

**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**The Vancouver Life Drawing Society**  
**Held on Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 6:00 PM**  
**At Campagnolo Restaurant**  
**1020 Main ST, Vancouver, BC V6A 2W1**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Doug Smardon	President
Randal Cullen	Vice President
Nicholas Jackiw	Treasurer
Alain Boullard	Member at Large
Kat Dombsky	Secretary

**Call to Order**

Doug Smardon, Board President, opened the meeting at 6:20

First Order of Business: Inauguration of Kat Dombsky as our new Secretary.

1. **Approval of Board Meeting Minutes**  
Moved (D. Smardon), Seconded (R. Cullen) and approved to adopt the minutes of the board meeting held November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014.
2. **Financial Report - Nick**  
Nick: October was a good month; revenue is up 30% due in part to many new members joining Basic Inquiry. It is worth noting that we sold more tickets last year than this year, ticket incoming is well down looking year to year. We're down in November due to capital expenditures such as new lighting.  
November is a month when we spend quite a bit and don't make a lot of memberships, so a drop in ticket sales and memberships is to be expected. Overall 2014 has been a very good year. Basic Inquiry is at 10% growth, which is a good place to be for a non-profit. Nick ends report.
3. **TD Investments - Randal**  
Randal: TD Waterhouse stocks have made \$1000 in 2014 so far. By February we need to make a decision on what to do with this money. The original plan was to split investing profit - half goes to the bank, half goes to a scholarship. Do we want to carry on in this manner? To be brought up at AGM.
4. **Studio Rental Update - Randal**  
Randal: Collingwood School rental on December 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 went well. This was Basic Inquiry's only rental in recent times.
5. **Models - Alain**  
Next Sunday is Alain's slow gesture drawing session with a flamenco dancer. The Flamenco dancer won't do nude modelling; will our session artists be interested in drawing a clothed model? Mondays are usually clothed and the first Sunday of each month is supposed to be clothed so there could be a draw. Alain is curious to see how people will react, creative costuming could be a draw.  
Nick: costume localises figure into a specific world, it is reasonable to assume that artists come to draw nudes.  
Alain: could we do a clothed gesture class once or twice a month?

Doug: we need to promote any clothed sessions properly, Cyprian is our point of contact with the email list, a notice should be sent out.

## **Old Business**

1. **Thank you Rachel!**  
The Board acknowledges former secretary Rachel Chou, thank you to Rachel for all your hard work.
2. **Member Show Being Human Follow up**  
Nick: The show was a success! Financially we has a small loss of \$42 Nick did a great job of accounting during the event and the show was well attended. Many showing artists attended; this is not always the case. Achieving good attendance is always a challenge. Eastside Culture Crawl did not contribute much. Perhaps our lack of roadside appeal gets in the way, specifically the big gates. The sort of foot traffic we get in this neighbourhood is not always desirable. Target marketing was tried; physiotherapists and other medical professionals who would benefit from having paintings of human anatomy were contacted directly but to no avail. The silent auction would be semi-juried. Nick suggests next show be thematic. Doug does not suggest replacing the member show with a silent auction but perhaps we can add an event and see how it goes. The only thing that limits us is volunteer enthusiasm. Nick suggests it is not too early to look for volunteers for the next show.
3. **Van City Accounts Update- setting up a two-signature savings account**  
Nick has an appointment to set up the two signature savings account. He will also look into setting up some more Term Deposits from cash sitting in the operating account.
4. **Studio Lighting and Backsplash curtain update - Alain**  
James Ceaser invoiced for the electrician's work which has been paid. Backsplash screen to be installed soon. Invoice pending for lighting support frame built by James Ceaser.  
The Board wishes to pass on their appreciation and recognition of James Ceaser's hard work and expertise in getting the lighting array to where it is at today. Well done James!!
5. **Facebook needs a new administrator**  
Tony Chu is the editor of our Facebook page. Doug will put Kat on as administrator. Tony Chu is still our gallery coordinator // Facebook editor. We need an administrator for shows, announcements, special events. Tony will continue to be administrator and Kat will start as administrator of Facebook site.
6. **Yellow Pages Article**  
New website has gone live and looks great. Randal would like it on the Basic Inquiry website. Nick sent Cyprian a note to share our yellow pages feature on the B.I. Facebook page.
7. **Calendar Update - Randal**

We've sold 100 Calendars, 50 through Opus, 50 through B.I. Sales from Opus totalled \$450, sales from Basic Inquiry totalled \$450. Calendars cost \$850 leaving a profit of \$50. The Calendar was well received; good job all around.

**8. Model Workshop Update**

Nick: the work shop will be held at another space and no longer involves Basic.

**9. 2015 Business License Update - Doug**

Our business licenses are for the gallery and studio//retail, which means that we can conduct sales through our gallery. Total license cost: \$266. Both licenses have been purchased and posted.

**10. Reduced fee for handicapped person update - Randal**

Randal: a session artist with a handicap that prevents them from sitting for the entire session would like a discount. It was moved, seconded and approved to grant a discount. Unfortunately it seems this person will be unable to continue attending sessions.

**11. Student Bursary Update - Doug**

Doug needs to talk to Emily Carr and Capilano Universities about the possibility of creating student bursaries. Bursaries with B.I.'s name on them would support community outreach and could be a good means of promoting the Life drawing Society. Randal: an idea could be to create a student bursary in the form of a package (say of 50 tickets and a membership) instead of cash.

**New Business**

**1. Holiday Schedule**

Holiday schedule needs to be posted, It was moved, seconded and approved that we accept holiday schedule as is.

**2. Public Relations Position**

Do we need a PR person? The board manages day-to-day affairs.

Nick: our first paid position should be an office manager.

Doug: is this sustainable? Growth is sometimes difficult to maintain.

Paid position is discussed and decided we do not need a PR person at this time.

**3. Board Meetings - how do we want them conducted?**

Is everyone happy with the structure of our board meetings? Eat and greet first and get into meat of meetings afterwards. Perhaps next board meeting can feature takeaway pizza from farina at Basic Inquiry Studio.

**4. Membership renewal with Alliance for Arts and Culture**

What are the benefits? Good for promotion of events, resources and maintaining an important connection with this larger umbrella arts organization. It is decided to renew our membership with the Alliance of Arts and Culture. Nick offered to take care of.

## **Other Business**

### **1. Music**

Session Managers bring in their own selection of music played through personal music device. Music sets the mood for the drawing sessions and quality//consistency of music varies greatly depending on session manager.

### **2. Door left unlocked**

The front door to the studio has been found to be left unlocked over night. The Board is attempting to get to the bottom of this and the reasons why. So far nothing has been stolen but it remains a mystery as to who is leaving the door unlocked.

### **3. Seating**

The practice of seat saving of pre-bought tickets is starting to happen during the Thursday evening session; upsetting some of our regular members Doug will discuss with the session manager how to best deal with this issue and if necessary act on it.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Katrina Dombsky