

Vancouver Minutes

**AGM Saturday May 20th, 2017
Rudolf Steiner Center, 3743, Delbrook Avenue
North Vancouver**

Councillors in Attendance: Dorothy LeBaron, Ida Liedl, John Bach, John Glanzer, Micah Edelstein

(First half)

2:30 - 4:00

Opening of AGM - Dorothy Lebaron

“Let’s hear from you”

Report in Worldwide Michael Conference

Micah - attended World Wide Michael conference at the Goetheanum. Structured around the Foundation Stone. A new format was attempted where the Executive Council and organizers let the form of the conference take shape somewhat spontaneously, with those who attended creating the form as a whole. The purpose of the conference was to explore how we can open ourselves up to what is coming from out of the future.

We must be confident and steadfast in the strength of Anthroposophy. We live in a Michaelic way if we do this.

Dialogue walk:

“What is blossoming forth as the summer fruit of inner winter work?”

Foundation Stone- John Bach

Acceptance Minutes from 2016 AGM :

Proposer- Bert Chase

Secunder- Arie van Ameringen

Motion passed

Business Arising

Issue of Proxy Vote:

We have to now start accepting proxy votes as the rules governing non-profit organizations have been amended and state that the use of proxy votes are now part of the federal legislation governing Canadian non-profit organizations. AGM proxy voting must now be offered to members.

Philip Thatcher- In 1988 proxy voting was removed from the ASC because it was used for political purposes and to attempt to shift power in a manipulative way. The change was made so that

members at the AGM voted on the issues, and that healthy discussion could also arise around issues to be voted on.

Patricia Smith- We need to be more specific and clearly outline the issues to be voted on in the agenda that is mailed to members prior to an AGM if we are to allow proxies.

Dorothy LeBaron- For important votes, information would be mailed out.

John Glanzer- Only members in good standing should be allowed to vote by proxy.

Elizabeth Carmack- If your membership is in a different country can you still vote?

Gerry Bain- A person's voice should be their own. There is a possibility that a vote could be used in a way not intended by the proxy voter.

Ali Roth- How were proxies used inappropriately in the past?

Bert Chase- In the 1980s all council was from Toronto. The West had no voice. Enough proxies were collected to take over the ASC. We can't work in this way. We must work out of trust. A person may decide to change their mind in a vote based on the discussion of the issues.

Giselher Weber- We could use a form and letter.

Bert Chase- We have a workable form because Council travels and can then

discuss upcoming issues with members across the country that will be voted on in AGM.

Review of Activities - Dorothy LeBaron

- Judith King and Doug Wylie completed their terms as council members
- Micah Edelstein and Ida Leidl joined council, John Bach became Secretary
- Membership application form was revised
- How to become a member added/revised on the website
- Protocol timetable on membership dues was developed
- Ottawa conference- a great deal of planning and organizing was done by Council
- Seeds from the Ottawa conference are living as future impulses on Council
- We are trying to build stronger relationships with various Anthroposophical initiatives in Canada (AWSNA is an example of this- contribution/tax receipt process developed)
- Process of finding a new General Secretary started, which is open to all members
- Oct 2016 council/classholders meeting theme: Is the spiritual impulse of the Christmas Conference still active and present in our work?
- A Foundation Stone meditation initiative with members is developing
- A new motive (masthead) for the ASC is being developed in collaboration with council
- Various funding requests were discussed and granted
- The Freedom Mystery Conference was underwritten
- Robin Schmidt meditation conference is being sponsored by ASC/council
- There is a legacy mandate group working with council
- Funding for the general section collegium representative was not renewed
- We are currently actively seeking new council members

Treasurer's Report- John Glanzer

The Ottawa conference doubled our funds that moved in and out of the books. The unrestricted core funds are still healthy but are shrinking. Administration currently costs 15% of the total budget. Contributions are becoming more timely. The increase in contributions exceeded bud-

get projections. The deficit from the Ottawa conference was \$29,000, but the funds in the G. Wilson account and also a debt forgiveness reduced this deficit to a net loss of \$14,000.00. This was a very successful event, and using unrestricted funds to cover this deficit was a good use of these funds. More money was sent to the Goetheanum this year, which means that our revenue in Canada was about the same as it was last year. We still have a healthy reserve fund, but we need to be more diligent to balance the budget.

Abigail Fisher-Lange: Of our total membership contribution, how much comes back to our local branch in Vancouver?

John Glanzer: The amount of \$275 covers the Goetheanum contribution and the requirement for the Canadian Society. Anything above this can be directed to a local branch.

Approval of 2016 financial statements:

Proposer: Bettina Hillaby

Secunder: Patricia Smith

Motion passed

Budget Projection 2017-John Glanzer

The assumption is that contribution levels will remain the same as they were for 2016. This year's budget will be more conservative than last year's to help balance the budget. There will be cuts in various areas of this year's budget, mostly in the area of travel. Class holders, Section representatives, general secretary, and council travel budgets will all be reduced. We will teleconference more and combine trips and meetings where possible. There will also be a reduction in the mailing of Glimpses. It will be mailed only to those who do not have an e-mail contact. This will save around \$5,000.00.

Patricia Truman- How much money do we pay to Canada Helps?

John Glanzer- It is significant but it is widely used.

Ida Leidl- What is the reserve fund being saved for?

J. Glanzer- Events like the Ottawa Conference.

Bert Chase- This money was a gift to the ASC from a member. The funds then bought Hill House which was later sold. The funds in reserve are from this sale.

A. van Ameringen- This money was initially meant to purchase a house, but this is now no longer a possibility.

Goetheanum financial situation

A. van Ameringen- brief discussion of financial problems at the Goetheanum due to production of 'Faust' which lost money. Can we help or make a gesture to assist in rectifying this problem?

Acceptance of proposed 2017 and 2018 budget

Proposer: Herb Walsh

Secunder: Philip Thatcher

Motion passed

Acceptance of Clarke and Kaprielian as accountant performing a Review Engagement:

Proposer: Philip Thatcher

Secunder: Bert Chase
Motion Passed

Selection of alternate review auditor (if needed)

Proposer: Patricia Smith
Secunder: Barbara Mundy
Motion passed

(Second Half)

4:00 - 5:30

What is a gesture that you carry in your role in the ASC?

John Glanzer -deepening the discovery of what is possible together.

Dorothy-finding ways to work together across the country, opening up and widening out gesture for members

Arie- Trying to answer to the needs of the world, connecting with members of the public in general

Confirmation of all council members

John Glanzer

Susan Koppersmith - Proposer
Giselher Weber- Secunder
Confirmed

Dorothy LeBaron

Greg Scott - Proposer
Patrica Smith - Secunder
Confirmed

Micah Edelstein

Ida Liedl- Proposer
John Bach - Secunder
Confirmed

Confirmation of Officers

John Glanzer as *Treasurer*

Ida Liedl - Proposer

Philip Thatcher - Seconder

Confirmed

Dorothy LeBaron as *Chair*

Barbara Mundy - Proposer

Bettina Hillaby - Seconder

Confirmed

Micah Edelstein as *Secretary*

Esther Chase - Proposer

Ida Liedl - Seconder

Confirmed

Request that something be sent out to local branches about issues that require a proxy vote.
Discussion ahead of time to get feedback.

Ida- Travel assistance available for Goetheanum

JG-Might be a time to make a difference through Bequests.

Edna Cox - Can we hear about the Goetheanum "crises"

Arie response - Significant Change is happening. South entrance work, walls needed concrete repairs, Vanderhall, upgrades, changed the west entrance to make it where people are entering from. Something new already in the building.

Change in the old way of the Vorstand deciding everything, Main focus on where the society is going, including the General Secretaries as part of this circle. Example: they Asked me if I agreed with the new member joining the Vorstand. Mood of meeting of encounters between people, middle region vs top down management.

Freedom in initiatives - "we support you" approach. Faust 1 and 2 production. Worked with budget, less scenery, but implicated a new way of Faust on stage, modernized it. Not well received, consequence is that big event cost millions of francs, attendance was half. Different reasons why, not necessarily individual to blame. Add to that less income with exchange rate. Positions were cut, workers said no, we are willing to lower salary to keep the rest employed.

Less bequests coming in, new initiatives to supply funding. organization to support the society. Association of support.

Plug about meditation world wide, and translation and publication of book called "Meditation"

Discussion about the Goetheanum life.

Elizabeth Carmack. Spirit of philanthropy doesn't hurt us.

Arie- Money has to flow otherwise it is dead. Work out imagination, Society saving money is viewed like a pension.

John Glanzer- stop hemorrhaging before we can say yes

Bert Chase- I don't know what number they need from us as a membership fee. Being clear on what is needed. \$75 doesn't meet requirement. Double would support the work. Have minimal structure in place, and what do they need more? Frame work for providing more.

Susan Koppersmith- Could it be a special appeal?

Member-Could it be a survey of what people can give?

Member-How about the ones that live furthest away?

Ida- Goetheanum as heart organ, event described as catastrophic. Countries come forward. We are not asking "why is this happening, why is the heart organ suffering happening". Elitist situation happening. Older generation able to support the Goetheanum, X generation 3,000 strong in society.

Philip- Faust goes back to when I was GS, to do with new leadership, members decided to take artistic risks. Mystery play, work with light, eurythmy. Impulse to do a different way. Not satisfactory. The price of taking artistic risk. Learn from experience, don't back off from living on artists edge.

John- This should be put on agenda to build on it and have this discussion.

Dorothy- Thank-you to Michel Bourassa for his translation work on Encountering Our Humanity website. Thank-you to Eric Philips-Oxford for his translation for the e-news.

Thanks and acknowledgement to Jef Saunders for his work as administrator.

Dorothy- Motions to confirm all work

Confirmed unanimously

Ida- reads the Foundation Stone in French.

AGM Closed- Dorothy LeBaron