

Okanagan Area Council Annual General Meeting

January 18th, 2020

Kelowna

In Attendance: Kelly Megyesi (CEIU 20972); Linda Woods (UNE 20140); Lorelei Sterling (UVAE 20035); Jeanne Olineck (CEIU 20914); Karen Sutton (CIU 20045); Nadia Sokal (AGR 20043); Michelle Sibson (CEIU); Guests: Varinder Johal (PSAC BC Rep, Vancouver); BC REVP Jamey Mills (PSAC, Vancouver) by phone: Kareen Stanich (AGR 20043); Carolyn McGilivray (CIU 20045) Regrets: Maria-Luiza Romano (AGR 20027); Darrell-Lee McKenzie (retired); Joy Harrison (APSAR)

Chaired by NS

Call to Order at 11:15 AM

Adoption of Amended Agenda – adopted with addition of two topics; Yearly Council Report and Resolution about Convention training proposed by local 20043.

- *moved by NS*
- *seconded by LS*
- *carried*

Approval of previous minutes and AGM minutes from January 2019 with no additions or corrections

- *Moved by LW*
- *Seconded by KS*
- *carried*

Treasurer's Report

- Presented by KM. Balance as of January 1st 2019 was \$3833.74, closing balance December 31st 2019 was \$2928.70.
- Total expenses for the year were \$1406.76.
 - *Motion by KM to move the Treasurer's report*
 - *Seconded by LW*
 - *Carried*
- REVP JM asked about locals paying dues, KM responded that this was stopped in the past. Discussed that having locals pay dues may draw locals to participate.
- **ACTION ITEM: NS to find out why local dues were stopped being collected, who paid in the past, will follow up at the next meeting.**

Budget 2020

- Presented by KM, see attached
- REVP JM suggested that we ask the office for input on our budget.
- Discussed what was spent the previous year, and rationale for keeping budget to expenses from last year, or increasing it in anticipation of increased expenses.
- Changes to the proposed budget included:
 - Donations from \$500 to \$400
 - New line item for Conventions & Conferences for \$250 (to cover entrance fees, donations to convention), later discussion increased further to \$750 to take into consideration CLC convention
 - Labour events increased to \$500 as JO expressed interest in organizing an event for Labour Day in Kamloops

- Total budget was \$3100, which is more than what is in our account, discussion with REVP JM about running a deficit, decided to propose the attached deficit budget.
- Discussion around who we affiliate with, decided to renew affiliation with the workers history museum, to be discussed further at a future date. Discussed that we donate to RAMA (Radical Action with Migrants in Agriculture) rather than affiliate.
- Discussion about CLC convention and how there are funds from Labour Council. If a PSAC local can't send a delegate let REVP JM know so the seat can be filled. Each local should affiliate with BC Fed dues will be reimbursed by Regional office.
 - *Final budget moved by JO*
 - *Seconded by KS*
 - *Carried*

Labour Council Report

- NS is local 20043 delegate to SOBLC.
- SOBLC is looking to hire someone to run May Day, if you know of anyone, please let NS know she'll get them in contact with SOBLC.
- NS mentioned discussion with Okanagan Skaha Teacher's Federation (OSTF) President about #RedforBCFed campaign. NS sent out social media message on this to Union brothers & Sisters and urged attendees to learn about the situation with teachers and teaching assistants in the province. NS spoke about Make it Right campaign and Phoenix, sent info to OSTF President who then distributed it to his members.
- SOBLC is looking for 1st VP, Secretary or Treasurer, please pass this on to folks in the area who are interested in getting involved in the labour movement.
- KM spoke about NOLC & it's all male executive and encouraged members to consider participating, especially women.

Year End Report

- NS briefly spoke about Okanagan Area Council participation in:
 - May Day (Penticton)
 - Labor Day (Kelowna)
 - Renewed relationship with SOBLC
 - started discussion & planning on large member drawing event, briefly discussed hurdles in our geographic area & lack of unionized locations

KM added that the year was successful, busy booths at events.

Election of Executive

- Elections led by VJ, all positions by acclamation as follows:
 - President: Nadia Sokal
 - Motion: LW
 - Seconded: KM
 - Vice President: Lorelei Sterling
 - Motion: KS
 - Seconded: LW
 - Secretary: Kareen Stanich
 - Motion: LW

- Seconded: KM
- Treasurer: Kelly Megyesi
 - Motion: LW
 - Seconded: LS

Resolution submitted for BC Regional Convention about Convention training proposed by local 20043

- NS distributed information a resolution put forward by local 20043.
- Briefly, local 20043 felt that training on resolution writing and related processes would be useful before submission of and resolutions, rather than after, NS asked members who are attended BC Regional Convention to consider supporting this.
- REVP JM mentioned that the Politics for Everyone course was delivered in the fall based on input from the area and only so many courses are offered in each area per quarter. The resolution did not specify the BC Regional Convention, so the Convention Procedures course scheduled in May is before the Component Conventions and PSAC National Convention.
- REVP JM encouraged members to send resolutions to him to review before submission.
- Discussion that other avenues are former active members, Geographic coordinators and to reach out to regional education officer.
- NS mentioned former active members were consulted and did not know that the resources mentioned above were available, the local will use these in the future.
- Discussion moved to requesting education courses. KM mentioned frustration over course scheduling, request for indigenous courses, clearer communication needed, appears to be driven by PSAC rather than the Regional Council. VJ said he would take this feedback back to the office.

Large Membership Drawing Event

- Due to time constraints a conference call will be organized for the working group who expressed interest in organizing the event. Working group will report back to the larger group.
- NS asked that anyone new attending who wants to be in the working group to let her know.
- REVP JM asked that we add Patrick Bragg to this call.

ACITON ITEM: NS to schedule working group meeting & will send an email out at the end of the day.

Quick Round Table

- LW conveyed information on members who recently passed away and the declining morale a her workplace.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:22 PM

**** Next meeting date, time & location to follow through email soon****