

**Arokis Annual General Meeting
First Lutheran Church, Vancouver
Saturday May 11, 2013**

Arokis Annual General Meeting called to Order at 11:11 by Arokis President Garth Balint
20 members in attendance

Motion to adopt the minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting: Don Ogden

Seconded: Henry Rutgers

Carried by unanimous vote.

President's Report

President Garth Balint touched on items that were not included in his prepared comments:

- New members for both Urbana and Impressions were introduced.
- Urbana played the following gigs this year:
 - Vancouver Public Library
 - Jazz Vespers
 - The Arokis fund raising concert
 - Urbana has been engaged to play this summer at the Kitsilano Showboat, the Make Music Vancouver festival and at the Park Place lunch series.
- Impressions played the following gigs this year:
 - The Cottage Bistro (2 times)
 - Christmas concert at Second Street School
 - Vancouver Public Library
 - The Arokis fund raising concert
- Garth noted that while the bands will play gigs for no compensation the preference is to play for an honorarium that at least covers the cost of the director's fee.
- It was noted that Henry Rutgers coordinates gigs for Urbana and Don Ogden for Impressions.

Garth recognized the special effort expended by particular members on behalf of the society:

- Linda Blaine and Michael Prout who finished cataloguing the Arokis music library, a daunting task given there are about 760 charts in the Society's library.
- Russ Krywolt for hosting the Society's website and maintaining its domain name, and Lucas TDS for his work on the website.
- Jerry Silver for his contributions to the Society's Facebook page.
- Impressionist Leo Bae and local composer Phil Dwyer for donations of original music to the Impressions book.
- Garth thanked the members of the Board for their contribution over the past year.

Some discussion arising from the President's comments ensued:

- It was noted that website revitalization is planned with particular assistance from Jerry Silver and Tracey Sikora. Richard Freeman noted that his company can host websites and offered hosting for Arokis.
 - Henry Rutgers expressed the intention to hold another fund raising concert next year, probably in a different location such as the Columbia Theatre which can offer food and alcoholic beverages or the Rio which also has a liquor license.
 - It was recommended that the Society have a succinct written description of the Society and its bands to facilitate promotional efforts.
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- It was noted that some members enjoyed self-directed rehearsals and the President acknowledged that depending on levels of funding self-directed rehearsals may be required again in the future.

The President concluded by encouraging members to bring forward any new interesting and fun ideas to get music out to the public, which is part of the Society's mandate. In particular Garth noted that more people were needed to serve on the Board.

Budget Discussion

Discussion on the budget was led by Treasurer Daryl Fieber who noted that the Society's fiscal year is from April 1 to March 31.

Daryl reviewed the financial statements as distributed, noting in particular that there is still money available for new music; the musical directors will be informed they have room to buy more music. Daryl noted that expenses incurred for the fund raising concert in the last fiscal year were included in that year's financials but since the revenues occurred in the current fiscal year they will be included in this year's income, net profits being about \$250. Daryl noted that since the costs of a fund raiser are mostly fixed there is good financial leverage if we can increase ticket sales meaningfully. The key in his judgment is full scale marketing

Daryl presented the proposed budget for FY 2014 as distributed, noting that the biggest risk to the budget is that no grant money is received. In response to a question he noted that the musical directors are paid \$150 per rehearsal and \$185 for a performance.

Questions arising from the floor:

- Had the Board considered refraining from buying new music and lowering fees? The President offered that when the Society lost gaming grants in the past the Board considered raising dues but got pushback after a raise a few years ago. He noted members can decide how to spend revenues, but noted new music attracts new members and helps to retain existing members. Music purchases have been focused with directors buying music with the skills of the members in mind plus having an eye to adding charts of historical value. Garth noted that very few bands in Vancouver have a library of similar character.
- What happens if no grant is provided? The Board will convene a special general meeting to discuss options with members and to approve a revised budget.
- There was a question about cash held in the Society's bank account. The Treasurer believed it was prudent to maintain a cushion against the risk of not receiving grant monies.
- Some discussion followed about connecting with charities, corporate and other groups to procure paying gigs so the Society could become more self-funding.

Motion to accept the budget: Michael Prout

Second: Linda Blaine

Carried by unanimous vote.

New Business

- Richard Freeman asked if the Society's library is insured. Board indicated it was not and agreed this was a good item to investigate. It was suggested that that library be scanned as a backup, which the Board agreed to investigate.
 - It was recommended - and the Board agreed to investigate - the advisability of obtaining band insurance, for instance for third party liability on gigs.
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- Andrew Smith proposed that a certain percentage of new music acquisitions be transcriptions and Jerry Silver recommended this include local composers as well. Discussion followed and it was agreed the Board would mention this to the directors as a guideline without a more rigid resolution being adopted by the Society
- Some members expressed enjoyment working with directors other than our usual musical directors and asked about the viability of spread out that work? It was noted that the musical directors do sub out from time to time and concerns about retaining directors and continuity of direction, but workshops would be a good work-around.
- Don Fraser recommended the Board look into making application to play in future Vancouver International Jazz Festivals.
- Linda Blaine expressed pleasure at having the association of the two bands and it was agreed that the Society aim to strengthen opportunities for continued association.

Call for Nominations

Garth Balint indicated he is standing down as President and Board member because of conflicting requirements for his time. He expressed his pleasure at working both for the Society and with the Board. Members from the floor were quick to recognize Garth's contribution and thank him for the same.

The following members agreed to be nominated to the Board: Daryl Feiber, Don Fraser, Tim Kelly, Don Ogden, Henry Rutgers and Jerry Silver. All nominations were approved unanimously.

Motion to adjourn: **Henry**
Second: Chris Johnston
Carried by unanimous vote.
Meeting adjourned at 12:26
