Mr. Akbari started the election process at 15:20. Mr. Akbari reviewed the relevant clauses of the Society’s By-Law before the voting took place and answered all the questions that the Members asked him in regard to the By-Laws.

Motion by five of the Members for the election to be conducted using the ballot.
CARRIED.

The election was started at 16:15 and finished at 17:00; it was conducted in the following three stages:

1. Nomination of two candidates and election of one of them as the President of the Society by the Members; the name of each candidate and his/ her share of the vote is stated below:
 - a. Reza Akbari: 38 votes
 - b. Shayesteh Majidnia: 11 votes

2. Nomination of four candidates and election of three of them as the members of board of directors for a two-year term; the name of each candidate and his/ her share of the vote is stated below:
 - a. Amir Ghahari: 44 votes
 - b. Ali Bardestani: 39 votes
 - c. Salamat Javaheri: 22 votes
 - d. Mojdeh Ghezlov: 21 votes

3. Nomination of four candidates and election of three of them as the members of board of directors for a one-year term; the name of each candidate and his/ her share of the vote is stated below:
 - a. Nader Parhamnia: 41 votes
 - b. Abolfazl Akbarianbaei: 31 votes
 - c. Mojdeh Ghezlov: 29 votes
 - d. Kamyar Pooyeh: 21 votes

In summary the following Members were elected to the Board of Directors of the Society:

President(for a one-year term): Reza Akbari
Director (for a two-year term): Amir Ghahari
Director (for a two-year term): Ali Bardestani
Director (for a two-year term): Salamat Javaheri
Director (for a one-year term): Nader Parhamnia
Director (for a one-year term): Abolfazl Akbarianbaei
Director (for a one-year term): Mojdeh Ghezlov

Motion by Ms. Ostadeian for destroying the ballots at 17:00. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

12. ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Mr. Samavat and Mr. Khani to adjourn the meeting at 17:03.
CARRIED.