



2023 Annual General Meeting Secretary's Report

Respectfully submitted by: Karen Venema

Monthly Meetings: This year we continued our regular monthly meetings using the Zoom platform. We have continued to benefit from the use of the CVF Zoom license giving us more uninterrupted time for our meetings. This has become an efficient way to hold our monthly meetings with no travel involved. Executive members submit their reports a day or two in advance and often, I am able to submit the draft minutes a few hours after the meeting ends.

Neighbourhood Walking: I continued to manage the Neighbourhood Walking program throughout 2022. Our club made the decision to disband the program for 2023 as group walk numbers had approached pre-pandemic levels toward the end of the year. This program contributed to all of our club PTs doing well financially, even when there were no regular group walks.

Meetup: I continued to advertise our group walks on Meetup. As a result, 1545 new people have been exposed to our club with three new members joining in the past year. The biannual Meetup fees are paid by the Walking & Volkssport Association of Ontario (WVAO).

Tuesday Walks: in March 2022, one of our Saturday group walks was rescheduled to the following Tuesday, due to dangerous walking conditions on the Saturday. The attendance was very high that Tuesday morning so I asked if members would be interested in a regular Tuesday morning group walk. As a result, the Tuesday Trails program began. I have volunteered to coordinate the walks done on Tuesdays, submitting the emailed invitation and chosen routes to Jim McConkey a few days before. Whenever there is an Ottawa Voyageurs Event on the weekend, we repeat the walk on the following Tuesday. We walk our club Permanent Trails on the other Tuesdays. Some of our PT start points were relocated on or near the original route, for Tuesday walks only, so that parking would be available. As a result, some of the routes needed to be rewritten. I started to add a medium distance route as often as possible and noticed that there was sufficient interest in those routes. Maps have been added to the instructions for those who prefer to orient themselves visually. I want to express my sincere thanks to the PT walk coordinators who worked with me to design new routes and to update old ones. Your willingness to make changes and send me route suggestions has added to the strength of the Tuesday Trails program!