

**Canadian Worker Co-op Federation
2019 Annual General Meeting, October 25 to 26, Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia**

Minutes

(Parliamentarian: Peter Hough, member, CWCF WC Developers' Network)

Friday, October 25th

Part I: Reports

1. Call to Order (Reba Plummer, Board President)

Reba called the meeting to order at 4:25 pm.

2. Verify Quorum (Hazel Corcoran, Executive Director)

Hazel verified quorum. There are 50 potential delegates in the current membership; we need 20% or 10 members, and there are 14 members present.

3. Introduction of guests (Reba)

Reba then introduced our special guests from The Co-operators: Chair John Harvie, Director Alexandra Wilson, and from management, Wendy Carruthers; and from Bishop & Co., Jocelyne Dumaresq.

4. Approve Agenda (Reba)

Moved by David Daughton, Seconded by Greg O'Neill, Carried

5. Approve 2018 AGM Minutes (Reba)

Moved by Frank Bezanson-Harris seconded by Jessica Provencher, Carried

6. Business Arising (Reba)

None

7. Reports: President, and Executive Director (Reba/ Hazel)

Hazel presented the Executive Director's report based on the Strategic Plan, noting that the plan was passed at our AGM last year. Our strategic plan is very ambitious, so there was work to figure out how a small organization like CWCF could do it justice.

We are working with Quebec's Reseau Coop to implement a replication of their Parcours Coop worker co-op training program. We are looking to grow our Tenacity Fund and will be seeking ways to do this.

Reba presented the President's report: In the new strategic plan, member engagement is an increased focus; we had various member meet-ups and also held the Quebec Summit with Noam Chomsky as a keynote by video. Reba further reported that CWCF's board is moving toward becoming more of a governance, policy-based board. We've found some new solutions.

Moved by David Daughton to accept the reports, seconded by Samantha Richter, carried.

Part II: Financial Statements, Budget and Election Process

8. Financial Report

- a) Presentation of audit report (Jocelyne Dumaresq, CPA, CA, Bishop & Co., Wolfville, NS)

Jocelyne Dumaresq presented, and thanked CWCF for inviting her. She has been working with Bishop and Company for eight years. She thanked Kristin and Josh for their co-operation on this work.

The annual audit has a new report format but with the same information including more transparency, and the auditor's opinion is the first paragraph notes that this is a clean audit.

Increased testing was done to ensure there was sufficient evidence to be assured that the revenues are complete. No internal inconsistencies were noted. The board accepted responsibility on October 15.

Moved to accept the auditor's report by Frank Benson-Harris seconded by Chris Johnson, Carried.

- b) Presentation of audited financial statements (Kaye Grant)

Kaye presented the financial statements noting that over half of our revenues are from the RRSP program. We had a grant from The Co-operators for Strategic plan work. On the expense side she noted some of the relevant expenses including the RRSP program expense and the strategic planning and implementation. A loan write-down of \$43,210 was noted. Overall, there was a net loss. On the balance sheet she noted the large amount of trust funds in the RRSP accounts which are not funds available to CWCF but belong to the RRSP members.

Motion to accept the financials by Jessica Valentine, seconded by Eric Tusz-King, Carried.

9. Appointment of Auditor (Hazel)

Motion to appoint Bishop and Company as our auditor next year, moved by Amy Proven, seconded by Pascal Billard, Carried.

10. Budget 2019-2020 (Hazel)

Hazel presented the budget. She noted that the deposit interest on the RRSP funds in the short term will be used to fund Federation activities. In future this may be shared with the investors.

She also pointed to some expense categories. Overall, in operations we are projecting a surplus.

Operating surplus is projected to be \$49,687 for CWCF before the Fund loss of \$26,346, and the commitment to co-op development of \$56,000, for a net deficit of (\$29,654).

Moved to accept the budget by Pascal Billard seconded by Greg O'Neill, Carried.

11. Explain a) Board election process, b) Available seats: BC, Prairies, plus one at-large, and c) Host candidate speeches (facilitated by Peter Hough, Parliamentarian)

Peter explained the process. In BC there is a 2-year term to complete the term of Ian Marsh who had to resign. In Prairies, there is one candidate: Evan Proven from Sun Certified Builders Co-op running for a three-year term. For the at-large position, the candidate is Frank Bezanson-Harris from Just Us Coffee Roasters.

There is one person running in BC: Jessica Valentine from the Woodshop Co-op is the official candidate, and she is supported informally by Sandra Allen from Shift Delivery.

The candidates were given the opportunity to present themselves.

12. Other business

Eric mentioned the ASPIRE program, an important adult educational program to be held at Tatamagouche Centre next June.

Saturday, October 26th

Part III: Elections and Resolutions

13. Resolutions (Jessica Provencher, Director)

Jessica presented the change of the bylaw regarding member expulsion.

David Thuss asked why this was proposed. Hazel stated that it was because there was an issue with a member in the RRSP program; we got a legal opinion which had the board conclude it should expel the member. We realized we should have greater clarity in the expulsion process and also have it better reflect the current legislation.

Moved to accept the bylaw change as presented by David Thuss, seconded by Eric Tusz-King, Carried.

14. Director Elections (Peter)

- a) Review process; b) Facilitate Election or Acclamation of Directors

Peter reviewed the positions and the candidates. At-large: Frank Bezanson-Harris, Prairies: Evan Proven; BC: Jessica Valentine, supported by Sandra Allen.

Peter asked for further nominations (X3); there were no additional nominations.

Motion to endorse the candidates by David Daughton, Seconded by David Thuss, Carried.

Jessica thanked Ian Marsh, who was previously on the Conference Planning Committee for 3 years, he helped us move to being a governance board. He was dedicated to his work.

Reba thanked Rick Proven. He has been a great addition, as an adult educator – he helped us stay on track. He really helped us out by stepping in for 1 year.

Eric thanked Yuill Herbert. He contributed enormously and often pushed us past our comfort zone.

Hazel thanked Peter who, since his retirement from staff, has attended board meetings as special advisor. The depth of his wisdom and the amount of his contributions have played a huge role at CWCF.

15. Seek volunteers for 2019-20 Nominating Committee, Strategic Plan Implementation Committee, and Government Relations Committee (Reba)

Reba announced the need for volunteers.

16. Announce Place and Date of next AGM: Vancouver, Fall, 2020 (Reba/Hazel)

Reba announced the 2020 AGM.

17. Other Business / Question and Answer period / (Reba)

None

18. Adjourn

David Thuss moved to adjourn.