

Canadian Racing Pigeon Union Inc.

Annual General Meeting

December 9, 2019

**Tillsonburg Community Centre
Tillsonburg, Ontario**

Attendees

Vice President Ken King, Treasurer Al Gauvin, Secretary Sue Wiltshire, Director Robert Rotiroti
Regrets: President Jeff Hall, Director Ken Hutchinson, Director Ryan Ward
Reg Wiltshire, Steve Walsh, Mike VanderJagt, Omar Martinez, Lloyd Flood, Nick Oud, Tom Foote, Joe
Oakley, Pete Priester, Roland Paret, Paul Gauvin. Dan Gauvin, Terry Harvey, Stan Rebejko, Marion
Hojsan, Carl Gauvin, Rodney Morris, Terry Humberstone Jen Gauvin, Denise Luscher

Welcome & Call to Order

Vice President Ken King called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. and welcomed each member and asked each member to introduce themselves

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence for those members and fanciers who passed away the past year and for those who died fighting to protect our freedom?

Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest was declared in regards to the agenda.

Reading of the Minutes of Meeting December 9, 2017

Secretary Sue Wiltshire read the minutes of the AGM meeting December 9, 2017.

Motion: To accept the minutes of the minutes of December 9th, 2017 as read by Sue Wiltshire

Moved by: Stan Rebejko

Seconded by: Rick Fyfe

Carried

Financials

Treasurer Al Gauvin presented the financials prepared by Graham, Scott Enns accounting firm for the fiscal year September 1. 2017-August 31, 2018

All the bills are paid to date. Sales increased the past year. This year we showed a loss due to a couple of items on the finances (publication and promotions) but the CRPU is in good shape financially. Steve Walsh stated the bylaw account which was set up for bylaws issues is no longer needed and his thoughts were for the bylaw account to be closed and monies from this account be transferred to the General Account.

Motion: To remove bylaw account and move funds to General Account

Moved by: Steve Walsh

Seconded by: Nick Oud

Carried

Motion: To accept the financial as presented by Treasurer Al Gauvin for the fiscal year August 31, 2017-September 1, 2018 prepared by review by the accounting firm of Graham, Scott, Enns Chartered Accountants.

Moved by: Rodney Morris

Seconded by: Terry Humberstone **Carried**

Motion: To appoint Graham, Scott Enns Chartered Accountant to do the financial review for the fiscal year for the Canadian Racing Pigeon Union August 31, 2018-September 1st 2019.

Moved by: Joe Oakley

Seconded by: Stan Rebejko **Carried**

Membership

Vice President Ken King gave a breakdown of membership and stated we had 51 new members this past year and 77 members renewed membership giving us a total of almost 700 members. There are three provinces that we know have Pigeon Racing Fanciers who have not joined the CRPU and Vice President Ken King has been reaching out to Quebec, British Columbia and Manitoba to see if we can get these guys to join the CRPU. Ken King thanked the Ontario crew Mario DaSilva, Scott Woolner and Marc Bamback just to name a few as there are many others for their dedication to the sport and for bringing new members to the sport. Vice President Ken King was pleased with the membership this past year but states more can be done. The CRPU will send letters to members who have not renewed and reach out by telephone to see if we can get fanciers to rejoin the CRPU. Mike Vanderjagt mentioned in regards to two suspensions. Vice President Ken King stated the board will review the suspension in June or when an application for membership is sent in.

Promotions

Director Robert Rotiroti is the Promotional Director at the CRPU. Robert read an email in regards to a new promotion that is being started for the members of the CRPU. The CRPU has designated \$2000.00 in promotional funds for the members to access so they can assist members with promotions. Members can apply for these funds by submitting an application to the promotion committee. These promotions can be in any form that promotes pigeon racing. The club or member that applies for these funds must match the amount. There is a \$400.00 cap per promotion. This information will be in the spring edition of the CRPU PigeonPost with the rules and regulations. An application form will be placed on the CRPU website for download.

Robert Rotiroti asked Mike VanderJagt to update the members in regards to the billboard that is being erected in the Niagara area. The CRPU donated funds to erect the billboard in the Welland area. First of all Robert Rotiroti thanked Mike Vanderjagt for his dedication to the sport and for taking care of this promotion. Mike VanderJagt stated the billboard was to be erected in the Welland area but the committee ran into a problem with bylaw issues. Mike checked out the area and found a place in Niagara Falls on Lundy's Lane (half hour from Welland) which already had a board which is free for the rebuilding which means no permits are required. Mike presented a copy of the billboard which is family oriented showing a family with the CRPU information. The materials and assembly crew are ready to go as soon as possible. The billboard in Northern Ontario will be due for renewal in 2020.

Vice President read an email from Mario DaSilva in regards to his advertisements placed on Kijji. Mario stated that he has received thousands of responses and has replied to over 600 requests. There is a charge to keep the ad and Mario places in different areas. Mario has helped several to join the sport and gave new fanciers birds as well as advice for becoming a fancier. Mario has raised the money with auctions to help him offset the cost for advertising. Vice President Ken King thanked Mario for his incentive and for supporting the sport and the CRPU.

Vice President Ken King read an email from Neil Gonzalez in regards to the billboard in Northern Ontario. Neil Gonzalez stated the billboard is located on a busy stretch of highway and has good exposure. Neil also has a sign in the local arena which the Madawaska RPC pays rental for. The rental on the billboard is up in January 2020 and would like to see the billboard moved to a different location as the board is in good shape and should last for years. The CRPU will revisit the billboard going forward to discuss another location for 2020.

Steve Walsh made a request for the SWOA to place a sign on the trailer with the CRPU information as a form of advertising.

Motion: For the SWOA to place a sign on the SWOA trailer advertising the CRPU.

Moved by: Steve Walsh

Seconded by: Roland Paret

Carried

Motion: To allocate \$2000.00 from the General Funds to Promotional Funds

Moved by: Nick Oud

Seconded by: Marion Hojsan

Carried

Lost Bird Update

Vice President Ken King thanked the members for their quick response this past year. We had much positive response from the public in regards to our members following up with lost birds. We still have a few who do not respond to lost birds but we have members who help out with lost birds and go above and beyond to make sure these birds are picked up Vice President Ken King thanked all the members for doing their part.

Awards

Director Robert Rotiroti invited Mike VanderJagt to give an update in regards to the national awards. Robert thanked Mike for all his work with the awards. Mike VanderJagt stated the applications for this year was a slow start but all in all Mike was pleased with the results for the first year. The only comment that was received was in regards to the due date to submit the old bird awards. This will be checked into for the next year to see if we can extend the due date for old birds. The winner will be published in the winter edition of the CRPU PigeonPost and the CRPU will send out diplomas to the winners. Secretary Sue Wiltshire read out the winners of this year's national awards.

Life Band Concerns

Vice President Ken King began the discussion in regards to life bands being purchased from off shore supplies store not recognized by the Canadian Racing Pigeon Union. The CRPU has had complaints that the CU name is being placed on these bands which is in violation. It is impossible for the CRPU to police these bands but we are asking the clubs to police them. The CRPU relies on the revenue from the sale of bands to keep our office open Monday-Friday for our members as well the CRPU registers all bands into a lost bird data base so we are able to help the public to find the owners. Purchasing bands from an off

shore supply house not recognized by the CRPU allows for fanciers to get these bands as early as July of the previous year which could jeopardize the fairness of the sport. The CRPU received a complaint from someone who was new to the sport purchased racing pigeons to find out the band was not the correct size for the adult pigeon and had to remove the bands so he was unable to put them into race. This is unacceptable to the sport and we are asking clubs to watch for these bands. Purchasing life bands from a recognized union or federation allows us to make sure bands are the correct size and fancier receive the bands at the designated time to allow fair play.

Roland Paret had a concern in regards to having to purchase club bands in March for the following year yet you can purchase CU bands without prepaying. The reason the CRPU asks clubs and personalized members to prepay for the bands is to guarantee the bands will be picked up. If the CRPU allowed orders without prepaying the CRPU could be on the hook for bands not picked up and this is not good business sense. Another concern was the amount of bands which has to be ordered for club or personalized bands as some would like personalized bands but do not require the minimum amount. Vice President Ken King asked Al Gauvin if he could contact our supplier to see if we can get the amount ordered reduced to see if this would help to curb members from purchasing off shore bands not recognized by a union or federation.

Annual General Meeting/Conventions

Vice President Ken King stated the Canadian Racing Pigeon Union is celebrating a milestone in 2019 as it is the 90th year celebration since its inception. The CRPU was incorporated in 1945 but began in 1929 at a motel near the Royal Winter Fair by fanciers who had a vision for the CRPU. This year the CRPU would like to host a mini convention or something similar for the milestone. Nick Oud stated the ladies auxiliary used to take care of conventions in the past as it is a lot of work. Secretary Sue Wiltshire stated she would work with others to arrange a mini convention if we could get volunteers to help as well get the membership to attend. There was much conversation in regards to location as it should be central and near an airport in case fanciers from across Canada would have an interest to attend. This year we may consider a guest speaker, auction, show but we will need volunteers. It was also mentioned we could bring back the CU race but we will have to get clubs and combines to volunteer their time to take care of the race. Terry Humberstone stated he would be interested in volunteering his time to getting a mini convention next year. Nick Oud stated we could get a guest speaker but there will be a cost involved but many time the speaker brings birds to auction which helps to offset cost. This will be discussed at the next meeting of the Board and more information will be in the spring edition of the CRPU PigeonPost as we ask for feedback from our members to see what we can decide on for next year's celebration.

New Business

No new Business

Motion to Adjournment

To adjourn the 2018 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Racing Pigeon Union

Moved by: Nick Oud

Seconded by: Stan Rebjeko

Carried

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