

Board Voice Society of BC – Meeting Minutes

Date: Sept 20, 2021, 5 p.m.

Present: Terry Anne Boyles, Leslie Welin, Ernest Freeman, Eleanor Calder, Ajit Sinha, Louella Matthias, Jody Paterson.

Regrets: Sandra Micheals, Bill McMichael, Bev Rundell (medical absence).

Minutes taken by: Jody Paterson

Item	Notes	Action
1. Meeting Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Land acknowledgementb. Apologiesc. Each director invited to take 20-30 seconds to share one challenge and one exciting development from their organization <i>that informs the work of Board Voice</i>		
2. Approval/additions to agenda	<i>Moved to Approve the Agenda:</i> Moved, Ajit Sinha Seconder, Ernie Freeman. Carried.	
3. Approval of consent agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. ED reportb. Committee reports	<i>Moved to Approve the Consent Agenda:</i> Moved, Louella Matthias, seconder Ajit. Carried.	

<p>4. Matters for decision</p> <p>a. Previous minutes</p> <p>b. Treasurer's report</p>	<p><i>Moved to Approve July Minutes:</i> Moved, Leslie Welin, seconder Ajit S. Carried.</p> <p><i>Moved to Approve July and August Financial Statements:</i></p> <p>Leslie asks for details on how YWCA Vancouver is coming on as a new member. Jody says there has been numerous conversations between Y and Board Voice in last 4-5 months, plus former BV board member Susan Witter may have been an influence.</p> <p>Moved, Ernie, seconder Ajit. Carried.</p>	
<p>5. Matters for information & dialogue</p> <p>a. AGM preparation</p>	<p>AGM is on Mon Sept 27. Jody reports there are 23 voting reps and a total of 32 people confirmed at this stage, with the agenda package to go out to members tomorrow, Sept 21. Board co-chair Leslie Welin will be chairing the AGM and co-chair Terry Anne Boyles will be presenting the financials. Terry Anne notes the change at Section 13.5 in the bylaws, that heading has been changed to "Purpose and Bylaws," and not just "Bylaws." Eleanor Calder as Nominations Chair will call for nominations (3 times as required) and put forward current director Ernie Freeman for re-election as well as new candidates.</p> <p>The board reviewed the "Run of Show" for the AGM. The land acknowledgement will be at the provincial level so only has to be made once.</p> <p>Eleanor will oversee the short meeting post-AGM to elect the executive. Terry Anne Boyles and Leslie Welin have agreed to continue as co-chairs until May 2022.</p>	<p>Jody will give Leslie her cell number for any tech issues for participants if they can't use chat.</p>

<p>b. Update – advocacy work, intimate partner violence and brain injury</p>	<p>Terry Anne notes that Board Voice does not have written finance policies. That will be worked on using policies of Family Services of Greater Vancouver as starting points.</p> <p>Jody updates directors on her work around raising awareness of IPV/BI and cross-pollinating the issue so that brain injury groups feature information about IPV, and vice-versa. Terry Anne notes that raising awareness is an advocacy issue. Terry Anne asks that letter going to brain injury organizations and others have more on Board Voice as advocates for non-profits and social services.</p> <p>Eleanor: Prince George Sexual Assault Centre very interested in this issue, think it might help them find funding. Ernie says there’s an organization in Fort St John that would benefit from this information.</p> <p>Leslie: We talk about BV as being a peer-to-peer organization, and a good mix of large/small organizations is a good way to support that perspective.</p> <p>Terry Anne: It really is a good advocacy issue for Board Voice to involve itself in.</p>	<p>Jody will add more/different information on Board Voice to the letter.</p>
<p>c. Debrief on MCFD Minister Mitzi Dean and Opposition Critic Karin Kirkpatrick dialogues</p>	<p>Leslie: The insistence on minister using Microsoft Teams made it very difficult to have the engagement. In the future, it’s our request to her – we should diplomatically say “We use Zoom.” You can’t see everybody on Teams.</p> <p>Ajit: Both women want to speak to us, but it’s very obvious that political issues take a very long time to move. I agree with platform of these meetings being on Zoom.</p> <p>Ernie: I felt I got a lot out of it. Mitzi seemed very straightforward, was evident how slow and difficult it is for someone in government to make a decision. All this consulting takes place and nothing happens for a long time.</p> <p>Leslie: Minister said having to get a diagnosis was a hurdle. But now they are moving to needs-based, and looking at</p>	

circumstances of family in the community will be considered. She raises concern that they will be looking at the family income in decided if your child will get services. Will it be income-based? That would be a slippery slope.

Terry Anne: We should get a request in for a call with Jennifer Charlesworth when the framework comes out.

Leslie: The shift of childcare to Education Ministry, they are not prepared for it. There's a battle between ECEs and Education, which is curriculum-based while ECE is play-based learning. There's a rub between these two organizations, plus a pay difference. In my opinion, this will not be a smooth transition.

Terry Anne suggests setting up a joint call with Jennifer and First Call. She notes that Mitzi asked about young people on boards, but there are some challenges in understanding that issue, ensuring boards are covering fiduciary duties, avoiding ageism, etc.

Call with Karin Kirkpatrick: Eleanor and Jody note that it was very good for information-sharing in both directions.

Terry Anne says it was useful to have the whole board on this call and not just the advocacy committee, as we could share information from regions/agencies our directors are informed on.

Louella: I found conversation really good, gave us a heads-up on shift in policy and the unintended consequences of that shift. She came open to share and was receptive to take feedback back. It wasn't a one-way feed of information.

Terry Anne: When I was working federally/provincially, a new critic is really in a position to get to know you, and vice versa. And if that party gets into power, the critics often become the ministers. At some point, perhaps a call with Karin and a couple other critics for social ministries.

Leslie suggests another call with Green Leader Sonia Furstenau.

Jody will bookmark a reminder to reach out when we have a timeline for framework being released.

<p>d. Membership committee briefing for October dialogue</p>	<p>Eleanor – Membership committee talked about supporters and super-supporters for Board Voice, and so we bring two questions to directors. There will be breakout rooms on this at October to look at these two questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What wording/or different levels does your home Board have for people or organizations who support and contribute to your own agency’s work?2. What are your thoughts about Board Voice using the words like Supporters and Sustainers that indicate different levels of contributions? <p>Louella notes that Options is having the conversation right now on language and acknowledgement around sponsors.</p>	
<p>e. Impact of COVID - Roundtable</p>	<p>Terry Anne notes the Roundtable meeting is Sept 21, the first since June. She had sent sector questions around COVID and vaccination policy to David Galbraith at SDPR and the update was provided Sept 17, but it still leaves agencies with questions.</p> <p>Leslie: We have group residents for adults living with developmental disabilities, and some have significant medical issues. One of the things to think about is that the group residences are there because folks can’t live with their families, their needs are too great. We fought against institutionalizing people in the past, and the government would dearly love to shut down group residences, but does that lead to institutionalization? You have to be careful what you ask for. What has happened is that people are in community, and it’s the bowling alleys, for instance, asking for proof of vaccination, and our staff would have to</p>	

	<p>show that. If you as an agency say “You must be vaccinated” – well, we already have a very difficult time finding people to work.</p> <p>We have a retired nurse who has a very high-needs person – she wants everyone in that residence to be vaccinated. But staff shortage means you also may have one manager filling 24/7.</p> <p>Terry Anne notes they can’t really give a common order to cover everyone. All the agencies are stumbling over these individual situations.</p> <p>Leslie: And what’s the liability? If we’re doing duty of care, how does that fit in with what’s happening? Yes, liability is a concern but also, community social-based agencies are about care for the people we serve. “Moral imperative” – where is it in all of this? The conversations have to go beyond plastic shields and masking and hand-washing.</p> <p>Leslie questions why legislature is restricted in its sitting but meanwhile children are going unprotected shoulder to shoulder to school.</p>	<p>Jody will find out what the policies are for the legislature sitting. Jody will ask our members in areas of high covid/low vaccination are noticing any additional challenges.</p>
<p>6. Matters for noting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Correspondence b. Board calendar c. Other 		<p>Jody to add potential meetings noted today to rolling board calendar</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting finalization 2. Review actions to be taken 3. Meeting feedback 4. Next meeting – Oct 18 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jody sets up next meeting with Karin. Jody reaches out jointly to Jennifer C and Adrienne Montani (First Call) after framework released. • Set up meeting with Sonia and Mitzi before Christmas.

5. Meeting adjournment	<i>Moved to Adjourn the Meeting:</i> Moved, Louella. Carried.	
Resource corner: Decolonize Your Board – Stanford Social Innovation Review		All Board Directors: Encouraged to read ‘Resource Corner’ article.