



FILBERG HERITAGE LODGE AND PARK ASSOCIATION
2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Filberg Heritage Lodge, 61 Filberg Road, Comox, BC
May 10, 2025 at 1pm

Mission: The Filberg Heritage Lodge & Park Association is dedicated to the preservation and stewardship of the Filberg Lodge and Park

Vision: A world-class heritage park for all to enjoy

Key Message: The Filberg Heritage Lodge and Park Association (FHLPA) is a non-profit organization established in 1979, which has the responsibility of maintaining and restoring the heritage lodge and outbuildings in the park. All money raised by the FHLPA from membership sales, donations, special events and year-round fundraising is used for this purpose and for the operational costs associated with managing the Filberg Park for all to enjoy.

Call to Order

The Chair of the Board, Cheryl Edmunson, brought the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to order at 1:00 pm and thanked everyone for coming out.

Cheryl introduced the current Board Members present: Audrey Craig (Past President, retiring), Melanie Whittall (Vice President), Judith Marriott (Treasurer), John Mang, and Alexandra Bissinger. Councillor Maureen Swift (Town of Comox representative), Linda Trevor (Executive Director), Serhii Krott (Facilities Manager), Mo MacKendrick (Gift Shop) and Sharon Rouleau (Cutting Garden). Cheryl acknowledged the absence of Director Shelley Combs.

Cheryl confirmed that adequate notice of the AGM had been given to active members and that the quorum of 12 active members was established, with the aforementioned members and the following members in attendance as evidenced by the sign-in-sheets: Karen Chrysler, Margot Hope, Diana Lake, Eva- Marie Trebell, Sharon Rouleau, Jeanne Gusman, Linda Lytle, Norma Dean, James Powell, Pat Bourgeault, Clyde Woolman, Joy Bosse, Bert Heeringa, Diane Blackburn, Tom Blackburn, Gayle Lindsay, Mo MacKendrick, Kate Bridger, Wendy East, and Nancy Shaver-LeForte.

Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: *“That the Agenda for the May 10, 2025, AGM be accepted as written and distributed”.*

Moved: Audrey Craig Seconded: Judith Marriott Carried

Approval of the AGM Minutes

MOTION: *“That the Minutes of the May 11, 2024, AGM be adopted as written and distributed”.*

Moved: Eva-Marie Trebell Seconded: Mo MacKendrick Carried



FILBERG HERITAGE LODGE AND PARK ASSOCIATION
2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Filberg Heritage Lodge, 61 Filberg Road, Comox, BC
May 10, 2025 at 1pm

Report from the President (included in the AGM Peripherals)

Cheryl highlighted the successes of the past year including, but not limited to Gift Shop, Cutting Garden, Festival, special events and our new Arboretum level 1 accreditation. Cheryl thanked Linda Trevor for her hard work with recognizing volunteers and keeping the Filberg running efficiently and effectively. Cheryl also thanked our volunteers for their dedication and support. She commented that generosity is thriving in the Comox Valley.

Report from Treasurer (included in the AGM Peripherals)

The report was distributed prior to the AGM. Judith highlighted and thanked the hard work of our volunteers for achieving our financial success over the past year.

MOTION: *“That the Filberg Heritage Lodge & Park Association year ended 2024 Annual Financial Statements be accepted as distributed.”*

Moved: Judith Marriott Seconded: Melanie Whittall Carried

MOTION: *“That the firm of Cloutier Matthews Chartered Professional Accountants be appointed to complete a compilation engagement for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2025.”*

Moved: Judith Marriott Seconded: Gayle Lindsay Carried

Operational Reports (included in the AGM Peripherals)

Gift Shop Report

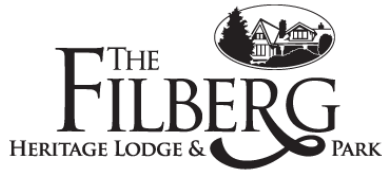
Mo highlighted the successes for the past year. She thanked the volunteers for their dedication and support.

Restoration & Maintenance

Linda highlighted the number of restoration and maintenance projects that were completed by our Facility Manager and our team of volunteer workers. Linda acknowledged the continued support from the Town of Comox.

Cutting Garden Report

Sharon highlighted the successes for the past year, which included the hours of work that the volunteers contribute to the Cutting Garden, including planting, watering, weeding, bouquet making, and Christmas posies.



FILBERG HERITAGE LODGE AND PARK ASSOCIATION
2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Filberg Heritage Lodge, 61 Filberg Road, Comox, BC
May 10, 2025 at 1pm

Comments from the Town of Comox

Councillor Maureen Swift acknowledged the great work that takes place in the Park and recognized the volunteers for their hard work. She also highlighted the projects completed by the Town of Comox at Filberg Park in 2024, including a new sign on Comox Avenue, an irrigation system installation near the Rotary Stage, a water fountain, a retaining wall reconstruction in the ravine, planting of the three Gary Oaks in the field across from the Hands On Farm, and lights for the annual Christmas event.

New Business

A heartfelt goodbye was extended to retiring Past President, Audrey Craig. We are grateful for her remarkable work during the pandemic, leading our conversion from a working Board to a governance Board, development of our successful Legacy Tree program, fund-raising as a super power for Audrey, working with the kids doing crafts at our many events, cooking for our volunteer events and being instrumental in promoting the Park throughout the local community and beyond. At last year's AGM we provided Audrey with a well-deserved Lifetime Legacy Tree. A token of our appreciation was provided.

Election of Officers

Curriculum Vitae's were distributed prior to the AGM.

MOTION: *"That Bert Heeringa be accepted as a Director of the Filberg Heritage Lodge & Park Association commencing May 10, 2025, for a renewable 3-year term."*

Moved: Audrey Craig Seconded: Melanie Whittall Carried

Bert replaced Robin Ram mid-year as an acting Director, as Robin was not able to fulfill his Director duties at the FHLPA.

MOTION: *"That Karen Chrysler be accepted as a Director of the Filberg Heritage Lodge & Park Association commencing May 10, 2025, for a renewable 3-year term."*

Moved: Audrey Craig Seconded: Sharon Rouleau Carried

MOTION: *"That Clyde Woolman be accepted as a Director of the Filberg Heritage Lodge & Park Association commencing May 10, 2025, for a renewable 3-year term."*

Moved: Mo McKendrick Seconded: Norma Dean Carried



FILBERG HERITAGE LODGE AND PARK ASSOCIATION
2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
 Filberg Heritage Lodge, 61 Filberg Road, Comox, BC
 May 10, 2025 at 1pm

Current Board terms:

Name	Term Expires
Audrey Craig	AGM 2025 (Past President, retiring)
Cheryl Edmunson	AGM 2026 (President)
Melanie Whittall	AGM 2026 (Vice President)
John Mang	AGM 2026
Judith Marriott	AGM 2026 – Eligible for a second term
Alex Bissinger	AGM 2026 – Eligible for a second term
Shelley Combs	AGM 2027 – Eligible for a second term

*Term of office is three years, and Directors may serve 2 x 3-year terms (6 years) consecutively

Membership Fee Increase

The membership fees have not increased over the past eight years. Given the rising costs that the Filberg Heritage Park & Association has faced, the Board of Directors recommends a modest increase of \$5 for seniors and \$5 for adults, bringing the new membership fees to \$30 annually for seniors and \$35 annually for adults. As per our bylaws, membership fees can only be increased at an AGM and require the approval of the membership. No changes will be made to the existing benefits of membership.

MOTION: *“That the Filberg Heritage Lodge & Park Association increase membership fees by \$5 for seniors and adults, for the 2025/26 membership year.”*

Moved: Judith Marriott

Seconded: Eva-Marie Trebell

Carried unanimously

Special Presentation – Audrey Craig

As Coretta Scott King so eloquently said, “The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.” This sums up the valuable work done by the Comox Valley Community Foundation (CVCF). Since 1996, the CVCF has worked with generous donors and supporters from all corners of our community to build a legacy for our region. In that time, they have distributed more than 7 million dollars to organizations throughout the Comox Valley – organizations that are committed to improving and enriching life for all those living in our beautiful community. Countless lives have been impacted. The CVCF has 3 primary purposes



FILBERG HERITAGE LODGE AND PARK ASSOCIATION
2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Filberg Heritage Lodge, 61 Filberg Road, Comox, BC
May 10, 2025 at 1pm

1. Work with donors to align their charitable goals with community needs
2. Manage funds entrusted to them responsibly and with integrity
3. Invest in the community now and forever, through grants, scholarships, resources and leadership

Prior to his death, Robert J. Filberg established the Robert and Florence Filberg fund with the Vancouver Community Foundation. Upon his death in 1977, the Vancouver Foundation became the principal beneficiary under the will. RJ Filberg bequeathed this amazing nine-acre property and the Lodge, along with 11 million dollars, to the Vancouver Foundation (which has grown into the largest community endowment fund in Canada). Not wanting to see the property developed into housing, the Town of Comox petitioned the Vancouver Foundation (VF) for ownership of the property. Some very creative negotiations ensued between the Town and the VF in that the Foundation issued a one-time grant of \$110K and a \$110K mortgage payable over 10 years. The payments for this mortgage were paid by an annual grant from the VF. In 1979, the Lodge became the property of the Town of Comox, and it was later designated a Municipal Heritage site. As you are aware, the lodge and park are maintained and managed by our organization via contract with the Town of Comox.

The FHLPA fund is an open, permanent, endowed agency fund held with the CVCF. As an agency fund, its purpose is to create a long-term, stable stream of annual distributions that are restricted for use by the FHLPA as directed by its association. Each year, typically in June, the BOD of the CVCF approves a spending rate that informs the spendable balance across all funds. The rate varies annually, taking into consideration market performance of the prior year, inflation to maintain the value of funds, and preservation of capital. Historically, the rate has been approximately 3.28% to 3.5%, upon its determination, fundholders will receive an annual statement in August reporting this amount as it relates to the fund balance. Our annual income from this fund totalled \$22,200 in 2024 and \$58K over the past 3 year. The principal balance of our fund in the CVCF is \$261,275.00 as of December 31, 2024. The principal balance is the total of all donations since inception. The market balance is much higher at \$490,243 on March 31, 2024. An updated market value is reported annually in August. People can make donations to our fund in a variety of ways, online through the CVCF website, gift of securities, future gift in their will, cheque by mail or cash to their new location at 917C Fitzgerald Ave in Courtenay. When you consider that a \$10,700 capital gift initially established the CVCF, it now holds \$15M in assets on behalf of all residents of the Comox Valley and directs their resources to the ever-changing needs and priorities of our community.

As the CVCF so rightly says, “we have done so much ... we have so much more to do”. Just like us.



FILBERG HERITAGE LODGE AND PARK ASSOCIATION
2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Filberg Heritage Lodge, 61 Filberg Road, Comox, BC
May 10, 2025 at 1pm

Presentation of Honorary Lifetime Member – Linda Trevor

It is my great honour to stand here today to recognize an extraordinary individual who has not only given her time and energy to the Filberg Heritage Lodge and Park Association but has done so with a spirit of kindness, humility, and a smile that lights up every room. Today, we are proud to celebrate Margot Hope as this year's Honorary Lifetime Member.

Margot's journey in the Comox Valley began back in 1960. She first started volunteering with the Filberg Heritage Lodge and Park Association in 1980, where she joined the efforts of the Soroptimist Club to run the ticket booths at the Filberg Festival. For eight years, you could find Margot there, greeting guests with warmth and a genuine smile that set the tone for the Festival experience.

After taking a hiatus to focus on raising her three children and pursuing her career as an X-Ray Technician at Cumberland General Hospital, Margot returned to us once again—this time to support the Filberg Gift Shop not long after it first opened its doors. Since then, she has been a familiar face in the shop, always ready to lend a hand and share a kind word with everyone who walks through our doors.

Margot is the kind of volunteer who quietly makes everything run a little smoother. When we hosted our strawberry tea events at Filberg Lodge, Margot would bake her famous golden cakes, adding her own touch of warmth to each gathering. Her contributions may have been humble, but they were always heartfelt.

Now, at 94 years old, Margot is still as vibrant and generous as ever. Her family lovingly calls her their social butterfly—and we can certainly see why. Whether it's stepping in last-minute to help with our Easter Event, working shifts in the Gift Shop, or simply lending a hand wherever it's needed, Margot is there, always smiling, always kind, and always ready to help.

Margot, you are not only a volunteer; you are family to the crew here at the Filberg. Your unwavering commitment and boundless kindness remind us all of what it truly means to be part of a community. We are incredibly grateful for you, and we are so happy to honour you today.

We hope that all of our members have the opportunity to meet Margot, to hear her stories, and to understand just how much of a difference she has made—not just here at the Lodge and Park, but in the hearts of everyone who has had the pleasure of knowing her.

Please join me in celebrating Margot Hope, our Honorary Lifetime Member for this year. Margot, we thank you, we honour you, and we are so grateful for all that you have done—and continue to do.



FILBERG HERITAGE LODGE AND PARK ASSOCIATION
2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Filberg Heritage Lodge, 61 Filberg Road, Comox, BC
May 10, 2025 at 1pm

Acknowledgments

Cheryl provided a heartfelt thank you to all of the volunteers for their hard work and dedication. She also thanked Margot Hope for assisting with the sign-in list.

Meeting was adjourned by the Chair, Cheryl Edmunson, at 1:50 pm.

Chair **Cheryl Edmunson** _____

Date: _____

Vice Chair **Melanie Whittall** _____

Date: _____