



Zorra Caledonian Society
General Meeting – May 15, 2017
MINUTES
Embro Legion
Meeting - 7:30 pm Social at 9:30 pm

“The Zorra Caledonian Society is a volunteer community organization formed in 1937 to recognize the Scottish heritage of the Village of Embro and the Township of Zorra”

2017 Board Members: President - Helen Dowd, Vice President - Brian McMaster, Secretary – Jennifer Moodie, Treasurer – Peter Fleming, Past President – Steve MacDonald, Kevin Fraser, Laura Green, Jim Grieve, Jim Knudsen, Ron Marshall, Alan Normand and Jim Walton.

Members Present: Doug Fyfe, Doug Ferguson, Katherine Grieve, Grant Innes, Angus Thomson, Keith Matheson, Darcy Alyea and Sandra Alyea.

Pre-Meeting House Keeping - Distribution of 2017 Gate Passes, 100 2017 EHG Posters, 50 ZCS Blank Notecards and 500 EHG Rack Cards (Helen)

Helen distributed the posters for members to take and post in various locations. Doug Fyfe handed out the 663 passes (this number does not include the Pipe Bands, or the Road Racers). They are on off-white paper this year and the print is raised as that makes them extremely difficult to copy. Helen asked all members to WRTE ON THE BACK of them who they are going to so Peter can tally on a wet/snowy day. Keith Matheson offered to take the 150 rack cards to Quality Inn/Tourism Oxford kiosk.

Call to Order & Confirmation of Quorum

Meeting was called to order by Helen at 7:40 pm and Quorum was confirmed with 20 members in attendance. The agenda and the attendance were circulated.

Roll Call – What are you looking forward to most at the 80th EHG and how are you promoting it to friends & family members?

Members shared their favorite part of the games and shared how they have been promoting the EHG with family and friends. There was a general wish for hot dry weather and anticipation for the music and Scottish activities.

Approval of the Agenda

M/S/Carried

Approval of Minutes from the April 17, 2017 General Meeting

Minutes were approved

M/S/Carried



Old Business

Helen bounced a few interesting “nuggets” that have come to her attention in the past month. Some of these ideas included:

- a curling bonspiel (to attract new, younger members)
- a golf tournament (to attract new, younger members)
- a week long day-camp in Embro to teach kids about Scottish Heritage (our mission is to pass on traditions)
- a suggestion was made by the 78th Highlanders to “move Embro to a Saturday and get it off a long weekend” – perhaps it is not a change in venue, rather a change in date ZCS should be looking at for 2018 – we know that there are Canada Day celebrations in Woodstock, Ingersoll, Stratford, Mitchell, St. Marys, Atwood, Rostock etc.
- the 3rd annual Tartan Ball hosted by the Sim School of Dance was a huge success and everyone had a wonderful evening. Although turnout was a bit lower than past years, many of the guests were first-timers. Helen will be sitting down with Sherry to discuss 2018 and bring back a proposal to the Society as Sherry has indicated a desire to partner with us.
- Our Facebook is up and running and very active – we are getting new subscribers each week!
- Bill Neufeld, a EHG vendor from Creative Design, has passed away and Helen posted a memorial message on the website of the funeral home for Bill’s family.
- The suggestion from Gord MacKay at the April meeting, to support the Town Crier, was investigated, the business card ads are all full, but Helen managed to get us an ad in the June edition for \$ 50 + HST.
- Harrington Community Association president, Philip Kerr offered to sing O Canada on July 1 – he is an actor and started in Les Miserable in Toronto. He also suggested he could emcee a new segment of the Games “Scottish Dogs on Parade” and would be willing to research the breeds. HCA is also bringing a display to the lobby of the arena to promote their Heritage Day in August.

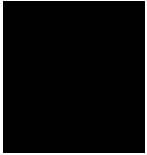
One last time - 80th Embro Highland Games

2017 EHG Site Plan -Latest version was shared with all members

Jim Walton presented the site, again, with very few changes. No construction dates have been confirmed by the Township. The layout hasn’t changed that drastically. Please see attachment for a detailed map. A concern was raised that if the Community Centre septic system problems are not rectified, that we should perhaps up the budget again for the rental of Porta-Potties which will be a \$500 increase in the Grounds budget. The toilets backed up yet again May 13, 2017 at the Canada 150 event hosted by the Embro Fairboard.

Motion to Finalize the Site Plan

M/S/Carried



ZCS members in attendance requested that a letter be drafted to the Township requesting that they stop work on the grounds until July 2nd since at this time, no work has been started due to the wet spring. Jennifer to write and submit to Jim Walton as he has been the EZCC Grounds contact.
M/S/Carried

Grounds Committee report (Jim, Jamie, Kevin)

- Clans & Concessions – We have a total of six clans at present. (Kincaid, MacKenzie, Elliott, Rattray, Gregor and MacDougall)
- Many of our concessions are returning as well as a few new ones to total 16. (Edan, Ben Bhraggie House, Shaws Ice Cream, British Foods, Todds Dogs, Ruach Crafts, PD Pottery, Hall o Names, Tartan Teddies, Imposters, Di's Fries, Gems 'n Stones, Ogilvie Site Furnishings, Aardvark) The clans will be indoors in the arena and the concessions will be in the same locations, but turned around facing the other way.
- Sound on the Grounds – Jim is putting the final touches on the PA system and a “wireless” mic for the Normand's.
- Approval of paid help at the 2017 EHG (service clubs/teams) -
name of group, area they are helping at, proof of certification (for the bar), hours, written instructions, terms of payment.
- Garbage & Recycling - Jim has spoken with the vendors requesting that they provide recyclable containers in the hopes of eliminating waste. There are to be no straws, recyclable only drink containers and no Styrofoam on the Grounds.
- Bar – Jennifer to contact Divina Garner for the bar help.
- Emergency Preparedness (Brian) -TBD
- Set-Up/Tear-down – Jim will contact people with dates for the Final Tour of the Grounds.
- One concern is the trimming of the trees in order to facilitate the movement of vendors, and participants. The responsibility belongs to the township as the trees are theirs. Kevin Fraser will follow up.
- Garbage – Jim W. talking to Chris Cockle about a group looking after garbage for their mission work – 4-H was a no but “would not see us stuck”.
- Parking – Jim Caddy has agreed to allow his property for the overflow parking.

2017 EHG Budget (Peter F)

The \$ 500 received from Zorra 150 grant has arrived and been deposited. Helen will write a thank you for the donation. The new accounts, required since our incorporation, have been set up and are ready to go.

Gate Details (Jim K)

- Physical Set-up: There will be two public gates – at the front of the community centre/arena lobby and one outside. There will be three service gates, north end, south end and an emergency gate in the middle of the grounds. Gates will be staffed right until 5 pm.



- Staffing - the south gate is for pipers, agility dogs/sheep people and will be staffed by one person (the same for the north and the emergency ga



passed to under-agers. It is a requirement to have security people on site to patrol the Grounds. Peter, Doug, Brian & Helen to arrange a meeting with the AGCO and the EZCC staff to have this important pre-meeting.

- Insurance update (Helen & Peter) - We have collected comparable quotes from various Insurance brokers. The one quote that was given was approximately \$3,000, which is substantially less than last year. They should be sending us the policy 60 days prior to the event.
- Media Plan Update – Helen showed us the new “Zorra Bingo Card” that will be available at the V and V tent. We are listed in that as well as in the “Zorra Now” Magazine, the “Daytripper”, the “Festivals Ontario Directory”, Celtic Life Magazine and the “Town Crier”. Doug Ferguson advised that the banner will be going up on June the 9th.
- All Committee Chairs were given their passes to distribute to their committee members.
- The Grieve’s announced that response to their May 1st EHG sponsorship mailing has been brisk and \$ 5K has already been received on top of the \$ 5K from Federal White.
- Beef Dinner – price and hall rent update, volunteer in/outs, passes (Kevin)- Ann Matheson sent us the recipe for the Haggis. The ladies agreed to pay their share of the rental of the hall.