

Annual General Meeting

December 8, 2012

Members: Sharon, Cody, Angela H., Natalie, Joel, Jacey, Steven, Eric, Keating, Steve, Aidan

Late: Angela E.

Sharon welcomes everyone to the AGM.

Sharon reads through the agenda and explains how to vote at the AGM.

Sharon calls the meeting to order.

Cody seconds.

All approved.

Sharon explains that our Constitution and BC Society Act requires us to hold an Annual General Meeting each year, and explains the purpose of the AGM.

Sharon announces that we have had a fantastic year at The Other Press. Major changes have included new roles such as an advertising role (now dissolved), a public relations role (now dissolved) and a social media role (currently active). We also created an illustrator role at the paper, and we also re-created the humour section.

Another major event was our website - we re-launched last year and our website has been operating well. Our social media role will help us run diagnostics on our website and will assist us in improving our web presence through Twitter and Facebook.

Angela E. arrives.

Cody comes up to the front to discuss the layout of our paper. Over the years, the layout has changed dramatically from the way the paper is cut to the way the content is displayed.

Cody explains the production process (both from our perspective and the perspective of the printers) and the cost of having our paper printed.

Angela does the financial recap for year and explains the breakdown of funding.

Constitutional Amendments

Sharon explains that our constitution is on our website, and anyone can read it at any time.

Sharon has one amendment to propose. She reads out the rules to making an amendment (found in the Constitution).

Amendment Board

This amendment is to clarify that the board of directors will be re-elected at the Annual General Meeting, whenever it should occur. In the past, the board was re-elected at the end of the Winter semester, but due to circumstances in the past we had to re-elect at the AGM. Going forward, Sharon believes that we should continue to re-elect the board once a year at AGM meeting.

#1: Amendment Board

An amendment to clarify that the board of directors shall be reelected at the Society's Annual General Meeting, whenever it shall occur.

As such, it is proposed that

The section of Part eight- Elections & appointments of members of the Board, that reads "Elections for all members of the board shall occur once a year at the collective meeting at the end of Douglas College's Winter (Jan - Apr) semester"

be changed to

"Elections for all members of the board shall occur once a year at the Annual General Meeting"

Sharon motions to accept the amendment.

Cody seconds.

All in favour - amendment passed.

Plagiarism

Sharon reads out what is written in our Constitution regarding plagiarism. She explains that we will have a zero tolerance policy on plagiarism. Plagiarism is an ethical and legal issue.

Board Re-Elect

Sharon motions to dissolve the current board.

Natalie seconds.

All in favour.

Sharon reads the rules of re-electing the board.

Once the board is elected, we will also elect a Secretary and Vice Chair within the board.

Re-Elect:

Please see supplemental document in the office for the board re-elect, as well as to be made aware of any board changes.

We discuss giveaways as an incentive to read the paper and to visit the website. Sharon mentions that we have tried in the past with not much success.

Keating believes that we need to place more emphasis on getting The Other Press out to David Lam more often.

Sharon agrees that we do need more of an emphasis at David Lam, but we need some specific ideas.

Joel asks if we could have the meeting at the Coquitlam Campus, but since all of our computers are at New West it makes it difficult to go between campuses.

Joel asks if we could Skype between the offices. Sharon said that we could always try.

Jacey reminds everyone that people don't have to come to the collective meeting to contribute.

Cody reminds everyone that we don't have a large budget, and for the time involved we should branch out for events that make sense to us (such as Coffee News with the DSU), and we should branch out cautiously before spending too much time or money on something that won't work.

Angela E. mentions that she would like to put together a podcast. We discuss the pros and cons of podcasts, and the potential difficulty in setting one up.

Sharon says that our focus should be on developing the paper, but we could make podcasts a side project and do a pilot run. Angela E. will look into starting one.

Adjournment

Sharon motions to adjourn.

Angela E. seconds.

All in favour.