



VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY FACULTY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of General Meeting Wed., February 22, 2017, 2:00 pm (250/125)

Present: C. Alemany, D. Alexander, J. Blakeborough, E. Chacon, B. Dick, J. Egan, E. Faulkner, M. Hawamdeh, D. Hook, S. Ignat, C. Jaeger, D. McFarland, S. Mustafa, J. Palm, C. Price, G. Pruesse, K. Reed, R. Sitter, M. Stanley, M. Stasiuk, L. Suski, F. Takishita, P. Webb, G. White, R. Willis, D. Woodward

Guest: VIU President, Dr. Ralph Nilson

Recording: Judy Benner, VIUFA Office Manager

1. Call to Order

Chris Jaeger, VIUFA President, called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

2. Guest Speaker

Chris introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Nilson.

The meeting reconvened to conduct business at 3:25 p.m.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: G. Pruesse/R. Willis – to approve the Agenda as presented.
Carried.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Motion: G. Pruesse/C. Alemany – to approve/adopt the Minutes of the August 31, 2016 General Meeting.

Carried.

Motion: C. Price/G. Pruesse – to approve/adopt the Minutes of the April 13, 2016 Annual General Meeting.

Carried.

5. Special Resolution - Constitution/By-Law Change

The VIUFA Executive recommended the following amendment to the By-Laws:

Motion: G. Pruesse/D. Hook – to change the wording of Section 1, ARTICLE XI - MEETINGS, to read as follows:

"ARTICLE XI - MEETINGS

1. The Executive shall schedule at least one General Meeting between August 15 and December 31, and two General Meetings between January 1 and April 30, including the Annual General Meeting in April. At least two weeks' written notice shall be given of the Annual General Meeting."

Carried (24 in favour, 1 opposed).

J. Blakeborough clarified that this new wording does not preclude us from scheduling more than the stated number of meetings in the year if the members wish to do so.

6. VIUFA 2017-2018 Draft Budget (J. Blakeborough, Treasurer)

- Draft budget (attached) was presented to the meeting.
- Johnny reminded us of the motion passed at the 2013 AGM to present a draft budget to members at the February (Reading Week) meeting each year for review and discussion.
- Interest earned is less due to lower interest rates and we moved a large amount of the funds that were in the High Interest Savings account into a GIC.
- We expect the EI Rebate to increase, and we are experiencing increased amounts for Executive release so have bumped those up by 10%. We have also increased wages and benefits for our staff as result of their contractual increases.
- The amount for LRB and arbitration expenses has been increased to \$3,000. We haven't needed much for arbitration in the past few years (zero last year) but we have a couple of grievances coming up that may need arbitration funding.
- Staff professional development has been increased by \$400 as per increase in their new contract.
- We have added a new budget line for "Pro-D Initiatives for Members" - \$200.
- With all of that, our surplus is still \$47,730 (with the correction to include release for the Secretary-Treasurer of \$11,000 which had been left blank).
- Johnny asked for a motion to accept the draft Budget (with the addition of the \$11,000 noted above).

Motion: P. Webb/G. Pruesse – to approve the attached amended draft Budget and to recommend presentation of it (updated to year end, March 31/17) to the members at the Annual General Meeting on April 26, 2017.

Carried unanimously.

7. Website Redesign (K. Reed, Vice-President/Communications)

- Kathleen is seeking funds to upgrade the VIUFA website. She asks for a motion to spend up to \$12,000 on website redesign. This will be a one-time cost.
- This is necessary for many reasons not the least of which is to make it a more useful tool for members; a reference tool (central source) where you can get information about the Collective Agreement, benefits, pensions, professional development, Shop Steward contact information, etc. We need to update everything and connect the website up to our social media.
- No major improvements to the website since 2009. There have been some attempts at updating since but we don't have the expertise and it is a huge task. It will be built on Word Press format.
- We have one quote so far from Tim Yeung Design (Nanaimo) for \$10,000. We are waiting for a second quote from a Courtenay website design group called Medium Rare Interactive. They have worked with dozens of non-profit organizations on the Island.
- Question was raised as to why an IT student couldn't do this or a member in the IT Department. This is a very large undertaking. Chris Alemany said they have been trying to get a website together for the music program for a long time, but the students just don't have the time to do it.
- Kathleen said the quotes will be reviewed, discussed and voted on at an Executive Meeting once received.

Motion: J. Blakeborough/C. Alemany - that VIUFA spend a maximum of \$12,000 on website design.

Carried (23 in favour, 2 opposed).

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

“C.J. Jaeger”
Chris Jaeger, President

“Approved and passed by VIUFA members at the Annual General Meeting on April 26, 2017”