

**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**The Vancouver Life Drawing Society**  
Tuesday November 5, 2019; Campagnolos at 7:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 7:15pm approx.

In attendance: Douglas Smardon (president), Suzanne Saint Pierre (vice president), Ron Bijok (treasurer), Alain Boullard, Paul Kernan (secretary), Dean Gazeley, Nick Jackiw, IT Manager

**Standing Items:**

1. President's introduction
  - a. Agenda agreed, with the following additions:
    - i. Old Business – 5. Risk to Models
    - ii. New Business - Holiday Schedule
2. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved
3. Financial Report
  - a. Account names. It was agreed that for the purposes of the minutes the two Van City accounts could be described as;
    - a) Short term Account / Operating Account / General Account, and, b) Long term account / Savings account.
  - b. Ron reported that as of the end of September, the society's financial position is unchanged since the last report.
  - c. \$8,000 has been transferred from the operating account to the savings account.
  - d. Dean and Ron will investigate options to transfer funds from the savings account to GICs. It was agreed that Dean should have signing authority as this may be required for the transfer.

- e. Ron presented graphs showing attendance by session type, attendance by payment method and revenue by source, all from January – end September 2019.
  - f. A proposal to raise drop in fees to \$20 was briefly discussed but was agreed to table further discussion on the to a later meeting or to the AGM
- 4. Models
    - a. Nothing to report.
  - 5. Gallery Shows
    - a. Nothing to report.

### **Old Business:**

- 1. Changes to distribution of minutes
  - a. Nick has discussed the issue with Cyprian and agreed that the current process for distribution of minutes will not change. Minutes, when approved, will be issued to Cyprian and will be emailed to all members currently listed on the membership list.
- 2. Member Survey
  - a. It was agreed that the survey would be issued to members in its current format via Survey Monkey or similar software. Doug noted that the current draft of the survey contained 12 questions and noted that 2 questions would need to be omitted to meet the 10-question maximum permitted.
- 3. Contact List on Google Docs
  - a. Paul that the volunteers and others listed on the volunteer contact list have been provided with access to the list on Google Drive. Any instances of volunteers reporting that

they do not have access is likely the result of them having missed the email notification.

#### 4. Policy Manual

- a. It was agreed that Paul would get started on compiling a list of policies. It was noted that a file of miscellaneous policies exists on Google Drive.

#### 5. Risk to Models

- a. Various aspects of the issue of the status of models with respect to working in Canada were discussed including the option of paying an honorarium rather than a fee, obtaining advice from our insurer on the risk and a formal risk management assessment. As previously discussed it was agreed that legal advice from a Societies Lawyer would be an appropriate first step.

### **New Business:**

#### 1. Technical Systems Update

- a. Nick provided a report on the current status of various technical topics including: Facebook, Member Mailing List, Website, Google Drive, A Future Road map for the Society. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

#### 2. Outreach and the Baccalaureate Program

- a. Doug introduced the following motion, seconded by Dean: *The current Baccalaureate Program be either changed or dropped so it no longer conflicts with our Rental Policy. Any changes to reflect a defined Outreach policy as determined by the Board.*
- b. During vigorous discussion the following ideas were raised:

- i. The nature of “Outreach” and the core basis for the society as defined in the VLDS constitution.
  - ii. The issue of rental of the studio for events with a social rather than artistic focus, e.g. bachelorette parties.
  - iii. A proposal to discontinue studio rentals and instead have special sessions with a volunteer managing.
  - iv. The distinction between different types of entities renting the studio; a fee-paying school compared to a more explicitly commercial enterprise.
- c. Various amendments to the motion were discussed and eventually the following motion was agreed: *The Society’s current Outreach approach be changed so it no longer conflicts with our rental policy.* The motion was put to a vote and passed unanimously. The result being the baccalaureate and other outreach programmes will no longer be subject to the rental policy and the rental policy no longer subject to outreach. Due to time limitations the Board was unable to resolve what outreach is to the Society, how outreach will be carried out or what outreach initiatives the Board would undertake. Further discussion can be tabled for another meeting.

d.

### 3. New Model Try Out Special Session

- a. Nick and Alain discussed the challenges of accommodating new models. Alain had previously suggested the use of the studio on Saturday afternoons as a possible time to give new models an opportunity to try

out. A test session is currently scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup> and has been advertized on Basic Inquiry website.

- b. Depending on the success of the November 16 session future session may be arranged, and if possible, could involve more than one model.

#### 4. Basic Inquiry Google Drive

- a. Nick provided a brief tutorial, and hand out, on the structure and use of Google Drive.

#### 5. Help for Session Managers of Special Sessions

- a. It was agreed that assistance with session management of special sessions, or particularly busy sessions, would be provided if requested by the session manager. Assistance could be provided by any volunteer member selected by the session manager.

#### 6. Posting of members work in the gallery between shows

- a. In response to an email to Suzanne from a member, Ron and Suzanne proposed that members be allowed to display their work in the studio / gallery outside of the context of formal gallery shows. Ron has developed the following guidelines to facilitate these informal exhibitions:
  - i. it should be clear that basic is not responsible for the artwork, and the artists' mounting their work at their own risk.
  - ii. we should limit the duration that artwork can be up in order to ensure a rotation. I suggest one week,

where an artist is obliged to take their work down at their next regular session.

- iii. the session manager should explicitly have the right to limit the number of pieces by any individual. I believe we should encourage all participants to exhibit, and should not strive for quality. That would dissuade inexperienced artists from participating. Maybe it evolves so that the gallery has the better pieces.
- iv. we should reserve the right to take down pieces and put them aside if they exceed 2 weeks. and we should be able to take down pieces and put them aside if there's an upcoming show.

- b. The idea of informal exhibition by members was approved in principle and Suzanne agreed to manage the process.

## 7. Christmas Session Schedule

- a. Doug agreed to contact session manager and confirm their availability to manage sessions over the Christmas holiday. Once the schedule is determined an email notification will be sent to members.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.