



**Annual General Meeting**  
**Friday October 16, 2020, 12 p.m.**  
**Zoom**

**MINUTES**

36 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS; as of 12:05pm when meeting was called to order.

**1. Welcome**

Susan Collins, Board Chair welcomed everyone to the SONL 2020 AGM.  
Noted that was a different format than usual.

Kim McDonald-Wilkes ran through instructions on how to use Zoom; how to vote and ask questions.

**2. Roll call of voting members**

- 1) Mount Pearl – Beth Robson
- 2) CBS Brightstars – Susan Lamond
- 3) Tri-Con Gentle Giants – Jill Robinson
- 4) Placentia Lions – Regina Somers
- 5) Clarenville All Stars – Donna Walsh
- 6) Gander Wings – Marg Byrd
- 7) Exploits Hurricanes – Colleen Ryan
- 8) Corner Brook Vikings – Karen Bullen
- 9) Bay St. George – Rosie Ryan
- 10) HVGB Howling Huskies - Scott McDonald
- 11) Lab West - Rhonda Lawrence
- 12) Paul Peddle
- 13) Heather Miller
- 14) Paul Currie
- 15) Susan Collins
- 16) Juleah Patten
- 17) Kealey Martin
- 18) Carmel Casey
- 19) Bob Howard
- 20) Ray Walsh,
- 21) Katie O'Neill,
- 22) Janine O'Malley
- 23) Amanda Hancock
- 24) Ken Marshall has named Juleah Lunden as his proxy to vote on his behalf.
- 25) Mark Dawe has named Juleah Lunden as his proxy to vote on his behalf.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the October 18, 2019 Meeting**

Moved: Beth Robson  
Seconded: Jill Robinson



#### 4. **President's Report**, presented by Susan Collins.

2019-2020 was an incredibly challenging year.

SONL staff spent the Fall working with our local clubs running our weekly programs and preparing the Team NL to compete at the Special Olympics Canada Winter Games Thunder Bay 2020.

The Games took place from February 25-29th.. Team NL sent 44 athletes who competed in 7 sports they were supported by 19 volunteer coaches and mission staff along with the Chef de Mission, Mike Daly and Team Manager, Kim McDonald-Wilkes.

The Team joined 1200 athletes' coaches and volunteers from across Canada for a fantastic Games experience. Team NL was highly successful returning home with 45 medals.

On March 13th, the COVID-19 Pandemic reached Newfoundland and Labrador, under the guidance of the Provincial and National Health Authorities, SONL made the difficult decision to pause all programing and fundraising events until June 30th.

This had a devastating effect on our athletes who were left with few options to stay healthy, active, and connected, while staying home.

This is when we realized that the success of an organization can be measured in how you manage your plan B when faced with adversity and change.

The SONL staff moved quickly in conjunction with Special Olympics Chapters across Canada to create online resources to stay connected with our athletes and provide them with access to online programs. Many had fun as they walked across Canada!

SONL Coach Melissa Tobin took the online programing to new heights when she along with the SONL program Staff created the Sunshine Challenge.

200 athletes from around the province signed on, with the goal of 100 to 400 minutes of physical activity per week, recording their workouts in personal logs, participating in online sessions with coaches and much-loved dances. It was great to see athletes and their families being active together in many innovative ways.

The COVID-19 pandemic also created financial challenges for SONL with cancellation of the 2020 Special Olympics Festival and the 2020 Law Enforcement Torch Run.

The SONL Board have worked hard to create new fundraising initiatives such as the Piatto Pandemic Pizza Party and the 50/50 draw to ensure the financial sustainability of SONL.

SONL is now working on a safe return to in-person programs. It will take time and will happen slowly. We are working with our local clubs on new and innovative program delivery models, while continuing to grow athlete and volunteer participation, reaching a more diverse audience, and strengthening quality standards in all aspects of program delivery.



We look forward to a new normal as we continue to be part of a global movement of people creating a world of inclusion and community, where every single person is accepted and welcomed, regardless of ability or disability.

5. **Financial Report**, presented by Kealey Martin (treasurer)

Financial Highlights for the year ending June 30, 2020 were provided with the meeting materials.

Harris Ryan was once again our auditors and provided a qualified audit opinion consistent with other years. Harris Ryan noted that the audit went well and there were no issues and they had full cooperation from staff.

Like many other non-profits, 2020 has been tough financially and we are no different. The loss of the festival and the torch run this year impacted our financial performance but I want to give you assurance that we remain in a good financial position.

A few items worth noting in the statements:

- o First of all, turning to the balance sheet on page 3 of the statements. The balance sheet shows our financial position as of June 30th, 2020. We continue to operate with a healthy cash balance which is positive considering we are not certain how much longer the COVID-19 pandemic will continue. We are facing economic challenges with fundraising and have had dip into the cash reserve. Thankfully our performance in prior years allows us to do this comfortably.
- o Turning to statement of revenues and expenditures. Majority of our income comes from Fundraising and Special Olympics Canada.
- o Our revenues for the past fiscal year were down 44% driven by the loss of our festival & timing of games. Spending decreased due to the cancellation of programming which helped offset the revenue loss. Overall, we had a loss of almost \$116k for the year.
- o Although disappointing, it is not unexpected. The Board has been creative in fundraising efforts as Susan mentioned and will continue to do so. We have also been fortunate to get some corporate donations through COVID which we are much appreciative to receive.
- To conclude, the audit was routine and consistent with prior years. Moving forward, we will continue to monitor our spending and hold fundraising opportunities that both benefit the organization and comply for health orders.

Kealey asked for questions; there were none.

Kealey asked for someone to move to approve the financial statements as provided by Harris Ryan for the year ended June 30, 2020?

First: Rosie Ryan

Seconded: Donna Walsh

6. **Appointment of Auditors:**

Kealey moved to have Harris Ryan kept as current auditor as she very pleased with the services provided by Harris Ryan. Their fee is reasonable and are very helpful to the staff.



Moved: Kealey Martin  
First: Scott McDonald  
Seconded: Ray Walsh

## 7. Election of Officers

Carmel Casey- Director  
Paul Peddle -RLC Chair  
Heather Miller- Athletes Representative  
Paul Currie – Progress Club Representative  
Robert Howard -LETR Representative

Have all completed their term on the SONL Board of Director.

Kealey Martin was appointed to replace Lynn Healey as Treasurer after the October 18th AGM 2019.

All have put their names forward to serve another term on the SONL Board of Directors.

Motion to re-appoint the above-mentioned Directors.

Moved: Scott McDonald (HVGB)

Seconded: Rosie Ryan (Bay St. George)

## 8. Open Discussion

Susan was alerted that Marg Byrd, Gander Wings would like to make an announcement and called upon her first.

Marg stated that she had the pleasure to attend an announcement that day; the municipal, provincial and federal governments were funding a new facility. It will include an 8 lane 400-m track.

Marg thanked the hard work by Dr. Carmel Casey in regards to moving this project forward.

Lots of positive comments regarding the new facility.

No one else had any other matters to discuss.

## 9. Adjournment

With no further discussion, Susan called for adjournment.

Moved: Kealey Martin

Seconded: Scott McDonald