

New Brunswick Media Co-op, 2016 AGM

Meeting Minutes

1. Appointment of meeting chair

Matthew Hayes appointed as meeting chair

2. Appointment of minute taker

Abram Lutes appointed as minute-taker

3. Approval of meeting agenda

Agenda prepared by Tracy Glynn

Motion to approve the agenda. Motioned by Asaf Rashid, seconded by Patrick Colford.
Approved.

4. Introductions of members present:

Matthew Hayes, Abram Lutes, Patrick Colford, Asaf Rashid, Jenn Wambolt, Sophie Lavoie, Deanna Price-MacKenzie, Gerry McAlister, Susan O'Donnell, Chris George, Tracy Glynn, Josephine Savarese, Myron Hedderson.

5. Approval of minutes from 2015 AGM

Motioned by Gerry, seconded by Asaf. Approved by members.

6. Year in review: Annual report for 2015-2016

Tracy presented an overview of the annual report.

Last year's AGM speaker, Alain Deneault, discussed tax havens before the Panama Papers were released.

Covering important stories that the other media are ignoring like the NB Power's used of "blood coal" from Colombia.

A UNB Arts 3000 intern, Chris Pearson, covered important stories for us like lacking abortion access in NB and the provincial budget.

Our most popular story this year was about spraying the forest -- over 8,000 hits. Another popular post was the statement by Refugees Welcome Fredericton in response to Rebel Media's attempt to drum up racism at the Fredericton High School.

Small growth in Facebook and Twitter followers.

The Brief continues as normal. Thanks to Amelie Allain for design.

Sustainers and donors are especially unions. University departments like STU Sociology have supported our events.

Next year's goals: more writers, expand readership of The Brief, increase public media literacy

Patrick thanked the NB Media Co-op for the coverage of the Covered Bridge Chips workers' strike.

Question about how many members. Matthew noted 29 members in the financial report.

Patrick Colford: Invitation to the NB Federation of Labour Convention in Moncton in late May. NBMC members who are also on Fredericton District Labor Council (FDLC) should coordinate

Motion to approve the report by Matthew, seconded by Susan. Approved by members.

7. Presentation and adoption of the 2015-2016 financial report

Tracy presented the financial report.

Union donations were up but memberships were down - from that anticipated in last year's budget.

Main expenses include printing The Brief and mailing The Brief as well as The Brief design, website hosting and this year NB Media Co-op gave to the Charles LeBlanc's legal defense fund.

Matthew noted that the year in the balance for the end of the financial year should have said 2016 and not 2015. Tracy will correct

Motion to approved the financial report with amended year for the closing balance by Asaf, seconded by Sophie. Carried.

Tracy will get signatures for the financial report and file it with the annual return for non-profits to Consumer Affairs.

8. Presentation of budget for 2016-2017

Tracy presented the budget for the upcoming year. It's similar to the budget in the previous year, but with increased organization donations. Expenses are expected to be similar.

Budget received by members present. All agreed.

9. Special resolutions on the audit

The special resolutions for the auditing of NB Media Co-op's financial records were read.

Patrick and Myron volunteered to internally audit the previous year's financial records.

Resolution to appoint an internal audit 2015-2016 moved by Asaf, seconded by Sophie. Approved by members.

Resolution to forego auditing 2016-2017 moved by Susan, seconded by Josephine. Approved by members.

10. Board elections (call for nominations below)

Board of Directors:

Tracy Glynn noted Sarah Kardash's interest in remaining on the board. Sarah was not able to attend. Asaf Rashid, Tracy Glynn, and Josephine Savarese expressed interest in remaining on the board. Deanna Price-MacKenzie and Abram Lutes expressed interest in joining the board.

Motion to approve the board of directors moved by Matthew and passed by members.

Susan expressed interest in joining the board next year.

Editorial Board:

Chris George expressed interest in joining the editorial board. Tracy, Sophie and Matthew expressed interest in remaining on the editorial board.

Motion to approve editorial board moved by Matthew and passed by members.

11. Other business

None

12. Adjournment