

**Elizabeth Bishop Society of Nova Scotia**  
**Minutes of Annual General Meeting**  
**25 June 2022, 1:00 p.m.**

**St. James Church (aka Great Village Arts and Entertainment Centre), Great Village, N.S.**

This being the first EBSNS AGM since 2019, secretary Sandra Barry called the meeting to order and welcomed eleven members and guests. This small but keen group showed that while the covid-19 pandemic was easing, it was still affecting the number of people able and willing to gather in person for this kind of event.

Sandra read the Minutes of the 2019 AGM, pausing occasionally to remark on how those days seemed so long ago now, a very different world. In 2019 we had no idea what was in store for us barely ½ year later. Sandra moved that the 2019 Minutes be approved as read. Second: Laurie Gunn. Approved.

Treasurer Joy Graham presented the Financial Report for the term 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. The balance in the EBSNS bank account was \$5,499.46. Joy noted a few particulars, including donations from John Barnstead, Brenda Barry and Rosaria Campbell/Darlene MacIvor to help with the shipping cost of the EB desk. Also, she acknowledged the funds that have come in from John Barnstead through a PayPal Giving Fund on Facebook. Since there were no questions, Joy moved the acceptance of the report as presented. Second: Sandra Barry. Approved.

Joy distributed an information sheet, with an income and disbursements breakdown for the period from 1 April to 25 June 2022. The balance of the EBSNS bank account of 25 June was \$4,192.84. This takes into account the expenses for the AGM, including catering by the Wayside Café and the honorarium and mileage for our guest speaker.

Because the EBSNS has been more or less dormant for the past two years, the board had agreed to the status quo. Sandra presented the Nominating Committee Report. The proposed slate of officers and board from 2022-2023:

Executive

Pat Townsend – President  
Laura Sharpe – Vice President  
Sandra Barry – Secretary  
Joy Graham – Treasurer

Board:

John Barnstead  
Lois Bray  
Rosaria Campbell  
Laurie Gunn  
Meredith Layton  
Janet Maybee  
Patti Miller (Past President)  
Libby Schofield

Sandra moved the Nominating Committee Report be accepted as read. Second: John Barnstead. Approved.

Being that President Pat Townsend was unable to attend due to illness, no President's Report was given.

Sandra acknowledged the presence of Rita Wilson, author of *A Pocket of Time: Elizabeth Bishop's Poetic Childhood*, who had copies of her book for sale.

Sandra then reported on an exciting development: the acquisition of Elizabeth Bishop's childhood desk, which was gifted to the EB House by New York artist James Kerr. Sandra read a provenance document she had written to go with the desk, which had arrived a couple of weeks previously, and had been expertly repaired and restored by Great Village woodworker Garry Shears. The house was placed by Laurie Gunn in the parlour of the EB House a few days before the AGM.

The business meeting being adjourned, those assembled took a short break to enjoy the abundant refreshments catered by the Wayside Café, which operates out of the basement of the church.

At 2:00, Sandra called all assembled back for the concluding program. Nova Scotia journalist and writer Laura Churchill Duke presented a lively, fascinating talk/reading about her first novel, *Two Crows Sorrow*, a historical novel recounting the life and murder, in 1904, of Burlington, N.S., resident Theresa McAuley Robinson, by her husband William Robinson. Meticulously researched, Laura's presentation about this tragic and gripping murder and subsequent trial, and her experience researching its complex history, kept those gathered riveted. The EBSNS had invited Laura to be guest speaker for the 2020 AGM, so we were delighted that finally she was able to give her excellent presentation.

After Laura's presentation, a group of those assembled walked to the EB House to see the EB desk now in its new home.