

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Ukulele Club of Winnipeg held Sunday, September 26, 2021. Held virtually via Zoom.

Members in attendance: Diana Cruise, Robert Fraser, Don Orgeman, Barb Erikson, Thelma Findlay, Shirley Canty, Leanne Canty, Brock Love, Sheila Hawkes, Diane Smyth, Bunny Carlson, Janice Chase, Norm Brown, Chris Stewart, Rob Ellis, Bob Cooper, Bonnie Robison, Fred Casey, Kate Ferris, Ted Teterenko, Verna Pfrimmer, Errol Lipschitz, Wendy Chapman, Kelly Ryback, Diana Keenan, Linda McNeill, Tim Hogue
Regrets: Doug Henry with proxy vote assigned to Tim Hogue

Meeting called to order 2:06 pm

1. Minutes from last AGM
 - a. 2020 Minutes of last AGM held October 25, 2020 were reviewed. Motion to accept as presented Moved by Kate Ferris, seconded by Wendy Chapman. All in favour. No business arising from the minutes.
2. Old Business
 - a. Songbook - has been updated, published and distributed. Very well received, excellent selection, presentation, variety. Approximately 7 remaining for purchase and additional 100 have been ordered. A small profit is made on the books. Appreciation was expressed to all who were involved in this worthwhile project.
 - b. Bookkeeper - The club has now received 5 years of ledgers, profit/loss statements and can now file taxes to current.
3. Appointments to Board of Directors
 - a. Chris Stewart - appointed as Director at Large, 2-year term
 - b. Kelly Ryback - appointed to assist with Festival sponsorship and advertising, volunteer position
4. Financial Report
 - a. Books received on Thursday show operating loss of \$349.73 for fiscal year.
 - b. Workshops made money, songbook broke even, low sales of merchandise due to absence of in-person events. All payments due for 2021 have been paid (website, online store, zoom, workshops).
 - c. Outstanding inventory includes T-shirts, buttons, pins, cozies, and 7 books – approx. \$1,800 in unrealized merchandise).
 - d. Year end bank balance \$8,247.93 (increase of \$971 from previous year). This is approximately 1/3 of what is needed to run the next Festival with selling Festival memberships.
 - e. Financial report is available to anyone who wishes to receive a copy, upon request to UCW President.
5. Presidents Report
 - a. Covid still SUCKS!
 - b. Until a new home for in-person events has been found and until the most recent Covid wave has passed, events will remain online.

- c. In order to ensure the well-being of all members, while Public Health orders are in place, members will be required to pre-register and be fully vaccinated in order to attend.
6. Current and Planned Events
- a. 2021 and Beyond Survey results were reviewed re; jams, participation, who should pay, and whether there should be a cover charge for in-person events.
 - i. Discussion ensued re; cover charge, member vs non-member rates vs one rate for all, financial hardship/affordability issues, member vs non-member attendance at in-person events (50-70% were non-members), member vs non-member rates for workshop and motivation for enrolment as member.
 - ii. Recommendation was made by President to increase membership rate effective immediately. Current rates are New Member \$10, Renewal \$5 - recommended to double. Any members already paid would not be affected by this change. Motion made by Brock Love to increase New Member rate to \$20. and Renewal to \$10 seconded by Leanne Canty. All in favor.
 - b. Search for a new home has begun for in-person events. Facility needs to be accessible, central, free and have food/beverages available for purchase. Suggestions continue to be received.
 - c. Strum N Suds recently saw the usual seasonal decline, anticipated that attendance will likely increase again now that the seasons are changing.
 - i. Requested that members send in request ahead if they have a song they would like someone else to lead, and the send in their song selection in advance - they help keep the Strum moving along and manageable.
 - ii. Strum N Suds will continue via Zoom, bi-weekly.
 - d. Open Mic continues to be held the last Wednesday of each month. Lots of variety of songs and people attending. On Open Mic nights, play continues until there is no one left to play.
 - e. Workshops have been successful financially, and very well attended with collection of people across North America and around the world. The next two workshops are in place and planning is happening for winter sessions.
 - i. Motion made by Tim Hogue to increase rates for workshops. Current rates are \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members - recommended to double.
 - ii. Overall agreement that workshops are extremely affordable for high standard, world-class lessons providing 90 minutes of instruction which can be viewed online again later.
 - iii. Consideration to be given to keeping the workshops accessible to all and to not price anyone out of participation.
 - iv. Motion tabled. Board of Directors to review further.
 - f. Prairie Jamboree Ukulele Festival September 23-25, 2022
 - i. Hotel has been secured, deposit and convention rate from 2020 are still to be honored. Overnight rate for rooms will increase \$10/night.
 - ii. All guests are committed to the dates.

- iii. Craig Chee and Sarah Maisel will have additional airfare costs coming from Hawaii vs San Diego, additional discussion will take place on how this will be managed.

7. New Business

a. Constitutional Amendments

- i. Reviewed as distributed.
- ii. Additional discussion took place regarding Membership 3.1 to include 'age'.
- iii. Motion to accept as presented Moved by Fred Casey, seconded by Bonnie Robinson. All in favor.
- iv. Constitutional Amendment required to reflect increased membership fees.
- v. Motion to amend items 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 regarding membership fees. Moved by Janice Chase, seconded by Fred Casey. All in favor.

b. Other New Business

- i. Open Mic - Kelly Ryback queried whether there was the opportunity or desire to record/livestream the virtual events (Open Mic, Strum N Suds) on FB.
 - 1. Consensus was that each performer would be asked for consent prior to their performance being shared (FB live, UCW web page, Youtube channel).
 - 2. In every case, comments would be turned off in order to ensure that the live events are a safe place for everyone and to encourage all to participate.
 - 3. Viewing on FB would be limited to members only.
- ii. Buy and Sell
 - 1. Kelly Ryback queried whether the club was able to look into having a place to show items for sale - whether on the FB page, the UCW web page, the newsletter.
 - a. Discussion regarding items sometimes sent in for sale and advertised through the newsletter and on FB.
 - b. Discussion whether Club should take a 'Finders Fee' and decision to not include this was reached
 - c. A page on the website will be created for this endeavour and solicitation of items for inclusion will begin
- iii. Registered Charity Status
 - 1. Robert Fraser mentioned he would like to begin some fact-finding to look into UCW becoming a registered charity. He will gather information on the process, reporting requirements, and further discussion can occur on the costs and benefits to the club.

8. Next Annual General Meeting - September 25, 2022

9. Meeting adjourned 3:44 pm