

BCHF Council Meeting

28 April 2021

7:00pm — 8:55pm

Via web conference

Attendees: Callie Anderson, Shannon Bettles, Doug Brigham, Rosa Flinton-Brown, Mark Forsythe, Greg Nesteroff, Emma Quan, K. Jane Watt, Elwin Xie

Guests: Anna Irwin, Refano Lumempouw, Kira Westby

Regrets: Michael Gibbs, Gary Mitchell

The President called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

1. Welcome to our guests: Anna Irwin (Royal BC Museum), Refano Lumempouw (UBC Student) and Kira Westby (Bulkley Valley Museum)
2. Review and adoption of previous meeting minutes: March 24, 2021
 - a. MOVED (Rosa Flinton-Brown, Callie Anderson) to adopt the minutes with changes. CARRIED
3. Adoption of agenda
 - a. MOVED (Mark Forsythe, Maurice Guibord) to adopt the agenda. CARRIED

Share and Tell

Jane led a discussion of “Community: The Structure of Belonging,” based on the work of Peter Block (2009). In addition, here are some short YouTube videos that Jane suggested:

1. Building Communities: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jZxbx7ke7wg>
2. Touchy Feely Crap (TFC): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BIBnyOJNIA>
3. Shift the Narrative: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= Myzwz-Wo6c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Myzwz-Wo6c)

Next time: Elwin will lead the discussion.

Previous Business

1. Membership approvals (Callie)
 - a. Council discussed whether it is necessary for the Membership Coordinator to present all membership applications to Council for approval.
 - b. Council decided to leave the current practice as it is for the time being.
 - c. Council will look at the larger matter of governance (including our constitution and by-laws) over the coming year, in time for our centenary.

Reports

1. President (Shannon)
 - a. Shannon expressed her appreciation to everyone for taking a closer look at their portfolios over the past few months.

- b. She is particularly proud of the Magazine, Communications and Conference Teams.
 - c. We have been involved in some important conversations recently, in connection with the BC Museum and Archives.
 - d. Conference is about six weeks away. The events are looking great.
- 2. Financial report (Rosa)
 - a. Most of the changes in our assets are due to not having re-invested a GIC. Working, in person, with the bank is very challenging to schedule. Given the historically low interest rates, delaying the re-investment represents a very small loss of interest income.
 - b. Council discussed whether there might be opportunities to invest our reserves in ways that would bring a higher rate of return than GICs. Council will take this up again next year, once things have returned to normal after the pandemic.
- 3. Magazine (Jane)
 - a. The summer issue is in design. The fall issue will focus on “Song” and will include a history of Cantonese opera courtesy of Elwin. The winter issue will focus on “Local News.”
 - b. We plan to reserve the first issue of 2022 for our own purposes.
 - c. Catherine Clement and Jordan Stanger-Ross have agreed to be guest editors in 2022. We still need to find one more guest editor.
- 4. Communications (Mark, Greg, Emma, Elwin, Doug, Shannon)
 - a. April Buzz stats
 - i. Delivered: 538 / Opened: 362 (67%)
 - ii. Top links
 - 1. Lieutenant-Governor award finalists = 61
 - 2. BCHF conference main page = 20
 - 3. BCHF conference preview = 16
 - 4. Funding for Alexandra Bridge = 15
 - 5. Francophone pioneers presentation = 13
 - b. The Communications team have reviewed four possible designs as part of the re-branding. The designer will elaborate two of those designs and bring them to Council for review at our May or June meeting.
 - c. Many thanks to Elwin for producing the promo announcement on Facebook for Conference. We have reached 4,000 people with 500 engagements. Shannon spent a small amount of money to promote the post.
- 5. Conference (Michael, Shannon, Maurice)
 - a. Conference planning is nearly complete. The program and speakers are confirmed.
 - b. The online book auction will run for the entire duration of Conference, ending during the Gala. We are offering books from last year and this year.
- 4. Awards (Anna, Maurice, Doug, Emma, Shannon)
 - a. Ratification Recognition Awards (Anna)
 - i. MOVED (Greg Nesteroff, Doug Brigham): To ratify the recommendations.
CARRIED
 - b. Ratification of Best Article winner (Greg)
 - i. MOVED (Greg Nesteroff, Mark Forsythe): To ratify the recommendations.
CARRIED

- c. Ratification of W. Kaye Lamb winner (Doug)
 - i. MOVED (Doug Brigham, Callie Anderson): To ratify the recommendations.
CARRIED
- 5. Membership (Callie)
 - a. New Associate Member: Susan Rose, Vancouver
 - b. New Affiliate Member: Museum of Surrey
 - c. New Society Members: Heritage Chilliwack Society, Hope and District Historical Society
- 6. Nominations (Jane)
 - a. Our 3 guests are all nominated for Council. We will include them in our nomination package.

New business

- 1. Correspondence: John MacFarlane (Shannon)
 - a. We have been working on this for the past year and had a meeting with Ryan Jonker (Executive Director, Corporate Initiatives and Strategic Policy at the BC Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture) recently. The discussion turned to digitization projects around the province and access fees for the BC Archives. Mr. Jonker liked the discussion of digitization. The province is planning to budget roughly \$30 million to support BC 150 – perhaps some could be directed to communities. The federal government is providing \$23 million that organizations like ours might be able to tap into, as well.
 - b. Council discussed the utility of keeping track of instances when BC citizens and organizations are unable to use materials from the Archives because they cannot afford the high fees.
 - i. This might be a good issue to have members discuss at our AGM.
- 2. AGM preparation (Shannon)
 - a. Shannon will be in touch with Council members over email. She would like people to have a role at the Gala to present awards and at the AGM.
 - b. We are still awaiting confirmation of whether the Lieutenant Governor will be present at the gala.
- 3. Question about forwarding The Buzz (Callie)
 - a. We understand that not all member societies share The Buzz with their members. Council discussed a number of possible obstacles and solutions, including:
 - i. Whether the advertising content in The Buzz prevents them from sharing it with members;
 - ii. Whether we could share a stable link to The Buzz, which member societies could then include in their communications to their members.
 - b. The Communications Team will take this up.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Next meeting: 26 May 2021 at 7:00 PM.