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63<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

1. **Call to Order & Greetings** – *Mike Braga, President*

Mike called the meeting to order and extended thanks to everyone for taking time to join KW Counselling Services for the Annual General Meeting.

Mike also thanked Cheryl Hacking, Board Member for sponsoring Gusto's catering of the reception.

2. **Approval of Minutes of 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting**

*Henrique Reis moved*

***That the minutes of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting held May 28, 2013 be approved.***

*Seconded by Wayne Hobbs, Carried*

3. **Treasurer's Report** – *Elaine Read for Paula DeLorenzi, Treasurer*

Elaine presented the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2013 and noted that an overview can also be found in the 2013 Annual Report.

Elaine's report highlighted that cost control and significant fundraising efforts in 2013 led to a surplus which we moved to the Capital Reserve Fund. Elaine thanked Leslie Josling, Allison Bird Brenner and Jim Droske for keeping the Agency fiscally responsible. She also thanked the auditors of Clarke, Starke and Diegel for their work.

*Following the report Paul Rossi moved*

***That the financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2013 be approved.***

*Seconded by Rosa Lupo, Carried*

4. **Appointment of the Auditors for 2014** – *Elaine Read for Paula DeLorenzi, Treasurer*

*Elaine Read moved*

***That Clarke, Starke, and Diegel be appointed Auditors for the Year 2014.***

*Seconded by Heidi Balsillie, Carried*

5. **Confirmation of the Acts of the Board for the preceding year** – *Mike Braga, President*

*Heidi Balsillie moved*

***That with regard to the Acts of the Board of Directors for the preceding year, be it resolved that all Acts, contracts, By Laws, proceedings, appointments, and elections made, done, and taken by the Directors and Officers of the Corporation since the date of the last Annual Meeting of the Members, are hereby approved and confirmed.***

*Seconded by Paul Rossi, Carried*

6. **Board of Directors Recognition** – *Mike Braga & Wayne Hobbs*

a. Mike recognized Paul McCuaig who served on the Board of Directors in 2013.

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b. Mike recognized Heidi Balsillie who served on the Board of Directors from 2005-2014. He noted that Heidi was the Agency's Honourary Campaign Chair and also worked tirelessly on our Public Relations & Communications Committee.

c. Wayne recognized Paula DeLorenzi who served on the Board of Directors from 2005-2014. He noted that Paula was a Past President of the Board and that she helped keep the Agency on a steady course as our Treasurer.

d. Wayne recognized Rosa Lupo who served on the Board of Directors from 2008-2014. He noted that Rosa was an outstanding citizen who donated much of her time and talents to the Agency when she served as Vice President and also on the Strategic Planning Committee.

**7. Nomination & Election of Directors – Mike Braga, President**

- a. Mike Braga recognized Kyle Cleaver who demonstrated great guidance and leadership in his first three-year term on the Board of Directors.
- b. Mike also recognized Paul Rossi for his incomparable, great work with the Public Relations & Communications Committee in his first three-year term on the Board of Directors.
- c. Mike introduced Dimetra Resendes as the newest member of the Board of Directors.

*Following the nomination report Rosa Lupo moved*

***That Dimetra Resendes be elected for a three-year term and that Kyle Cleaver and Paul Rossi be re-elected for a second three-year term, all commencing May 27, 2014.***

*Seconded by Laura Umbrio, Carried*

**8. President's Report – Mike Braga**

Mike began by relating the story of an army captain who demonstrated what is traditionally thought of as bravery while escorting Afghan diplomats. He said there is another type of bravery – the courage to seek help at places like KW Counselling Services. Mike also noted that is not only the clients who demonstrate bravery but also the KWCS staff who have the courage to help take on the concerns and problems of others.

Mike said that at KWCS acts of bravery are encouraged and acknowledged. He thanked Leslie and all the staff for continuing to give to the community. Mike also thanked his fellow Board members for their continued support of the Agency and community.

**9. Executive Director's Report – Leslie Josling**

Leslie began by telling the story of how, after the Wright Brothers made their first flights, they sent a telegram to their sister to tell her the news and to let her know that they would be home for Christmas. They asked her to share the news with the newspaper. She did so, but the news she deemed most important was that her brothers would be home for Christmas, not their historic flights! All this to say that it can be difficult to understand the true value of things, both in the short term and in the long term.

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Leslie went on to explain that the work we do at KW Counselling Services is an expression of our Vision: a community where no one is left behind. We offer services that are designed to make change possible.

Leslie spoke about the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study which demonstrates the powerful connection between the relationship trauma we experience and our long term physical and mental health. The study suggests that empowering people to address trauma with counselling services such as those offered at KW Counselling Services may not just be about helping people feel a bit better today it may well be the key to living healthy lives.

“I am grateful that the people in this room understand that it is imperative medically, socially, and economically to invest in services that foster positive relationships. Supporting our work here is not merely about helping people enjoy life, family and relationships it is a sound economic investment with layers of return and cost savings to our community. We believe the return on investment is apparent not only in our clients’ satisfaction with life and relationships (which is reason enough to act), but also in tangible cost savings to the community and the harder to measure long term health implications that arise from poor emotional health... I would like to extend my warm thanks to all of you, Board, Staff and our friends from the community for sharing our vision and supporting our work for community where no one is left behind and personal relationships are valued as the highest social achievement.”

**10. Adjournment of meeting - Mike Braga, President**

Before adjourning the meeting, Mike offered Heidi Balsillie and Rosa Lupo a chance to speak.

*Heidi said that she would never stop being an advocate or supporter of KW Counselling Services and that, though her time on the Board of Directors was over, she would continue working with us on the Public Relations & Communications Committee.*

*Rosa said that she would miss the great dynamic on the Board of Directors and the “personalities around the table.” She said she hopes to stay involved and connected.*

*Barb Carere moved*

***that the 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting be adjourned.***

*Seconded by Wayne Hobbs, Carried*

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**11. Closing Remarks – Mike Braga, President**

***Check out [kwcounselling.com](http://kwcounselling.com) and watch for details about our upcoming events:***

**June 14, 2014 – TriGator for Kids**

**June 16, 2014 – Cowan Charity Classic**

**June 22, 2014 – Tour de Waterloo**

**Autumn 2014 – Surprise Movie Night**

**Warm wishes and regards until our Next AGM: Tuesday, May 26, 2015**

**Bio for Nominee**

**Dimetra Resendes:**

Dimetra has completed an Honours BA in Political Science and Crime and Deviance from the University of Toronto and has completed a Post-Graduate Certificate, Human Resource Management Program with Honours. She has over ten years' experience in Human Resources and has her CHRP designation. Over the last ten years, Dimetra has gained experience in the areas of Recruitment, Employee Relations, Organizational Development, Labour Relations and in other areas of Human Resources. Prior to her work experience in Human Resources, Dimetra worked for Anselma House as a Part Time Relief Worker for approximately ten years and she worked in Social Services for two and a half years. In the past, Dimetra has volunteered with Peel Literacy and Anselma House. She currently enjoys volunteering on school trips with her daughters' school. Dimetra enjoys reading, hiking and spending time with her two girls.

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