

Anthroposophical Society in Canada
2020 AGM Minutes
Online

Date: Saturday, May 16, 2020 at 3 pm EDT

Virtual Orientation: Mark McGivern

Secretary: Susan Koppersmith

A quorum was confirmed

Second Panel of the Foundation Stone in English: read by Catarina Burisch

Verse for the Dead by Rudolf Steiner: read by the Secretary along with the names of those members who had crossed the threshold in 2019-20

New Members: names of new members and members transferred into the ASC for 2019-20 were read by the Secretary

Motion made to accept Minutes from AGM 2019:

Proposer: Margaret Leffers

Seconder: Gordon Lewis

Motion carried

Treasurer's Report for 2020-21

Financial Statements (John Glanzer):

- In 2019 449 members contributed approx. \$100,000 (one third to the Goetheanum and the rest to core ASC activities)
- ASC dues were raised this year from \$275 to \$320; we are increasing our portion to the Goetheanum (now \$120/yr) as requested by the worldwide Treasurer's Circle
- because of demographics, travel costs for Council members to meet are up but general ASC administrative costs are down
- John acknowledged the efforts of our previous administrator, Jef Saunders, who is supporting our current membership administrator, Christine Tansley, with the transition. In addition Christine is drawing up an operating administrator's manual ready for the incoming membership administrator, Claudette Leblanc, who will take over this summer.
- our core deficit this year is approx. \$5,800; our reserve fund is approx. \$254,000
- The Gift Money Mandate Group has received \$10,000 in support for the publication of the Foundation Stone Meditation project spearheaded by Arie van Ameringen of Les Éditions Perceval
- members are encouraged to send their funding requests to the Council. Every request is considered individually. Micah Edelstein added that we are looking to financially support initiatives that have more the "multiplier effect" and benefit larger numbers of members rather than single members.

- our reserve funds can be used to provide seed money and to help fund important initiatives that experience a shortfall. It is hoped that initiatives can fund fully themselves but this is not always possible (eg the 2016 Encountering Our Humanity conference)

A member wondered whether members were aware that they can apply for seed money to fund initiatives. Could the Council issue a document to Society Branch members on how to go about applying for funds?

There was a suggestion that there could be a conference organized around the theme of how we can better release and circulate reserve funds.

A member would like a detailed list of initiatives that Council has funded. John replied that these items could be added to the financial statements that go out to members every year.

A member suggested that we spend some time articulating our identity as a Canadian Society. This might help us to make more clear how we want to spend some of our reserve funds.

Motion to accept the financial statements

Proposer: Eric Philips-Oxford

Secunder: Patricia Truman

Motion carried

Motion to wave Review Engagement for 2021 for going forward until such time as the Society receives more than \$10,00 in public donations (John Glanzer)

Much discussion around this: for and against

Proposer: Greg Moore

Secunder: Dorothy LeBaron

Motion carried

Motion to Accept Budget 2020-21 (John Glanzer)

The updated 2020 budget projects a deficit of \$1,900. A deficit of \$3,900 is expected in 2021.

Proposer: Claudette Leblanc

Secunder: Megan Collins

Motion carried

Bylaw changes:

Summary

Motion 4, and 5 are to extend the responsibility of the President for signing new Membership cards onto any member of Council. The proposal allows Council to choose amongst themselves a delegate councillor to carry out the work for a specified term.

Motion 6 is to allow for a fully online or virtual AGM to take place under such circumstances as we are currently experiencing.

Council is proposing the following changes:

Motion 4 Amendment to Articles II of Membership

(Original wording)

2.1 Members

- i. Submission to the Society of an application for membership. The President of the Society then prepares and signs a membership card for the applicant, and sends it to the Goetheanum. A designated member of the Executive Council of the GAS. signs the membership card, at which time the applicant's membership in the Society becomes effective.

(New wording)

2.1 Membership

- b. i. Submission to the Society of an application for membership. A designated Council member of the Society then prepares and signs a membership card for the applicant and sends it to the Goetheanum. A designated member of the Executive Council of the GAS signs the membership card, at which time the applicant's membership in the Society becomes effective.

Motion 5 Amendment to Articles II of Membership

(Original wording)

2.1 Membership

- ii. Transfer of membership. An individual who is a member of the General Anthroposophical Society shall become a member of the Society upon the date that the President of the Society receives from such individual a letter or email stating his or her intention to transfer his or her membership to the Society, and including his or her current membership number. Pursuant to subsection 197(1) (Fundamental Change) of the Act and in accordance with the articles, a resolution of the members carried by at least 75% of the votes cast is required to make any amendments to this section of the by-laws if those amendments affect membership rights and/or conditions described in paragraphs 197(1)(e), (h), (l) or (m).

(New wording)

2.1 Membership

b. ii. Transfer of membership. An individual who is a member of the General Anthroposophical Society shall become a member of the Society upon the date that the designated Council member of the Society receives from such individual a letter or email stating his or her intention to transfer his or her membership to the Society, and including his or her current membership number. Pursuant to subsection 197(1) (Fundamental Change) of the Act and in accordance with the articles, a resolution of the members carried by at least 75% of the votes cast is required to make any amendments to this section of the by-laws if those amendments affect membership rights and/or conditions described in paragraphs 197(1)(e), (h), (l) or (m).

Proposer to accept Motions 4 and 5: Bert Chase

Seconder: Corinna Sons

Motion Carried

Motion 6 New bylaw.

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

3.1 Annual and Special General Meetings

(Original wording)

a. Annual General Meeting

i. The Annual General Meeting of members of the Society shall be held before the end of May in each year and at such hour and such place as may be fixed by the Council.

ii. At each Annual General Meeting, in addition to any other business to be transacted, the report of the Council, the financial statements of the Society and the report of the public accountant of the Society on the financial statements shall be presented, and the Councillors and Officers elected, and public accountant of the Society appointed, for the coming year.

b. Special General Meetings —Special general meetings of the members may be called any time by the Council.

(New wording)

a. Annual General Meeting

Council may elect to hold a partially or, in extraordinary circumstances, a fully electronic (also known as virtual) AGM. Pursuant to subsection 197(1) (Fundamental Change) of the Act and in accordance with the articles, a resolution of the members carried by at least 75% of the votes cast is required to make any amendments to this section of the by-laws if those amendments affect membership rights and/or conditions described in paragraphs 197(1)(e), (h), (l) or (m).

(Current item ii. now becomes item iii. in the Bylaws.)

ii. At each Annual General Meeting, in addition to any other business to be transacted, the report of the Council, the financial statements of the Society and the report of the public accountant of the Society on the financial statements shall be presented, and the Councillors and Officers elected, and public accountant of the Society appointed, for the coming year.

Much discussion around this. It is always important to meet face-to-face. One value of virtual AGMs is the more members from varied locations can attend and engage with one another. Can we do both?

Proposer: Bert Chase

Secunder: Shirley van Houten

Motion carried

Bert Chase shared that three members from across the country wanted it recorded in the Minutes that they would not take part in this year's virtual meeting.

Confirmation of Accountant

Motion to confirm Clarke & Kaprielian as the accounting firm

Proposer: John Glanzer

Secunder: Emmanuel Vukovich

Motion carried

Motion to approve the appointment by Council of another accountant in the event of a default by Clarke & Kaprielian

Proposer: John Glanzer

Secunder: Barbara Mundy

Motion carried

Presentation of Council members by Bert Chase: Micah Edelstein, John Glanzer, Catarina Burisch, Claudette Leblanc, Susan Koppersmith

Confirmation of Councillors:

Micah Edelstein
Proposer: Bert Chase
Second: Barbara Mundy

John Glanzer
Proposer: Bert Chase
Second: Greg Moore

Catarina Burisch
Proposer: Bert Chase
Second: Patricia Smith

Claudette Leblanc
Proposer: Bert Chase
Second: Corinna Sons

Susan Koppersmith
Proposer: Bert Chase
Second: Eric Philips-Oxford

All motions carried

Confirmation of officers:

Micah Edelstein as President
Proposer: Bert Chase
Second: Jean Balekian

John Glanzer as Treasurer
Proposer: Bert Chase
Second: Jean Balekian

Susan Koppersmith as Secretary
Proposer: Bert Chase
Second: Jean Balekian

All motions carried

AGM 2021: to be decided

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: Margaret Leffers

Carried

Motion to adjourn

There being no further business there was a motion proposed by Micah Edelstein and seconded by Margaret Leffers that the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Second Panel of the Foundation Stone Meditation in French: read by Catarina Burisch