



MINUTES
Stroll of Poets
Annual General Meeting
Massawa Café and Bistro
10153-97 Street
Edmonton, Alberta

Sunday, 19 March 2017

Board in attendance: John Leppard, Alice Major, Anne Gerard Marshall, Naomi McIlwraith, Linda Papineau-Couture, Janaan Dekker, Matthew Dekker

Members in attendance: Deborah Lawson, Ellen Kartz, Markus Eymann, Robin Hunter, Joyce Harries, Phyllis Shuell, Josh Luukkonen, Richard Davies, Hal Cashman, Doug Elves, Max Foster, Henry Victor, Ivan Sundal, Anna Mioduchowska, Ernest Chiasson, Jocelyne Verret-Chiasson, Don Perkins, Gina Varty, Sharon Ingraham, Ruth Anderson Donovan, Danielle Zyp, Hank Binnema, Alida Van Braden, Alison Clarke, Max Vandersteen, Gerald St. Maur, Marcia Johnson

Call to order: 1:52 p.m.

Thank you to the Massawa Café and staff.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Alice moved to approve agenda for today's AGM, Linda seconded, **M/S/Carried**

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Linda moved for approval of the Minutes from 21 March 2016, Ellen Kartz seconded the motion; **M/S/Carried**

Business Arising from the minutes:

Vue Magazine does not publicize Stroll events anymore.

Newsletter and Social Media Platforms are better for promotion.

Board Members' Reports

President: John Leppard

1. 25 years: thank you to all who gave so much to make this Season of Silver possible.
2. Founders' Feast was a way to celebrate 25 years of poetry!

Vice President: Marco Melfi

1. Thank you for the privilege of serving on the board.
2. Thank you to everybody for another great year of poetry.
3. Big thank you to John for his incredible work this whole year.

Anthology Editor's Report: Deborah Lawson

1. Thanks to the Board and to the 17 people who helped with the Editing Bee.
2. Congratulations to Anna Mioduchowska for her photo on the cover.

Secretary's Report: Naomi McIlwraith:

1. The minutes I've been recording are an important record and means of communicating our decisions and activities to you, the Membership.

Haven Host: Anne Gerard Marshall

1. I've been Door Hosting since 2009 always with one of you as my sidekick.
2. Thank you to all of you for your help.

Social Media: Linda Papineau-Couture

1. Haven: 7609 views; 82 likes & retweets; 142 interactions
2. AGM: 3907 view; 24 likes & retweets; 12 interactions
3. 631 Twitter followers
4. 235 Facebook members
5. 124729 tweet views

Workshops Coordinator: John Leppard

1. Two workshops this year offered by Richard Davies and Jade O'Reilly.
2. Thank you to Janaan Dekker & Matthew Dekker for your work with the Churchill Manor Initiative. Thank you to Linda Papineau Couture for your work on Poets' on Fire and your groundbreaking work in expanding our Social Media presence.

Poets' Haven: Marco Melfi and John Leppard

1. Marco: Thank you to all readers, all hosts.
2. Learned a lot about the Haven's evolution, heard a lot about it at Founders' Feast.
3. Biggest change is that we've become a Haven Committee with the welcome addition of Susanna Chalut and Janis Dow.
4. Thank you to Alice for ideas to increase our audiences and special events at Audreys Books.
5. Big thanks to Anne, Doug, Ellen, and Linda.

Motion: Don Perkins moved to accept the Directors' Reports and Ernest Chiasson seconded the motion. **M/S/Carried.**

Financial Report: Alice Major**a. Approval of Financial Statements & Treasurer's Report**

- a. Total revenues for the past year were approximately \$15,200, and our expenses were just under \$14,500. This means that our accumulated surplus has increased to \$5,385. However, this reflects the fact that we took in revenue for the Founders Feast but didn't pay bills until after the year end.
- b. The Writers Guild of Alberta had not changed its monthly charge for services provided to the Stroll for a long time, but last year asked to renegotiate the agreement. The result will be an ongoing increase of \$1500 annually.
- c. This will not be an immediate concern for the coming year. However, for the future we'll need more revenue: perhaps by increasing the Haven charge.
- d. Question from the floor: what is the PayPal balance? Answer: We let the money accumulate and once per year Ellen transfers it to our bank account.

Motion: Alice Major moved to accept the Financial Report and John Leppard seconded the motion. **M/S/Carried.**

b. Appointment of Auditors for 2017/2018

- i. Thank you to Alida Van Braeden and to Manny Blosser for serving 2 years. Manny is finished his commitment. Alida will serve one more year. Richard Davies will do it next year with Alida.
- ii. **Motion:** Alice moved that Alida Van Braeden and Richard Davies be appointed as auditors for 2017-2018. Deborah Lawson seconded the motion. **M/S/Carried.**
- iii. Special thank you to Ivan our long-term bookkeeper who keeps the records straight and provides the statement you have in your hands.

Election of President:

Nomination: Marco Melfi nominated John Leppard as President. Alice seconded the nomination. John Leppard agreed to serve as President for a fourth term and as there were no further nominations from the floor he was acclaimed.

Election of Officers:

Nomination: John nominated the following names as a slate of directors: Marco Melfi, Alice Major, Anne Gerard Marshall, Naomi McIlwraith, Susana Chalut, Janis Dow, David Crone. Ruth Anderson Donovan seconds the nomination.

John declares the slate acclaimed for 2017-2018:

Marco Melfi, Alice Major, Anne Gerard Marshall, Naomi McIlwraith, Susanna Chalut, Janis Dow, and David Crone.

Proposed Date of Next Meeting

Motion: Alida moved that the next AGM be Sunday, 18 March 2017. **Linda seconded the motion. M/S/Carried**

Other Business:

1. Alice: Quick reminder that the Edmonton Poetry Festival starts on 16 April until 23 April.
2. Need helpers for the Blinks event.
3. Stroll of Poets is in some way the parent of the EPF because Stroll brokered the first grant application.
4. Check out edmontonpoetryfestival.com

Adjourn (2:33 p.m.)

Motion: Alice moved to adjourn the 2017 AGM: **M/S/C**

Intermission: 15 minutes

Anthology Launch and Open Mic Readings