

Anthroposophical Society In Canada AGM 2019 Minutes

Location: École Rudolf Steiner de Montreal

Date: Saturday, May 19, 2019 at 9:30 am

Secretary: Susan Koppersmith (she confirmed a quorum)

Foundation Stone in English: read by John Glanzer

Verse for the Dead by Rudolf Steiner: read by the Secretary along with the names of those members who had crossed the threshold in 2018

New Members: names of new members and members transferred in the ASC for 2018 were read by the Secretary

Motion made to accept Minutes from AGM 2018:

Proposer: Jean Balekian

Secunder: Carol Meyer

Motion passed

News from the Goetheanum: Bert Chase

The Goetheanum leadership is turning to greater circles of support outside of Dornach. In 2018 three members of the Vorstand left; this meant that the work of the Goetheanum was carried by half the number in previous years. For decisions, are paper votes the best way to go? Should there be telecasts of the AGM in Dornach, where members around the world can listen to the proceedings and vote? In Bert's opinion, both these suggestions are flawed. The real work of anthroposophy is happening through being together in person and meeting each other, through conversation and listening to the other's point of view.

Review of May 2018-18 ASC activities: Dorothy LeBaron

- **Sharing Your Voice:** from the 2018 AGM, 2 motions were passed —to change bylaw for quorum from 10 to 7% and to add a new bylaw to accept proxy vote, process to be determined. Over the 2018-19 year, Council worked on the Sharing Your Voice form which became the process used at the 2019 AGM
- **New arrangements in Toronto:** In Hesperus, the library moved to a new space on the ground floor. An adjoining room is now a room for the ASC.
- **Council retreat in Duncan at Glenora Farm in August 2018.** This gave us an opportunity to work in a retreat setting, forming our new constellation of Council members along with the new General Secretary. We visited the area and met many members and heard of their initiatives.
- **Monthly teleconferences.** Always part of our work to respond to funding requests.

Examples: we were able to offer contributions to support a member to travel and represent the biography program in Canada at the World Biography Conference. We agreed to support a new translation of Steiner's first mystery drama. We agreed to support the eurythmy performance at the 2019 AGM/Conference in Montreal.

- **New Council Member:** In February we invited Catarina Burisch from Toronto to work with us during our teleconferences. We were happy that she agreed to stand as the new Council member for Ontario.
- **New Branch** We passed a resolution to recognize the new Thornhill Branch in March 2019. Thirty members signed the application form.
- **New ASC Publication:** With the help of artist, Jean Balekian, Susan Koppersmith and Claudette Leblanc worked on a new publication: *Perspectives*.

Susan thanked Jean for making the publication possible. It was important that we have the help of an artist working out of anthroposophy to make this project go forward.

- **New Logo for the ASC:** Bert Chase along with Regine Kurek and Jean Balekian worked on a new motif which was presented at this 2019 AGM.
- **Alumni Festival** Micah Edelstein worked on an Alumni Festival originally scheduled to take place in Halifax in August of 2019. For various reasons, this Festival had to be postponed and will go ahead at a later date.

Micah explained that there was not enough time to reach all alumni and also to access local funding. Though the prices of events were reasonable, young adults do not have the funds. Can we make prices more affordable?

- **Jef Saunders:** The ASC Administrator is resigning. Council is actively working on his replacement. For the time being, Jef will continue to put out our monthly eNews.

Motion made to officially thank Jef Saunders for his work as Administrator of our Society with particular attention to his "sensitivity in dealing with issues."

Proposer: John Balekian
Secunder: Heidi Vukovich

Motion passed

Logo introduced: A large visual of the new logo was presented by Bert Chase. He along with Regine Kurek and Jean Balekian will take suggestions and make further changes.

Treasurer's Report: John Glanzer

Motion to accept the financial statements for the ASC for 2018

Proposer: Barbara Mundy

Secunder: Megan Collins

Motion passed

John Glanzer presented Treasurer's Report for 2018-2019 with some comments.

- There was a surplus of \$17,562 this year. There is a reserve level of \$259,000. The ASC is in a position to support initiatives, with the expectation that the funds are used efficiently and with the hope that the initiative can stand on its own and have its costs covered.
- A World Treasurer's Circle meets regularly to address the real costs of operating the Goetheanum. This is done in conjunction with the Goetheanum leadership. There is increased activity from the Goetheanum which is operating on a limited budget. The Circle came to the conclusion that 90 Swiss Francs is needed as a minimum from each member to fund the Goetheanum. This translates to \$120/year/member in Canadian funds. The yearly dues for ASC members would now be \$320. No objections about this increase in dues were raised at this AGM.
- *Perspectives* is our new annual, hard-copy ASC publication. The cost for this year was about \$5,000. Approximately \$1,700 was raised in advertising revenue. The intent is to pursue more advertisers in future years.
- John intends to form a Circle of Stewards. These are members who manage the bank accounts of their various groups and branches on behalf of the ASC. John will keep the stewards informed of all legal matters.

Some questions came up about the Reserve Fund. Can we release more money, the lifeblood of our Society, to make it flow? A suggestion came up to have a financial mandate group with input from the wider membership. John replied that the Council is intending to work in this direction. It is a new way of working together and we will start in this direction with small steps.

A member thanked John for taking on the work of Treasurer, with the hard work that this involves.

John presented the 2019-20 budget.

Motion to accept the budget

Proposer: Reinhard Rosch

Secunder: Inge-Barbara Bastian

Motion passed

Motion to confirm Clarke & Kaprielian as the accounting firm

Proposer: Heidi Vukovich

Secunder: Inge-Barbara Bastian

Motion to approve the appointment by Council of another accountant in the event of a default by Clarke & Kaprielian
Proposer: France Beaucage
Seconder: Eric Philips-Oxford

A Good-Bye to Dorothy LeBaron, our President. Dorothy has served for seven years and it is time for her to relinquish this task and pass it on to Micah Edelstein. She spoke of the highlights of her time on Council and that it was a great pleasure to serve our Society. On behalf of the Council and the membership, John thanked her for her dedication and service.

Break

Micah Edelstein as the proposed new President, chaired the meeting. He spoke of a new way for Council to go forward with forming mandate groups with more support from the wider membership.

Catarina Burisch introduced herself as the new Council member from Ontario

Motions to confirm Councillors

Micah Edelstein
Proposer: Arie van Ameringen
Seconder: Eric Philips-Oxford

John Glanzer
Proposer: Arie van Ameringen
Seconder: Jean Balekian

Catarina Burisch
Proposer: Arie van Ameringen
Seconder: Heidi Vukovich

Susan Koppersmith
Proposer: Arie van Ameringen
Seconder: Barbara Mundy

Claudette Leblanc
Proposer: Arie van Ameringen
Seconder: Renée Cossette

Motions passed

Motion to accept the following Officers

Micah Edelstein as President
Proposer: Arie van Ameringen
Seconder: H el ene Dub e

John Glanzer as Treasurer
Proposer: Arie van Ameringen
Seconder: Denis Schneider

Susan Koppersmith as Secretary
Proposer: Arie van Ameringen
Seconder: Micheline Gagnon

Motions Passed

AGM 2020 (Saturday May 16, 2020 in Vancouver). Members were reminded that travel funds are available from the Members Travel Fund

Sharing Your Voice Bert Chase

The attempt was to avoid any “mechanism” around proxy votes. Those not able to be at this AGM were invited earlier in the year to share their thoughts on a Sharing your Voice form and give the form to a Council member. It was hoped that, through conversation of those members present at the AGM, all would come to an agreement on the motions. If those present decide that a formal show of hands was necessary then the Sharing your Voice form would give absent members the opportunity for their appointed members to represent them.

It should be noted that no motions at the 2019 AGM came to a formal vote.

Acknowledgments: Micah Edelstein

Thanks to Eric Philips-Oxford for his translation work, Jef Saunders for his work as Administrator, Jean Balekian for his work on *Perspectives*, to all Branch Contacts and Stewards and Class Holders and ASC members for their support.

Confirmation of Proceedings: Micah Edelstein

I, Micah Edelstein, present a resolution that all by-laws, resolutions, contracts and proceedings of the Board of Directors of the corporation as set forth or referred to in the minutes of the ASC are hereby approved, ratified and confirmed.

Seconded by: Noemi Glen

Unanimously carried

There being no further business there was a motion proposed by Micah Edelstein and seconded by Inge-Barbara Bastian that the meeting be adjourned.

Unanimously carried

Foundation Stone Meditation in French: read by Claudette Leblanc