

Annual General Meeting Minutes

The Vancouver Life Drawing Society

Saturday April 21, 2018; Basic Inquiry Studio 1011 Main Street, Vancouver, BC

Meeting called to order at 2:00pm

In attendance: Douglas Smardon (president), Suzanne Saint Pierre (vice-president), Alain Boullard (member-at-large), Nick Jackiw (treasurer), Paul Kernan (secretary)

Approximately 14 members were also present.

1. Call to Order:

The President called the meeting to order at 2:00PM and introduced the board members, including the new vice-president, Suzanne Saint Pierre.

2. Membership Renewal – Reduced Rate:

The president reminded the attending members that a \$10 discount would be applied to society memberships renewed immediately after the meeting.

3. President’s Report:

The President provide a report on the past year’s activities. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

4. Financial Report:

The Treasurer provide a report on financial issues over the past year.

- 2017 was a good year from a financial perspective with revenue exceeding expenses. However, the treasurer also noted that the 2017 surplus was roughly half of the amount of surplus in 2016.
- Financial performance in the current year will be impacted by several factors:
 - Rent on the 1011 Main Street studio and gallery has increased by 20% under the new lease agreement.

- Over the last number of years, a significant component of the Society's revenue has come from bulk ticket sales to film animation companies. Maintenance of this revenue stream is highly dependent on the continued commercial success of animation studios.
- In recent years the Society has received good returns from unfortunately high-risk investment accounts. To reduce Society exposure to market risk, these accounts have now been closed and funds have been invested in lower risk accounts.

5. Report on transitioning to BC's new Societies Act

- The Secretary present a brief report on the process of transitioning to the new Act. The Society has been working on the process for approximately one year and anticipates completing all tasks before the November 2018 deadline.
- Compliance with the new Act requires a few minor administrative revisions to the Society's current constitution and bylaws which date from 2003 and which exist as a single document. To comply with new regulations, the two documents must be separate. In addition, the constitution must not include any content other than the name and purpose of the Society.
- To comply with these requirements, separate constitution and bylaw documents have been prepared and will be filed. It was noted that a vote by the membership is not required to approve these changes.
- The possibility of adopting new model bylaws (developed in conjunction with the new Act and in fully compliance with requirements) will be considered by the board. A future 2/3 vote by the membership would be required to approve this change.

6. Information item: Proposed Wednesday morning alternative session

- Elsa Chesnel (member) provided an outline of a proposed new Wednesday morning studio session which she would manage. Although the format would be conventional with short poses for the first hour followed by a long

pose, the intent of the session is to provide an alternative to typical sessions using new models, and possibly more than one model, with themes such as reproducing poses from famous paintings. The use of props and different lighting arrangements were also discussed. The exact format, which would be posted on the website prior to the session, would be developed with input from the model. Elsa indicated that she would also welcome ideas from other members and proposed that an “idea box” be available at the sessions to receive suggestions from members.

- A discussion followed and a number of issues were raised including the cost associated with multiple models, the process for booking new models (it was agreed that Alain would continue to book the models but with input from Elsa), and the need to advertise these sessions.
- It was agreed that the proposed sessions would run for a 3-month trial period starting on June 6, 2018.

7. Report on storage slot rentals

The vice-president indicated that storage slots are now available for renting (cost \$60 / yr.). A number of members present indicated that they were not aware that the slots could be rented. In response the president suggested that a notice about the slots could be posted on the website. It was also suggested that if all slots were not rented they be made available to members attending painting sessions for storage of works in progress.

8. Report on tenant improvements, washroom and closet

The President recognized the recent upgrades to the washroom and thanked, Alain Boullard, Ron Bijok, Suzanne Saint Pierre, Marlene Van Tassel, Jim Poole and Jeremiah Hoefl for their contributions. It was reported that approximately \$1,000 had been spent to date on material for this work, however, more funds for tenant improvements are available and possible additional work to the studio was discussed including, modifications to the storage space to provide secure storage for

models, possibly storing the easels in the studio space (beside the skeleton), and moving the sign-in desk to the front area.

9. Motion from the Floor:

Alain Boullard made a motion to increase model fees from \$85 to \$90 per session. The motion was seconded by Paul Kernan and passed unanimously.

10. Election of Officers

The president indicated that four current Board members indicated their willingness to stand again. Also, that Nick Jackiw was stepping down as treasurer as he will be out of the country for approximately 8 months starting in August 2018 and that as a result there was a need for a new treasurer. Ron Bijok, member, agreed to put his name forward for this role. The new board members, Douglas Smardon (President), Suzanne Saint Pierre (Vice President), Ron Bijok (Treasurer), Alain Boullard (Member at Large) and Paul Kernan (Secretary), were approved by acclamation.

There being no other business, the Meeting was adjourned by the President at 3:40PM. Following the meeting memberships were renewed.