



West Shore Arts Council Annual General Meeting

Wednesday June 19, 6:30-7:30 pm

Victoria Conservatory of Music Langford, recital hall

MINUTES

1. The AGM was called to order at 18:42 pm by Chris Bhopalsingh.
2. Agenda was approved: moved by Stephen Green, seconded by Steffen Preusser.
3. Minutes of 2018 WSAC AGM were approved, pending corrections of spelling of Steffen's name and membership group number: moved by Shoni Robertson, seconded by Steffen Preusser.
4. Review of the WSAC year 2018-19: Chris Bhopalsingh
Chris overviewed the purposes, values and mission of the WSAC, then thanked the members of the WSAC Board including the past President. She overviewed key activities of the 2018-19 year: Classics at the Westshore Concert Series – 6 concerts involving partnerships with Victoria Conservatory of Music and Royal Roads University; Light up the Hills – a large event in partnership with Westhills; Mother's Day Paint In in partnership with Royal Roads University; and several smaller events partnering with individual municipalities: Eats and Beats; Metchosin Days; Highlands Fiddle Performance' and the Arts Fest in View Royal. The Youth at Risk music project continued through 2018-19. Chris reported some key challenges including working through a transition in leadership, refreshing the strategy, and managing cuts to revenue. See attached statement from Chris.
5. Financial statements: Steffen Preusser presented an overview of the 2018-19 year-end financial statements – see companion pdf document Finances AGM 2019. One Board Director noted that two activities using 14% of the funding, Youth at Risk and Arts and Fashion Collective, have recently been discontinued which should alter the budget going forward. One member asked about the loss of funding, and members discussed briefly how this might affect future plans.
6. Membership report: Chris Bhopalsingh reported that WSAC currently comprises 31 members, 5 art groups, and 5 businesses. Membership has stayed relatively static over the

past three years. Membership information has recently been transferred to a new software platform.

Chris invited forward any members who wished to provide an update of their organization's activities. Judith Cullington of the Juan de Fuca Performing Arts Society updated members on the work of her organization towards eventually developing a performing arts centre in the West Shore: something that might seat up to 600 but still meets the needs of small arts organizations, and includes office spaces, display spaces etc. The current idea is to combine the arts spaces with commercial activity in the same building. The group has recently appointed a Royal Roads University student intern to help research information required for future development. Judith once again encouraged WSAC to remain an active part of the JdFPA Society, and noted that it would be useful to know what needs, if any, that WSAC might have for a future performing arts centre (eg renting an office space).

7. WSAC Board of Directors nominations:

Changes in the Board of Directors since the last AGM include the following:

Shelley Jones and Josh Schmidt resigned from the Board for reasons of busy schedules and insufficient time available for WSAC work.

Laura Davis resigned as President and as Acting Treasurer, and Chris Bhopalsingh moved from her position as Vice President to take over as President as of December 1 2018. Steffen Preusser was appointed by the Board as Acting Treasurer. No new Vice President was appointed.

This year there are two positions being considered for two Director appointments.

Chris Bhopalsingh nominated Shoni Robertson for re-appointment as a Director. Shoni has completed one two-year term, and was willing to let her name stand for a second two-year term.

Chris also nominated David Rand for a new appointment as a Director. David overviewed his background for members.

The nominations were seconded by Stephen Green.

Members were asked three times for any further nominations. None were raised.

Members approved the nominations of Shoni Robertson and David Rand.

8. The only further business was a question raised by member Judith Cullington: what are the future plans of the WSAC, and what link might there be with JdFPA Society? Chris described the current status of WSAC as being in transition at present with the many Board changes, with the Board planning a strategy session in August. Chris also emphasized a desire to be very transparent with members about directions, activities, and budgets by publishing documents.

9. Meeting adjourned at 19:36 pm.

Westshore Arts Council
President's report AGM
June 19, 2019

Welcome,

I hope it is evident how fundamentally important the arts are to our well-being. The arts bring communities together; reflects our lives and our society back to us, and offers a place where beauty, expression, passion and engagement takes pride of place. The Westshore Arts Council, supports the creative potential of our artists and enhances the well-being of residents through the transformative power of the arts.

I would like to thank the tremendous WSAC Board – a group of passionate, dedicated and deeply knowledgeable individuals with whom I have the pleasure of sharing this journey. I'd also like to thank the past Presidents whom, lent long hours of effort to bring about success in community art.

Activities During the Past Year:

- The Concert Series, partnership with the Victoria Conservatory, Coast Collective Gallery and Royal Roads - a series highlighting the Classics, recently ending at Royal Roads with our Dunsmuir feature, where we had the honor of hosting some of the Dunsmuir family.
- West hills Lantern Festival – through partnership with West hills development. It has become a staple within the community, attracting upwards of a few thousand attendees. The young and the young at heart come out to enjoy an evening of fun, entertainment and community togetherness. Showcasing local artists, where it's evident there is an appetite for artistic expression, as many community goers create their own lanterns before heading out on the path.
- Mother's day Paint in – through partnership with Royal Roads – another community tradition which bring various genres of artisans together, while local musical talent takes the stage to entertain.
- We supported once more, the Youth at Risk program, which ended March 2019.
- Supporting various community events such as: Eat & Beats on Esquimalt Lagoon, Metchosin Days, the Highland Fiddle performance and Arts Fest in View Royal

This past year wasn't without its' challenges. Thrusted into the grip of transformation, we are evaluating our direction, programming and our raison d'etre to remain relevant, fresh, engaging.

I look forward as this Council grows and transforms to meet the needs of future generations.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Bhopalsingh, Westshore Arts Council President