

# AGM MINUTES - THE VANCOUVER LIFE DRAWING SOCIETY

24 May 2025 / 2:00-4:00 PM / At the studio, 1011 Main St.

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## ATTENDEES:

**Chair:** Lindsay Towns

**Vice President:** Kevin Hartwig

**Treasurer:** Bryce Baril

**Secretary:** Sarah Heng Hartse

**Directors At Large:** David Johnson, Killian O' Reilly, Christian Geiser

**Members:** Alain Boullard, Breanne Jackson, Dylan Pym, Teresa Gleave, Pierre-Luc Blain, Kang Wang, Jaime T Jones, Lauren Marnick, Curt Steckhan, Lee Iskander, Addison Bell, Chieh Huang, Nick Jackiw, Kathy Shankar, Will Wang, Cloud Wilk, Leo Goldberg

## WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

### TREASURER'S REPORT | BRYCE BARIL

- The accumulated surplus has stayed roughly at \$140k\*\*.
- The primary drivers for increased expenses have been the studio rent increases, costs of studio supplies, and promotional spending on marketing and gallery events.
- Annual expenditures are close to \$110K, of which 1/3 goes toward rent and 1/2 to model fees.
- Our lease expires in 2027 and our rent will increase as we approach that date.
- Filing issues with our accounting firm regarding the CRA have been addressed, and we hope to reach a solution soon.
- Lease pricing increases and other cost increases may necessitate a session price increase.

- \*\*Detailed revenue and expenses are pending from our accountant and will be added soon.

## **YEAR IN REVIEW**

### **GALLERY OPENINGS**

A busy year of exciting artists showing their work in the gallery included:

- Digital Collective - July
- Friday Night Painters - August
- Surnoor Sembhi - September
- Eastside Culture Crawl - November
- Nicholas Tay - February
- Billy Marchenski - April

### **MARKETING INITIATIVES**

New marketing initiatives included:

- Updated printed schedules
- Social media images and copy
- New volunteer position: Communications Coordinator
  - Cheree Lang has continued to create the monthly (now) quarterly newsletter, event posters, and the weekly IG schedule.

### **EASTSIDE CULTURE CRAWL**

The studio participated in the Eastside Culture Crawl for the first time in many years. 6 members displayed their artwork and the gallery was open to the public during the regular Culture Crawl hours. Overall the board felt this initiative was a success in raising the level of recognition to BI.

### **EASEL REPLACEMENT**

New and improved easels were sourced, purchased and now in the studio, thanks to a generous donation earmarked for the purpose.

## **ROBOSTRAR REPLACEMENT**

- What's been done:
  - Met with Registrar Nick Jackiw to discuss the current system
  - Identified our primary needs and extras we'd love to have:
    - Point of sale for walk-ins
    - Ability to transfer or gift session tickets to others
    - External customer service/ troubleshooting
    - Student discounts
  - Selected 2 ideal candidates; Mindbody and Eventbrite
- Next steps: Writing an action plan for gradual transfer to new system

## **NEW INITIATIVES**

### **RIO THEATRE AD**

The RIO Theatre on Broadway offers 15 second ad spots before a screening, with discounts for art orgs. RIO clientele are extremely local and tend to be an artsy crowd. Killian, Kevin, and Lindsay have put together a short ad to have screened before shows for a few months.

### **TUESDAY NIGHT PORTRAIT SESSION**

Leo Goldberg proposed a new session type, a 3 hour long pose clothed portrait session to be implemented into the regular rotation of weekly sessions. Approved by the board, this session is slated to start in June 2025.

## **MEMBER DISCUSSION**

The floor was opened to discussion among members to expand on their questions. The conversation revealed a few things, especially:

- Many members wish to volunteer in small, finite ways for when they cannot commit to a full-year board position. This would be especially helpful for cleaning, organizing, marketing, or doing group maintenance on the gallery (such as patching/ painting walls)
- There is a need for committees for the various projects around Basic, especially:
  - A gallery committee to plan, jury, and set up shows

- A committee to facilitate Basic's participation in the East Side Culture Crawl
- There is a desire to boost the status of the gallery to one that artists would be proud to put on a resume, which could be done by:
  - Having work be juried, either within Basic or with the help of an outside org
  - Enforcing a system of framing and presentation on gallery walls
  - Advertising more widely and further in advance

## VOLUNTEERS - WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO

Sarah Heng Hartse created a diagram and list of volunteer positions and current volunteers at Basic Inquiry. Nothing would happen without the efforts of all the volunteers, so thank you to everyone who keeps our studio clean and maintained, corresponds with our membership, and manages sessions!

## BOARD MEMBER VOTING | MEMBERS

Position	Current	New 2025 - 2026 Board
President	Lindsay Towns	Lindsay Towns
Vice President	Kevin Hartwig	Dylan Pym
Secretary	Sarah Heng Hartse	Lauren Marnick
Treasurer	Bryce Baril	Bryce Baril
Member at Large	Kilian O'Reilly	Killian O' Reilly
Member at Large	Christian Geiser	Lee Iskander
Member at Large	David Johnson	Kevin Hartwig

## MEETING ADJOURNED

4:15 pm