

# Waterside Summer Series Music Festival

## First Annual General Meeting – June 5th, 2017

### Report from the Chair

#### 1. Welcome

2. Introduce the Board of Directors for 2016, a dedicated and hardworking group who are a delight to work with :

- Beverley Harris, Artistic Director (and sponsorships)
- Diane Kennedy, Treasurer
- Mary Gordon, Secretary
- Ann Adams, Vice Chair (marketing, volunteers)

3. Thanks and acknowledgement to two previous committee members, Ula Steif, who resigned as committee member and ticket manager when she returned to Europe in 2015, and to Peggy Edwards, who continues to be a key member of the organization but, as Ticket Manager, cannot be a director. Heartfelt thanks to both of you for what you've done and, for Peggy, what you continue to do as ticket manager and caterer.

Thanks also to Jacob Murray who, with his crew, continues to provide an excellent service as Production Manager.

I would also like to thank St. Paul's Presbyterian Church for allowing Waterside to use the church as an exceptionally fine concert venue.

3. My report highlights the period from January 1 to December 31, 2016 :

Tonight is the first Annual General Meeting – of an organization that has been active for 24 years!

(that is because ...)

Waterside Summer Series Music Festival became an independent body and a not-for-profit corporation with Charitable Status from the Canada Revenue Agency in March of 2016, after many years of operating under the Loyalist Township, as a sub-committee of the Recreation Department.

Waterside's official mandate is : « *To advance the public's appreciation of the arts by providing the public with high quality performances by renowned musicians of primarily classical music, with occasional performances of contemporary and musical theatre music* »

With charitable corporation status, Waterside accepts certain responsibilities and privileges – including the requirement to file annual statements to Canada Revenue Agency and Corporations Canada; to have our own insurance (we were previously covered by the Township's insurance); to manage finances through Waterside's bank account; and to receive donations and to issue charitable donation receipts.

Waterside, as an independent entity, is also eligible to apply for and receive grants from other charitable organizations.

In 2016, the Waterside Board adopted an establishing by-law and appointed the following Officers – Secretary (Mary Gordon), Treasurer (Diane Kennedy), Artistic Director (Beverley Harris), Vice Chair (Ann Adams) and Chair (Diane Pearce);

Anna Townend joined as an associate member in November of 2016 and accepted the new role on Event Coordinator, pending her proposed appointment to the Board in 2017.

As everyone knows, and Bev regularly repeats in written and oral communication, Waterside's success depends on our generous sponsors and supporters. Thank you for believing in Waterside and for continuing to show your faith by your financial donations and your regular concert attendance.

Waterside is also dependent on the hard work and dedication of volunteers, not just our dedicated Board of Directors, but every supporter who hosts after-concert dinners, takes tickets and serves treats at the concert intermissions, provides flowers at concerts, hosts and feeds special guests and performers, drives concert goers to and from the ferry when needed, and by doing whatever is needed each year to host a great season. Thanks to all of you for everything you do!

In closing, I want to thank the Board, once again, for their hard work throughout the year. Your enthusiasm and dedication contribute so much to Waterside and your great humour makes being part of this Board a real pleasure. I look forward to working with you until the next AGM.

I hope each of you will allow me to say a special thanks to Bev, our Artistic Director extraordinaire, who continues to search out and find equally extraordinary talent to grace the Waterside stage each and every year.

Thank you.

Diane Pearce,  
Chair