

Start Time: 14:18 (2:18pm)

Board attendees:

Amanda Eagleson

Leslie Stark

Max Sumner

Guests/Staff:

Colleen Brown

Joseph Dandurand

Regrets

Holden Wall

Laura Beatrice Covaza

Meeting Began: 14:18 (2:18 pm)

Meeting End: 15:40 (3:40pm)

Motions:

- Motion to approve the November minutes made by Amanda. Seconded by Max. Passes unanimously.
- Motion to vote on the budget with the proviso that money is earmarked for diversity training/ assessments. Made by Amanda. Max Seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Action Items:

- Holden and Max to talk about possible board members.
- Letter to be drafted by the board in response to witness statement received
- Holden to post membership callout
- Amanda to ensure all past minutes posted on site
- Amanda to reach out to student journalist and provide Joseph's contact information should they still be interested

Time: Meeting called to order 14:18 (2:18 PM)

Is decided Amanda to chair the meeting

Agenda Item One

Amanda:

As we gather for this meeting physically dispersed and virtually constructed let us take a moment to reflect on the meaning of place, and in doing so recognize the various traditional lands on which we do our meeting today. (Please feel free to put the names of the traditional lands you currently reside on in the chat)

Amanda:

Compassion Acknowledgement: “Empathy is simply listening, holding space, withholding judgment, emotionally connecting, and communicating that incredibly healing message of you’re not alone.” – **Brene Brown**

Agenda Item One

- **Approve Minutes November Minutes.**
 - Amanda makes a motion to approve the minutes. Max seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
- **Action Item Update:**
 - Amanda to give committee member thread a bump in basecamp (Completed)
 - Amanda to contact Linda Sum again (Somewhat completed/reached out to Amil Reddy)
 - Colleen and Leslie to contact Brad with cotyledon manuscript and formatting notes (Completed)
 - Max to write a post for giving Tuesday (Completed)
 - Leslie to write a post for giving Tuesday (Completed)
 - Holden to post membership callout (Unknown update at next meeting)
 - Amanda to follow up with Vancity regarding credit transfer (Completed)
 - Amanda to look into other organization which may need updates in board membership filing (Completed)
 - Board and Staff to communicate on Wise Hall/venue situation (Completed: Details in Agenda Item Three)
 - Letter to be drafted by the board in response to witness statement received (Carried over)
 - Staff Reviews to be Completed (Completed)

Agenda Item Two

Vote on Budget

- Board to vote on budget and statement on deficit level.

- Some Discussion: Amanda started to put forward a vote on the budget with the proviso that money is earmarked for diversity training/ assessments. The Budget presented to the board has a deficit of \$31,160
- Noted in minutes: Colleen will follow the vote of the board but would rather there were cuts made. She has suggested cuts should be made but will run with the budget as required
- Max asks about other options (to running a deficit)
- Colleen has suggested that the AD (Joseph) and AA (Colleen) not work in the summer (take leave) and not get paid. There is currently no programming in the Summer so this makes sense. The goal with this would be to set up 2022 better when we could actually have events. But will--of course work at getting funding and will go with the group (the decision of the AD and the Board).
- Travel accommodation lost wordplay income so artists we would have paid through that program are no longer paid (added Broadway youth but that's been funded by a foundation).
- Shortfall because of events? Revenue ticket sales. Max understood the festival was not an earner.
- Colleen: Festival always a loss but at the same time that is what gets us grant money. With Wordplay, no expenditure but the money is used to generate interest for Hullabaloo which makes money. \$1500 has been committed to help students learn how to make films. Ideally would be \$2500. This in place of the \$9000 a year (is what would normally be) for a WordPlay Coordinator. Then there's currently useless expenditures we have just to stay alive (like rent on office we can't currently use).
- Leslie pointed out we can coproduce things and should look into that as a cost-sharing measure
- Amanda: The only other line item we could cut is artist fees. And I'm not comfortable with that...that's tricky.
- Leslie: co-production can mean a reduction in artist fees as well and looking into sponsorship (for example an educational angle --- which Hullabaloo certainly has)
- Colleen would Guess can gain \$2,000-5,000. She is in the process of trying to get that.
- The PDF-is a worst-case scenario.
- Amanda: Should we vote on basecamp? If we want it in PDF form?
- Colleen pulled budget pdf into basecamp file (see the corresponding file)
- Amanda: Makes motion to vote on the budget with the proviso that money is earmarked for diversity training/ assessments. Max Seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Agenda Item Three

Report Arts Admin:

Wise Hall has been very generous. Can have a refund now with a fee or carry over reservation until 2022.

Programming: I and A partnership for instructional videos (poem and how to make a film). This will be sent out to teachers who would normally order wordplay stuff plus our socials hullabaloo will integrate new format. Students will be asked for films that will go out starting January.

Johnny Trinh has everything sorted Mahta hired to help.

Ideas: For the Slam hire expert judges for cips with fewer poets (20). Mic and lighting requirements and provide support for poets who can't meet those requirements. No storm poets. Help venues get people to cips. Triage what we need regarding: accessibility before we contact those services. Sam was reached for their feedback regarding slammaster hiring processes. Prerecorded poems and meeting stakeholders prior. Festival dates 2022; Hulla: 21-23 verses 24-30. With the Cultch on either end C-lab Sunday Cultch Friday cips C-lab on some kind of final.

- Amanda: Very for putting it (money for Wise Hall) forward to 2022 (as we are likely running a deficit).
- Max great to have it prepaid for 2022
 - Ideally, for the future, we would want to make sure that whoever is working with/for the organization...That we are not potentially leaving them with a deficit. But lots of other arts organizations will be in the same position

Discussion started by Joseph on what guarantees are provided by employment contract (given that the passing on of organizational responsibility was brought up).

Colleen: Can we take the decision on what day for the Wise Hall to the standing Verses meeting on Weds?

Is agreed Yes

Insurance claim (good until Oct next year for board insurance)
Pay Worksafe fee another \$900.

Book cover preferences are given to Brad. And will be printed.

Bell media sponsorship for about \$5000. Package Joseph and Leia and I have worked on this. Graph provided.

Impact Vs Revenue Graph (low Impact low revenue ditch it) way to think of Verses (ticket sales its government money) in this sense the festival in important (from a granting perspective).

Agenda Item Four

Report from AD

Joseph: WordCamp was a very positive experience. It's not a moneymaker and required funding. Asks Colleen which grant (Telus and yep grants). Would be great to redo if possible. Hoping to invite the board to come to that gathering (virtual pizza party). Wonderful experience. Verses nailing down aspects. Hullabaloo and Cips are being nailed down. Right Now discussing stage to page and possible mashed poetics. Have been attending multiple slams all over. Imagining people as virtual guests at the festival. It is possible to do a lot at little cost (with the exception of artist costs).

Amanda: Stage to Page brought up a partnership?

Colleen: We do all need to meet to scale it.

Agenda Item Five

Amanda shared simple booklet info.

Agenda Item Six

Diversity Workshop with Janice Lee discussed.

- Further discussion: Accessibility use money to purchase services (asl etc). No space, Ask me about best practices Johnny. Ask Johnny Weds. No accessibility coordinator. (we do not need in this space)

ASL Amanda will ask her contacts as well

Some conversation about avatar spaces. Free space Teooh (been to any such spaces and did you like this?). Colleen (ask your students...Leslie)

Agenda Item Seven

A journalist from admin email contacted.

Action Item =Talk to Max about possible board members.

Meeting End: 15:40 (3:40pm)