

# **The Vancouver Life Drawing Society**

## **2014 Annual General Meeting**

### **April 5, 2014**

Meeting held at Basic Inquiry Studio & Gallery - 1011 Main St. Vancouver

#### Attendees:

Doug Smardon – President

Randal Cullen – Vice President

Gaston Lessard – Secretary

Nicholas Jackiw – Treasurer

Alain Boullard – Board Member at Large

Justin Ogilvie – Member; special speaker to make a studio lighting proposal

~10 additional Members

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Doug Smardon, President.

#### **2013 AGM Minutes & 2014 President's Report**

Attendees were directed to printed copies of the last year's minutes and the annual President's Report, circulated with the Meeting Agenda and attached to these minutes, for a summary of the year's operations. These minutes and report were accepted.

#### **Studio Lighting**

Justin Ogilvie, responding to an earlier board solicitation for recommended improvements to our lighting system, proposed installing an array of 9 lights within the back splash screen over the stage in a 3x3 matrix, with each light independently controlled by a rheostat on two panels mounted where the existing switches are located. In this way the session managers could select any lights at varying illumination strengths to illuminate any aspect of a model "in the round" without having to climb a ladder to adjust positioning of fixed lights. Discussion followed. A cost-savings concern was raised that nine lights might be overkill, that perhaps we could get by with five. A different suggestion was raised that we investigate "programmable" light fixtures so that different banks of preset lighting configurations could be accessed, corresponding to different pose orientations, to improve the occasionally haphazard adjustment of lights in actual sessions. It was further recognized that session manager training (on model-lighting in general) would greatly benefit the installation of any new lighting. A consensus emerged that if we were going to invest money in lighting improvements, a minimum goal should be to eliminate the need to use ladders to reposition lights—and therefore eliminate the risks associated with the ladder. The discussion closed with the recommendation that

the Society continue working toward light improvements on this plan; that Justin circulate his proposal as a physical drawing to be reviewed for comment by membership at large through an instudio posting; and that the Board then determine a budget limit for potential improvements.

### **Financial Report**

The Treasurer reported the Society's \$9,000 loss last year—more than 10% of our capital—as Society costs have substantially outpaced income; and outlined steps the Board has taken to address this as imbalance as well as the need for further measures. A motion to increase membership fees \$20 (\$10 for students) was made and passed 14 to 1. The near unanimity of this vote is a strong show of support for the Society; if our membership mostly renews in 2014, the fee structure will substantially offset our operating loss. Following this motion, and effective immediately, the rates for 2014-2015 annual dues are as follows:

Regular members \$60  
Students \$30  
Corporate \$100

An additional incoming-building motion, to require Society volunteers to pay \$5 for dropping in to sessions that they are not actively managing, was proposed but defeated.

### **Gallery Rental Contract changes**

Attendees were directed to the new Gallery-Artist Contract for Individual/Group Shows, a printed copy of which circulated with the Meeting Agenda. The new Contract features an increased weekly rental fee and requests that artists renting the gallery offer public visiting hours on Saturday afternoons 2-5pm (at a minimum) to increase community awareness and access to Basic Inquiry's gallery function.

### **Proposal to co-host the Centro Flamenco 30 year Anniversary Show**

Centro Flamenco has withdrawn their proposal for this year and requested that they be granted a similar timeslot in the fall of 2015.

### **Call for volunteers to organize a member's show**

As no volunteers have stepped forward to organize the membership show from September 13 to October 10, 2014 the Board will be considering directing the Gallery Coordinator to offer up this time slot to members for private showings.

### **Election of the new Board**

The existing Board was reelected by acclimation.

**Having no more business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.**