



VFMS

Annual General Meeting Minutes, January 15, 2017
Norway House, 1110 Hillside Avenue, Victoria, BC

Quorum represented – 17 members in good standing in attendance.

1. Approval of 2015 AGM Minutes

A motion to accept the 2015 AGM minutes was moved by Lynn Beak and seconded by Bill Gordon.

The motion was passed.

2. Adoption of Revised Constitution and Bylaws

The following Special Resolution was brought forward for discussion and potential adoption:

“In conjunction with the transition to conform to the BC Government’s new Societies Act, be it resolved that the Victoria Folk Music Society adopt the revised Constitution and Bylaws presented to the membership.”

- The legal requirements to change the VFMS Constitution and Bylaws were reviewed.
- The approach the Executive used to develop a revised VFMS Constitution and Bylaws was reviewed. Many thanks to Lynn Beak for her assistance in revising the VFMS Constitution and Bylaws.
- A summary of the changes made to the original 1986 VFMS Constitution and Bylaws was reviewed.
- Considerable discussion on possibly revising the Purpose of the Society ensued but it was eventually agreed that the wording in the revised VFMS Constitution and Bylaws would be used.

A motion to approve the Special Resolution and adopt the revised VFMS Constitution and Bylaws was moved by Harvey Maser and seconded by Maureen Campbell.

The motion was passed (15 in favour and 1 abstention).

3. Review of 2016 activities

The previous year’s accomplishments were reviewed including:

A. Administration and Operations

- 49 Shows plus Seasonal Dance

- Members: Single – 35, Family - 33
- Averages: Feature pay \$215.88, 38 Paid attendees, 89 Total attendees
- Constitution and Bylaws revised in conjunction with transition to new Societies Act

B. Annual Activities

- Summer Picnic – Esquimalt – Gorge Park ~20 attendees
- VFMS Autumn Retreat - Camp George Pringle – Well received, covered costs, ~60 attendees

C. 40th Anniversary Celebration Projects

- “The Folk Turns Forty” commemorative CD of inaugural concert by Utah Phillips in 1975
- Completed – Commemorative CD now available

D. Panel Concerts:

- May Day
- Peter, Paul & Mary

E. Young Musician Bursary Program

- Awarded 1st ever Young Musician Bursary to Lissa (Alison) Chapeskie
- Funded registration fees to Vancouver Island Music Workshop and VFMS Annual Retreat

F. Sponsorships/Partnerships

- Islands Folk Festival - \$500.00
- CFUV Folk Programs - \$200.00
- BlueBird North Spring – Promotion and Logistics support

G. Sound Reinforcement Project

- Completed – Sound Reinforcement system in weekly operation
- Positive reviews from trial and current operations
- Very supportive and successful Sound Reinforcement fund raising
- Mackie 802VLZ Mixer and Audio Technica 2035 Condenser mic purchased
- Special thanks to Victor Talson and John Taylor for their assistance

4. Financial Report

The Financial Statements for our fiscal year, October 1, 2015 – September 30 2016, were reviewed.

Some erosion of our financial position – revenues up slightly but our expenses continue to grow – an approximate \$3000 deficit resulted. We funded various Folk activities as well as our routine club activities which continued to eat into our cash reserves. We need to consider ways to increase our income to reverse this trend.

A motion to approve the Financial Statements was moved by Patty Castle and seconded by Bill Gordon.

The motion was passed.

5. Election of Officers – (All positions filled and approved by acclamation)

President: Carol Aileen

Vice President: Mike Jones

Treasurer: Helga Woolsey

Secretary: Rick Lester

6. Priorities for 2017

Discussed the possibility of raising admission fees and membership fees to increase our income. Our admission fees and membership fees have not been adjusted since 2008 while our expenses (e.g. rent, performer fees, supplies, etc.) have continued to increase.

Most other local Folk clubs have raised their admission fees to \$7 and even \$10. Increasing our admission fees from \$5 to \$7 would raise our average monthly income by approximately \$100 at current average attendance numbers which would put us slightly in the black. It was agreed that an increase to \$10 was too much, but an increase to \$7 was acceptable.

It was agreed that if we increase our admission fees we should raise our membership fees at the same time.

Discussed raising our Single membership fee by \$10 to \$75 per year and our Family membership fee by \$20 to \$120 per year (i.e. at least 2 people covered). These increases would raise our average monthly income by approximately another \$100 at current average membership numbers which would provide us with a bit more flexibility in planning our activities. It was agreed that these increases were acceptable.

Meeting Adjourned.