

**THE OTTAWA FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**

Conducted by email between July 11 and July 16, 2013

Council Members Voting: Annie Bélair, Fenja Brodo, Dan Brunton, Carolyn Callaghan, Barbara Chouinard, Owen Clarkin, Barry Cottam, Ian Davidson, David Hobden, Diane Kitching, Diane Lepage, Ann MacKenzie, Karen McLachlan Hamilton, Lynn Ovenden, Rémy Poulin, Henry Steger, Ken Young, Eleanor Zurbrigg

Council Members Not Voting: Don Hackett, Jeff Skevington

1. Bequest by Violetta Cszak

The Treasurer, Ken Young, by email to Council Members, informed them that a bequest has been made to the Club by Violetta Cszak. The OFNC is the sole beneficiary of her estate. Ms. Cszak left a will to that effect, but did not name an executor, and it appears that she had no surviving relatives.

Friends of hers placed a memorial notice in the Citizen in June:

(<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/ottawacitizen/obituary.aspx?n=violetta-cszak&pid=165462522>)

The matter has ended up in the hands of the Office of the Public Guardian & Trustee. They advise the Club to retain a lawyer, who can assist us in being named executor, after which the will can be probated and other estate matters handled. There are many tasks, and it will be some time before everything is settled. It appears that the value of the estate is about \$200,000. This is a very generous gift that will be very beneficial for fulfilling the Club's mandate.

The Executive Committee has discussed this, and recommends that the OFNC hire a lawyer and authorize the Treasurer to represent the Club. In order to expedite matters the Club should pass authorizing motions now, rather than wait until September's Council meeting. Therefore Ken put forward the following motion, to be voted on by email.

MOTION: Council approves retaining Lawrence Pascoe as the Club's lawyer in the matter of the estate of Violetta Cszak. Council authorizes the Treasurer to act on behalf of the OFNC in matters relating to the estate of Ms. Cszak. Council authorizes the Treasurer to spend up to \$2,000 on expenses related to the estate of Ms. Cszak, which amount can be increased by the Executive Committee.

Moved by Ken Young/Ann MacKenzie

Vote: In favour: 18; Opposed: 0

CARRIED

Recording Secretary: A. Bélair