

**Glebe Report Association
Annual General Meeting
May 18, 2017
Draft Minutes**

Participants: Martha Bowers, Valerie Bryce, Bob Brocklebank, Colleen Clark, Clive Doucet, Joseph Duggan, Judy Field, Pat Goyeche, Andy Joyce, Deb Kuffner, Patricia Lightfoot, John MacNab, Elaine Marlin, Liz McKeen, Ian McKercher, Sachiko Okuda, Sheila Pocock, Tim Pychyl, Bruce Rayfuse, Manse Romano, Omer Sansek, Alex Slobodica, Tom Tanner, Della Wilkinson, Nathan Willkinson-Zan,, G Willing, Steve Zan

Special Guest Speaker: Ross Finnie

1. Call to Order and welcome

Bob Brocklebank called the meeting to order and read a portion of the poem “Footprints of the Glebe” by Erika Ward published in the May 2017 Poetry Quarter in the Glebe Report.

2. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved on a motion by Ian McKercher

3. Approval of minutes of previous Annual General Meeting

The minutes as circulated were approved on a motion by Tom Tanner

4. Presentation “Barista or better”

Steve Zan introduced Prof. Ross Finnie of uOttawa.

Prof. Finnie said his use of the title “barista or better” was a response to the widespread concern that young people going to tertiary education would be unable to find employment which seemed to take advantage of higher education.

He has examined graduates by cohort by year observing changes in income over time. The study examined first level (bachelor) graduates from fourteen universities and colleges. Post-grad students were excluded from the study as were graduates with no significant income (i.e. those outside the labour force). Information from the universities was successfully linked to tax data.

The results indicated that a typical graduate from 2005 reached an annual income of about \$70,000 some five years after graduation. He displayed graphs showing the similar income growth of various graduation year cohorts. The financial crisis of 2008 could be seen as a pause in income growth but there was consistency before and after.

In looking at the data by field of study, students in engineering and health enjoyed higher incomes on first entering the labour market. Students in visual and performing arts had the lowest first year income. All groups saw income growth although the health group had a relatively flat growth curve. First year incomes generally were lower over 2008.

There are further areas of analysis which Prof. Finnie believes could warrant additional study, such as relating graduates’ incomes to family income, how academic results relate to income, or the effect of policy initiatives directed toward job creation on graduates’ incomes over time.

He listed a series of skills identified by employers as determinant of advancement and thus of income growth. These are attributes such as flexibility, problem solving, communication and analytical skills. These seem to be more important to growth in income than some of the skills taught in traditional tertiary institutions. He indicated that teaching might be redirected to cultivate students’ experience in flexibility and teamwork.

His advice to students is to study what you like, to mix things up rather than specializing narrowly, and to not expect to know a defined career path in beginning higher education.

Following the presentation, Prof. Finnie responded to several questions and comments from the audience. Among issues raised were: differences between incomes of graduates from universities versus colleges – initially the university graduate may have a higher income but this difference may vanish over time; a reluctance to move for jobs – not a universal phenomenon; what attracts young employees – some security of employment is sought, benefits may not be so important; and skill development earlier in life – important but tertiary education can deepen such skills

Bob Brocklebank thanks Prof. Finnie his presentation and invited participants to further discussion with Prof. Finnie over the break. The audience enthusiastically showed its appreciation for the presentation and some animated discussions took place.

5. Break

6. Report by board chair

Bob Brocklebank outlined the purpose of the Association and invited participants to become members. Although advertising is the sole source of income, the Glebe Report continues to give precedence to editorial content and acting as an outlet for expression by residents of the Glebe. The content, the editing/proofing/designing and the delivery of the paper and website are the product of an army of volunteers. Members of the production team and board were introduced

7. Reports by members of production team

On behalf of the production team, Liz McKeen, Editor, thanked the community for its ongoing support for the Glebe Report.

8. Financial reports

Sheila Pocock, Treasurer, took the meeting through a summary financial statement (attached to these minutes) and noted that a full financial statement prepared by Collins Barrow was also available for examination and would be made available subsequently to any inquirer. Her presentation was followed by several questions of clarification.

It was moved by Andy Joyce, seconded by Valerie Bryce “that the financial statements be accepted by the meeting” CARRIED

It was move by Sheila Pocock “that Collins Barrow continue as auditors for the forthcoming year”. CARRIED

9. Other business

Bob Brocklebank noted that the board has now a full membership of nine persons, all of whom were elected at a previous meeting for multi-year terms. Accordingly, it was proposed that the board membership continue for the following year.

It was moved by Elaine Marlin “that the current board members be thanked for their service and that they continue in that capacity for the following year.” CARRIED

Adjournment