



WESN

WEST END SENIORS' NETWORK

Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2019
West End Seniors' Network Society (WESN)
Friday, September 20, 2019
West End Community Centre (870 Denman Street, Vancouver, BC)

Minutes (Draft)

Number of members in attendance: 110

1. Call to Order

The 2019 WESN AGM was called to order by Dr. Joel Oger, WESN President, at 1:00pm.

Dr. Joel Oger noted that we have 110 members in attendance and have met our requirements for quorum for the AGM.

Dr. Joel Oger introduced himself and the other Board members present:

- Marta Filipski (Vice-President)
- Abudi Awaysheh (Secretary)
- Jane Goodridge
- Bonnie Quam
- Frank McCormick
- Sara Johnson (unable to attend)

Dr. Oger introduced WESN Executive Director Anthony Kupferschmidt.

Anthony Kupferschmidt introduced the members of the staff team who work at WESN's three locations:

- Barclay Manor
 - Kaitlin Hong Tai, Manager of Programs
 - Suzanne Klassen, Manager of Volunteer Resources and Community Services
 - Ming Chen, Better at Home Program Coordinator
 - Abbie Purdy, Administrative and Program Coordinator
 - Josh Cook, Manager of Operations

- Parveen Chand, Accountant
- Clothes and Collectibles Thrift Boutique
 - Laura Fee, Manager
 - Gordana Smocilac, Assistant Manager
 - Will Tessier, Assistant Manager
 - Fran Linnington, Supervisor
- Kay's Place Information and Referral Centre
 - Veronica Page, Manager of Support and Information Services
 - Susan Paré, Manager of Support and Information Services
 - Isamu Yano, Information and Referral Services Coordinator

2. Remembering our Members, Clients, and Volunteers

Anthony Kupferschmidt requested that everyone take a moment and remember WESN members, clients, and volunteers who have passed away in the last year.

3. Presentation by Craig Jones, Housing Research Collaborative, UBC School of Community and Regional Planning

- Anthony Kupferschmidt introduced Craig Jones from the Housing Research Collaborative at the UBC School of Community and Regional Planning.
- Craig Jones spoke about the release of the new report, *Issues Facing Older Adult Renters in the West End of Vancouver* which was in the AGM package. Craig Jones then answered questions from WESN members.
- Anthony Kupferschmidt thanked Craig Jones for presenting the report, and for making himself available to the membership. Anthony Kupferschmidt then described how WESN is working with UBC Media Relations to promote the release of this report, and encouraged any WESN members interested in sharing their stories with the media to speak with him after the AGM.

4. Presentation by Jennifer Reid, Co-Director, Cycling Without Age - Vancouver Chapter

- Anthony Kupferschmidt introduced Jennifer Reid, a Co-Director of Cycling Without Age - Vancouver Chapter.
- Jennifer Reid spoke about the launch of Cycling Without Age in Vancouver in partnership with WESN over the past year, and answered questions from WESN members.
- Anthony Kupferschmidt thanked Jennifer Reid for the presentation, and encouraged WESN members to take a ride on a Cycling Without Age tri-shaw.

5. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the 2019 AGM agenda.
Moved: Karen Ester
Seconded: Julie Bower
Vote: Carried unanimously

6. Approval of 2018 AGM Minutes

Motion: To approve the 2018 AGM minutes.
Moved: Bonnie Quam
Seconded: Brenda Nicole
Vote: Carried unanimously

7. Business Arising from 2018 AGM Minutes

- Member Gail Harmer asked about the discussion in the 2018 AGM minutes concerning the Alliance of Seniors' Centres (ASC), and about what initiatives are being taken.
- Board member Jane Goodridge described how ASC is currently comprised of three seniors centres, including WESN, the 411 Seniors Centre Society, and the South Granville Seniors Centre. ASC is working to raise awareness of issues facing seniors' centres and members of seniors centres.
- Jane Goodridge continued to describe how ASC members are collaborating on a federal election candidates meeting next week that is focused specifically on issues impacting older adults. In regards to housing issues, Anthony Kupferschmidt also added that ASC members were supporting the 411 Seniors Centre Society in their efforts to build a new seniors centre in Vancouver with seniors housing in the floors above.

8. Auditor's Report

Dr. Joel Oger introduced Gary Wozny of Tompkins Wozny to present the 2018-2019 audited financial statements.

a) Presentation of 2018-2019 audited financial statements

Gary Wozny provided a summary of WESN's financial position, and responded to all questions asked of him by the membership.

b) Motion to approve 2018-2019 audited financial statements

Motion: To approve the 2018-2019 audited financial statements as presented.
Moved: Gail Harmer
Seconded: Marie Jose
Vote: Carried unanimously

c) Motion to reappoint Tompkins Wozny as the auditors for the 2019-2020 fiscal year

Motion: To reappoint Tompkins Wozny as the auditors for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
Moved: Timothy Ng
Seconded: Marta Filipski
Vote: Carried unanimously

9. Motion to establish the annual membership fee for the 2019-2020 year at \$10.00

Motion: To establish the WESN annual membership fee for the 2019-2020 year at \$10.00.
Moved: Blake Elliott Jr.
Seconded: Frank McCormick
Vote: Carried unanimously

10. President's Report

Dr. Joel Oger thanked the current Board members for their service over the past year. In particular, he thanked outgoing Board member Andrea Banks for her service as Treasurer.

Dr. Joel Oger acknowledged that WESN has had the strongest year in its history financially, thanks to the hard work of Anthony Kupferschmidt and the rest of the staff team. Dr. Joel Oger also noted that WESN had received several large financial contributions over the last year, including:

- \$150,000 in year-end funding from the provincial Ministry of Health via Vancouver Coastal Health to help meet the transportation needs of local older adults over the next few years. Dr. Joel Oger acknowledged the continuing support of our local MLA, Spencer Chandra Herbert.
- A bequest of \$45,000, an anonymous donation of \$42,000, and several new grants that will be used to support the work of WESN over the next few years.

Despite these large financial contributions, Dr. Joel Oger advised that donations are still needed to enable WESN to continue to meet the growing needs of older adults in our community. In particular, Dr. Joel Oger noted that our space limitations at all three of our locations continue to be barriers.

11. Strategic Planning Committee

Board member Marta Filipski presented progress on the four pillars of the WESN 2018-2021 strategic plan and responded to questions from members:

1. Strengthening our brand and communications.
2. Enhancing programs, services and events to reflect a growing and changing community of older adults.

3. Become the 'go-to' agency in the West End to support older adults to navigate housing options.
4. Enhance internal infrastructure and financial sustainability.

12. Membership Committee and Community Issues Task Force

Jane Goodridge reported that the Board had struck both a Membership Committee and a Community Issues Task Force. The Board will be engaging with WESN members in the coming months to encourage them to connect more directly with Board members and to become members of Board committees.

13. Election of Board Members

a) Nominating Committee Report

- The Nominating Committee report was presented by Marta Filipski on behalf of Board member Sara Johnson.
- Four members of the current Board of Directors were elected in 2018 for two-year terms and are not required to stand for election this year:
 - Marta Filipski
 - Jane Goodridge
 - Sara Johnson
 - Bonnie Quam
- The Nominating Committee selected for consideration and election the following five individuals for the available seats on the Board of Directors:
 - Dr. Joel Oger (incumbent)
 - Abudi Awaysheh (incumbent)
 - Karsten Kaemling
 - Frank McCormick
 - Timothy Ng

b) Nominations from the Floor

- Dr. Joel Oger called for any nominations from the floor.
- Dr. Joel Oger called a second time for any nominations from the floor.
- Dr. Joel Oger called a third time for any nominations from the floor.

There being no nominations from the floor, the candidates were therefore acclaimed.

Dr. Joel Oger asked the Board members to stand up and introduce themselves, and congratulated the new Board members.

14. Executive Director's Report

- Anthony Kupferschmidt thanked everyone for coming and introduced three special guests in attendance:
 - Siobhan Powlowski, the Senior Director at Gordon Neighborhood House.
 - Leslie Remund, the Executive Director at the 411 Seniors Centre Society.
 - Christina Rzepa, the Constituency Assistant for MLA Spencer Chandra Herbert.
- Anthony Kupferschmidt thanked all WESN members, clients, customers, volunteers, donors, funders and partners for their support.
- Anthony Kupferschmidt provided an in-depth presentation on WESN activities over the past year, and responded to questions from the membership.
- One member noted the absence of a handicap accessible washroom in the Denman Place Mall and the impact this has on older adults in the community. Anthony Kupferschmidt committed to raising this issue with the owners of the Denman Place Mall.

15. Adjournment

Dr. Oger thanked WESN members for attending the AGM and requested a formal motion to adjourn.

Motion: To adjourn the 2019 AGM.

Moved: Joel Oger

Seconded: Bonnie Quam

Vote: Carried unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 pm.

Recorded by: Abudi Awaysheh (Secretary)