Annual General Assembly - Pontiac Artists Association

Thursday, December 3 2020 4:00 p.m.

Via Zoom video Conference

MINUTES OF MEETING

In Attendance:

Louise Guay( President), Linda Girard (Vice-president); Nicole Lavigne (Treasurer), Claire Taillefer (Secretary), Geneviève Has (Communications Co-ordinator)

Special Guest: Jane Toller, Prefect of MRC Pontiac

Members: Janet Tulloch, Dale Shutt (Gallery Committee), France Lamarche (School Committee, Gallery Committee), Serge Themens, Lynne Lavery ( Journale du Pontiac), Michèle Gagnon, Élaine Gaudet (School Committee), Jacinta Aungier, Cheryl Dolan (School Committee), Marcel Renaud  (Membership), Valerie Bridgeman (Gallery Committee), Sandra Lemire Wolf (Co-ordinator), Emily Hsueh (Equity Journalist)

**1. Opening Remarks from the President**

Opening of the meeting with welcoming remarks from the President, Louise Guay as she introduces the prefect of the Pontiac County Regional Municipality and thanks her for taking the time to participate in this General Assembly 2020. Mrs. Toller acknowledged and thanked Louise.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Reading of the proposed Agenda

Adoption proposed by Claire Taillefer, seconded by Nicole Lavigne and adopted unanimously.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the Annual General Assembly, Dec. 4 2019

The Assembly of members present last December 7th were invited to read the minutes of the AGM minutes of 2019.

Dale Shutt proposed to accept the adoption of the minutes as published and Elaine Gaudet seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously.

4. Annual Report of the Pontiac Artists Association

* + - * **President:** Louise Guay presented the President’s Report. She thanked the members for their support these years and spoke about the fact that even though she is stepping down from her position, she will be still an active member of the association. She highlighted her special interest in the ‘boutique en ligne’ that will be coming soon.
			* Stone School Gallery

Dale Shutt provided her report on the activities of the Gallery and School of the Arts

* School of the Arts

 France Lamarche presented her report as well as congratulated our employees Kole Tuckey and Sandra Lemire Wolf for their assistance in the organization of the courses.

* Communications

 Geneviève Has gave her Communications presentation.

The reports were presented by representatives of each of the committees.

Dale Shutt proposes the adoption of the reports, seconded by Linda Girard, and adopted unanimously.

5. Financial Report

Nicole Lavigne presented the Financial Statements for the year terminating on August 31, 2020 prepared by Rashid Lassal, Registered Accountant CPA, Inc.

The report shows that this year’s budget was the largest to date, and that was in good part due to the financial support associated to the InterconneXion project. The exceptional situation created by the COVID has greatly impacted on our other activities. A number of projects and courses had to be cancelled, which in turn resulted in less funding requests and a drop in the number of registrations. Fundraising activities also had to be cancelled but luckily, a large part of our sponsors continued to support us. We have maintained the planned investments, including the purchase of a projector and an air conditioner, as well as necessary repairs and painting. We had to increase our purchase of publicity and improve our presence on social media to better advertise our activities and those had to be adjusted to reflect the sanitary guidelines. In that context, the year is closing with a deficit of $ 5,551 but on the overall, the Association presents net assets of $ 20,128 as of August 31st 2020.

Adoption of the financial report as tabled proposed by Élaine Gaudet, seconded by France Lamarche and adopted unanimously.

6. Budget 2020-2021

Nicole Lavigne presented the provisional budget for 2020-2021.

Adoption of the provisional budget for 2020-2021 proposed by Dale Shutt, seconded by Michèle Gagnon and adopted unanimously.

7. Presentation of Financial Audit

Dale Shutt rejected acquiring a Financial Audit for the fiscal year 2019-2020.

It was proposed by Dale Shutt to not hire an audit for the coming year. It was seconded by Val Bridgeman and Cheryl Dolan, and adopted unanimously.

8. Break/Signups

 Because of our zoom meeting, it was seen as impossible by the Assembly to conduct sign ups effectively, so we chose to continue the Annual General Assembly.

9. Nomination of President and Secretary for Elections

Dale Shutt was elected President and Val Bridgeman Secretary. Dale reviewed the process by which we would elect the Board of Directors.

Louise Guay proposed Nicole Lavigne;

Élaine Gaudet proposed Claire Taillefer;

Claire Taillefer proposed Geneviève Has;

France Lamarche proposed Michèle Gagnon;

Nicole Lavigne proposed Linda Girard.

Each accepted their nomination.

10. Election of the Board of Directors

The above were elected for next year’s Executive Council of the PAA: Michèle Gagnon, Geneviève Has, Claire Taillefer, Nicole Lavigne and Linda Girard.

11. Question Period

Many members underlined the efforts of the association to find financing for paying artists in these difficult times especially during this period of the pandemic. Our president was thanked for her efforts with Interconnexion Phase 1 that was able to pay certain artists for their contribution.

A number of members thanked Mrs Toller for attending and showing interest in the arts and culture. Thanks were also expressed to Sandra Lemire Wolf for her excellent contribution to improve our communications and increase our presence on social medias throughout her mandate.

Mme Gaudet noted that, next year, courses will be bilingual in that a volunteer interpreter will assist in making the courses accessible in both languages.

Mme Toller stated that, in the interests that the MRC has in maintaining culture, she would be interested to having a long discussion as to what our needs are. She is proud that the school of the arts has become a centre for disseminating the arts in the Pontiac region. Soon the MRC will send out a ‘call to artists’ for the purchase of a work of art. Sabrina Ayres, Economic Development Officer, is at our disposal to discuss ways that the MRC can support the organization and inform us of availability of grants.

12. Other

The president presented to France Lamarche the **Volunteer 2020** and thanked her for her generous contribution to the Pontiac School of the Arts.

13. Closing of the Assembly

Closing of the Assembly was proposed by Geneviève Has, seconded by Claire Taillefer and adopted unanimously.