

Board Meeting Minutes
The Vancouver Life Drawing Society
Tuesday Wednesday April 14, 2021; 5:00 PM

Meeting held via Zoom.

In attendance: Douglas Smardon (president), Paul Kernan (secretary),
Alain Boullard , Nick Jackiw (technology manager)

Special Item: Resignation of Board Member; Dean Gazeley, effective
April 14, 2021.

Dean joined the meeting briefly at 5:00PM to provide additional
details on his reason for resigning, and to express his ongoing
commitment to VLDS and his interest in helping as a volunteer in the
future. On behalf of the Board, Doug thanked Dean for his
contributions as a board member. Dean left the meeting at 5:05PM.

Meeting Chair: Doug Smardon

Standing Items:

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM
2. Agenda adopted
3. Minutes of previous meeting: March 23, 2021 minutes were
approved with an addition to Old Business Item 3 Session Fee
Structure: Max Cash payment for session fees
4. Discussion of the March 23, 2020 minutes

Old Business:

1. 2021 AGM - Discussion agenda outline
 - a. It was agreed that the primary reasons for holding an
AGM in May are:
 - i. A need to comply with the requirements of the BC
Societies Act,

- ii. A need to seek a mandate from the membership for current Board activities and initiatives.
 - iii. A need to recruit additional support in directing and managing BI activities.
 - iv. A need to reelect a Board.
 - v. A key component in an overall plan to keep Basic Inquiry “alive” through the pandemic.
- b. The meeting date of Sunday May 16th was confirmed.
- c. Paul provided a summary diagram of current Board activities and initiatives and questions to be addressed prior to moving forward in some areas (copy attached).
- d. Doug made the point it would be good to seek a Treasurer and/or Vice President, as these are currently doubled board positions.
- e. Nick made the point that digital technology is a major component of almost all current initiatives, (Basic Inquiry Online (BIO), Robostrar, Robobooker) and that it would be good to recruit volunteers with skills in these areas.
- f. While there is general agreement that additional help is needed there was debate as to whether new board members, or new volunteers are preferred. It was agreed that both would be welcome.
- g. The question of membership was also discussed. It was noted that the membership list is now out of date and I membership fees have not been collected since 2019. It was agreed that the membership list should be updated and fees should be collected as required by the VLDS bylaws. Also, that membership renewal should start at the AGM, and continue after, and as has been the practice in previous years, a discounted membership fee would be offered to AGM attendees. After discussion the following fee schedule was agreed:
 - i. Annual membership - \$30

- ii. Annual membership purchased at AGM - \$10. In addition AGM attendees purchasing a new membership will receive a free ticket for a future BIO session.
- h. The membership fee of \$30 is a reduced fee compared to previous membership fees and is a recognition of the limited benefits to members as a result of the Covid pandemic and closing of the BI studio. Purchase of a membership at this time could be viewed as symbolic—a vote of interest in seeing Basic survive the pandemic!and will also assist in maintaining contact with members until such time as the studio reopens and normal operations resume.
- i. Memberships will be sold through the new Robostrar online platform and will be valid for one calendar year from the time of purchase. (Assuming pandemic restrictions ease in less than a year, inexpensive memberships purchased at the AGM will gain traditional benefits as members become eligible for discounted studio tickets, etc.)
- j. The question of board membership and roles was discussed. As per normal practice, the current board will resign at the AGM and a new board will be elected. The four current board members have indicated their willingness to serve on the new board.
- k. A draft agenda for the AGM was agreed as follows:
 - i. Introduction
 - ii. President's report recap
 - iii. Financial report (with BIO emphasis)
 - iv. Discussion of possible future scenarios for Society, and strategic considerations the board is navigating in attempting to keep Basic afloat current initiatives.
 - v. election of new board
 - vi. open forum discussion

New Business

1. BIO Status & next Steps

a. Deferred

b. Next Purchases

- i. Video Capture Card (approx. \$250). Purchase of this piece of equipment to allow use of different DSLR cameras in BIO sessions was approved.

Discussion of other agenda items deferred.

Next Meeting

AGM Meeting: Sunday May 16, 2:00 - 4:00PM

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Basic Inquiry Decisions - 2021

