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Minutes of the Sixteenth Annual General Meeting

September 16th, 2021

via Zoom

**In Attendance:**

Board: Christine Gordon (Chair), Don Danbrook (Treasurer), Ken Kramer (Secretary), Anthony Chan, Terry Leblanc

Participants: Andrew Pejkovic, Britt Permien, Bruce McKinnon, Candice Larscheid, Cat L'Hirondelle, Chris Marks, Daniel Tait, Dave Hill, Dave Symington, Digger Dan, Doug O’Dwyer, Elizabeth Konapasek, Erik Allas, Gerry Rennie (Roger), Heather Morrison, Jackie Haywood, Janice Bruce, Janine Wigmore, Jason Bruce, JoAnn Brekkaas, Jochen Boehm, Joseph Theriault, Julie Griggs, Karen Cherenko, Karen Van Biesen, Kim Donaldson, Kim Egger, Kris Hunter, Laura Mackenrot, Laurie Edberg, Linda McGowan, Maria Rideout, Maureen DeLandreville, Melanie Maxwell, Melody Burton, Nirmala Hickey, Paul Gauthier, Philip Jewel , Roger Jones, Roy Perron, Sally Scott, Sarka Tvrdik, Shirley Hill, Theresa Burke-Gaffney, Tom Cretain, Vivian Garcia

TFL Staff: Benson Au, Ean Price, Joan Kluge, Karla Kuzmich, Kyrsten Polsky, Marie Cambon, Miranda Whitely, Nancy Lear, Richard Harrison, Ruth Marzetti, Susan Dessa, Taylor Danielson, Wayne Pogue

**Regrets**: WaltLawrence.

1. **Welcome and Call to Order.**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Christine Gordon introduced herself, welcomed everyone and thanked them all for coming to our second virtual AGM. She noted the Welcome message from BC Premier John Horgan and Parliamentary Secretary of Accessibility Dan Coulter.

1. **Zoom Etiquette – Benson Au**

Christine introduced Benson Au who presented a Zoom etiquette and polling overview.

1. **Acceptance of Agenda**

**Motion:** To approve and accept the AGM agenda as presented.

**Moved by:** Terry LeBlanc

**Seconded by:** Paul Gauthier

**All in favour. Carried.**

1. **Approval of Minutes from last AGM held September 10, 2020.**

**Motion:** To approve and accept the previous year’s AGM minutes as presented. No questions were tabled.

**Moved by: Don Danbrook**

**Seconded by: Anthony Chan**

**All in favour. Carried**

1. **Chair’s Report** – Christine Gordon.

The Chair’s report focused on TIL’s assistance to people in long term care facilities like Pearson Centre, with whom TFL has had an historical relationship. Thanks to a generous grant from a foundation Benson has been spearheading a program supplying the technology to the residents of Pearson so they can communicate with the world. Benson was praised for his enthusiasm, caring and competence.

The Simon Cox Student Design Competition was able to be presented on-line, with the help of peers, students and the committee who organized it. The Door Opener program has never been more robust. The Kinsmen and BC Rehab foundation were thanked for their continued support.

A special appreciation of Dr. Jeremy Road -, our medical consultant who has been supportive of the PROP community- based program from the beginning when few others got on board.

The Chair saluted Walt Lawrence a long-time Board member who is steeping down this year, emphasizing the importance of his words, support, and mentoring. TFL Board, staff and membership expressed their gratitude for his work throughout the community.

Thanks were given to the Board. Being on the Board is a huge commitment, a huge responsibility, and a lot of hard work. Service users interested in serving on the Board were advised to reach out to Ruth for the job description and to Board members to get a feel for the work and commitment required. Thanks, were also extended to Executive Director, and the fabulous staff at TFL for their perseverance through the pandemic

Thanks to the peers and Paul Gauthier who have been fantastic at facilitating Pathways. Zoom has been a great asset especially to people with disabilities who have not had to deal with the many physical barriers to inclusion. TFL will continue to use Zoom to promote inclusion.

The Chair concluded by thanking our members for attending today and emphasized how important it is for us to stay connected.

1. **Executive Director’s Report** – Ruth Marzetti

Ruth started by thanking our original peers, Heather Morrison, and Jeanette Anderson for their pioneering efforts. The New Horizons WE Talk Tech Seniors is a peer-led project with Terry, Heather, Nancy, Vivian, and Taylor, featuring video topics like sailing, on-line dating, gardening, personal safety, future tech and much more. The Peers on Pages will be run with peers training peers on creative writing projects. Paul Gauthier and the team at IFRC partner with us on the pathways to Independence – Ken Kramer has talked about Representation Agreements and the new Westminster Police Department has talked about protecting yourself at home and on-line. Accessible Nature program has been an offshoot of pathways.

PROP welcomed Miranda and Krysten as new RTs in PROP and Joan has been a welcome addition to the Finance Department.

The Philip’s recall is a massive undertaking for PROP and TIL. Philips advised us that there is a small risk of foam within many of their ventilators and bi-paps, disintegrating, and we have decided to replace every piece of equipment as the safety of our clients is paramount. Our medical director, Dr. Jeremy Road has been crucial in helping direct us with this transition plan.

The TIL department featuring Benson has been involved in the George Pearson Centre helping members transition into the community, 44 people will be moving into the community. TIL has access to a 3D printer that can create adaptive devices cheaply. WE Talk Tech is an informative monthly video with topics of interest to our service users. Peers were encouraged to share their ideas for the Simon Cox Student Design Competition which has grown provincially thanks to the Kinsmen and BC Rehab Foundation.

The trailer for the Simon Cox Student design Competition was previewed.

1. **Treasurers Report** – Don Danbrook

Don briefly commented on the auditor’s report, which was issued without qualification. He presented the audited financial statements as of March 31st, 2021. TFL is in a solid financial state and in a position to improve services to members. All Health authorities contribute to equipment funding. Vancouver Coastal Health contributes to our operating budget. Erik Alias TFL’s auditor from Thompkins Wozny gave advice to members on what to focus on in financial reports.

Ruth thanked the Board and she also thanked the staff for their dedication and hard work.

1. **Presentation of Audited Financial Statements –** Don Danbrook

**Motion:** To accept the audited 2020/2021 financial statements as presented by Tompkins Wozny LLP for Technology for Living as presented.

**Moved by:** Don Danbrook **Seconded by:** Terry LeBlanc

**Carried**

1. **Motion to Appoint Auditor for 2021 - 2022.**

**Motion:** To appoint Tompkins Wozny LLP as auditors for 2021-2022 TFL financial statements

**Moved by:** Don Danbrook

**Seconded by:** Anthony Chan

**Carried**

1. **Election of Board of Directors.**

Anthony introduced the current board members for re-appointment: Ken Kramer, Terry Leblanc, Anthony Chan, Christine Gordon, and Don Danbrook. Walt Lawrence is stepping down.

Anthony called for nominations from the floor. No nominations after the third call.

**Motion:** To accept the current slate of candidates as presented by Anthony for the year 2021-2022.

**Moved by:** Anthony Chan

**Seconded by:** Christine Gordon

 **Carried**

The slate of Christine Gordon, Anthony Chan, Don Danbrook, Ken Kramer, Terry LeBlanc were elected. We are in the process of recruiting for the Board. The job description will be posted on our website. Please contact Ruth Marzetti if interested.

1. **Other Business:**

None

1. **Thank You, Closing words, and Adjournment**

Thanks were expressed to the technical crew of Ean Price, Taylor Danielson, Benson Au and Wayne Pogue for shepherding us through this process. Thanks to everyone for attending. Musician Dan Tait entertained and Heather Morrison gave an enlightening history of PROP and TIL following the meeting

**Motion:** To adjourn the 2021 Annual General Meeting

**Moved by:** Christine Gordon

**Seconded by:** Terry LeBlanc

**All in favour. None Opposed. Carried**