

Association of Nova Scotia Museums
Annual General Meeting – Minutes
Thursday, September 19th, 2019, 1:30 pm
St. James Presbyterian Church, Sherbrooke

1. Call to Order

President, Oralee O’Byrne called the meeting to order at 1:38pm. A quorum was determined to be present (over 45 members).

2. Approval of Agenda

Item 8.0 (Appointment of Auditors) was moved to be included with item 5.3 (Financial Report).

Item 9.0 Other Business (9.1 & 9.2) – renumbered as 8.0 (8.1 & 8.2).

Motion to approve the agenda with these changes was made by Margaret Mulrooney and seconded by Lynette Richards. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Annual General Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2018

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Jeff O’Byrne and seconded by Susan Marchand. Motion carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no Old Business identified.

5. Annual Reports

5.1 President’s Report

Oralee O’Byrne presented her annual report with highlights of the past year’s activities, and thanked staff and board members.

Oralee O’Byrne moved to accept the President’s report. Rodney Chaisson seconded. Motion carried.

5.2 Presentation of the Annual Report

Anita Price presented her Executive Director’s Annual Report. She also introduced ANSM Board.

Jeff O’Byrne moved to accept the Executive Director’s Annual report. Angela Saunders seconded. Motion carried.

5.3 Financial Report – Audited Financial Statements

Mark Peapell presented the annual report and gave an overview of the financial report. He made the recommendation to increase fees in future. He is stepping down after six years on the Board (as Treasurer) and encouraged members to consider volunteering as a Director on ANSM’s Board.

Mark moved to accept the report. Lisa Wolfe seconded. Motion carried.

Appointment of Auditors for 2018/2019 Fiscal Year:

Mark Peapell moved to appoint Mitchell L. Miller, CA as auditor for 2019/2020 fiscal period. Seconded by Lisa Wolfe. Motion carried.

6. Election of Directors – Report of Nominating Committee

The ANSM Board Nomination Committee consisted of: Kathy Sullivan (Chair), Margaret Mulrooney, Katherine MacLeod, and Christine Hines (Central Region). As Chair, Kathy presented the report on behalf of the Nominating Committee, a copy of which is attached to the minutes. Briefly:

Four Directors' terms are up in 2019: Kathy Sullivan, Mark Peapell, Rodney Chaisson, Judy Frotten. Mark and Rodney are completing the second year of their third and final 2-year term. Kathy is not reoffering for a third 2-year term. Judy will stay on the Board for another term. This resulted in 3 Board Vacancies. Nominations opened at the end of June 2019 and closed August 1st, 2019. Three nominations were received: Angela Saunders, Dr. Peter Cullen, Joe Ballard.

The Nomination Committee met on August 13, 2019 and would like to recommend these strong candidates as the new ANSM Board Directors.

The Nomination Committee would further recommend that the following Directors be elected to fill the following offices for the coming year:

Oralee O'Byrne – President
Angela Saunders – Vice-President
Katie Tanner – Treasurer
Judy Frotten – Secretary.

Therefore, the slate of Board Directors for 2019/2020 is:

Oralee O'Byrne, President / NE Region Director
Angela Saunders, Vice President
Katie Tanner, Treasurer / Central Region Director
Judy Frotten, Secretary / South West Region Director
Del Muise, Cape Breton Region Director
Marla Webber, Director at Large
Joe Ballard, Director at Large
Dr. Peter Cullen, Director at Large

Request for nominations from the floor (asked three times). No further nominations.

Kathy Sullivan moved to accept the nominating committee report to elect the Directors and appoint the Officers, as presented. Seconded by Rodney Chaisson. Motion carried.

7. Appointment of Nominating Committee Chair for 2019 AGM

Oralee O'Byrne made the motion to appoint Judy Frotten as Chair of Nomination Committee for 2019/2020. Seconded by Cathy Blackburn. Motion carried.

8. Other Business

8.1 By Law Revisions

ANSM Board had reviewed the By-laws and wanted to propose several changes, mostly housekeeping items. These were circulated to the Members a month in advance. It was announced in the Beacon, shared with our regional ListServes and was posted on ANSM Website. Judy Frotten presented the report at the AGM, outlining the proposed changes. There was only one question from the members, regarding what was meant as "registered agent." Copy of proposed changes attached.

Judy Frotten moved to accept the amendments to the Bylaws as presented. Seconded by Barry Rodenhiser. Motion carried.

9.2 Strategic Plan 2019 – 2023

Membership Services:

Anita Price advised that in depth analysis of our membership services has been done as part of our Strategic Plan, showing that we rely heavily on government funding. It appears that we have not increased member fees since 1982! Also, with accreditation, there will be changes to fee structure. Anita advised to expect an increase in these fees in the next fiscal period, when renewals are due in June. More to follow.

Bursary Program:

Anita Price advised that, as part of Muse-Fund wrap-up process, it was decided that the money that was left in the fund be used to set up a bursary program. There was support from the majority of the stakeholders that this would contribute to the museum community's own well-being and support colleagues' educational needs. Anita asked for feedback from the members, which was quite positive. We will proceed by forming a new committee (a group of peers), to build this program.

Accreditation Program:

Karin Kierstead advised that Museum Evaluation Program (MEP) committee will very soon be ready to launch museum accreditation program. They just have to revisit a few questions so that they can finalize the criteria. Stay tuned for announcement of the launch and further information.

Heritage Strategy for NS:

Rodney Chaisson said that ANSM has discussed the idea that there is currently no cohesive overarching voice for heritage in Nova Scotia. He opened to the members to discuss this. We are looking for membership endorsement to go to the other heritage parties and start a dialogue.

Rodney Chaisson made the motion to endorse the dialogue around a heritage strategy as identified in the Cultural Action Plan. Kathy Sullivan seconded. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Marilyn Driver made a motion to adjourn at 3:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Judy Frotten,
ANSM Board Secretary