

**Minutes for ACWC AGM and General ACWC Skype Meeting Wed, Sept 5, 2018,
8:00pm EDT/5:00pm PDT**

present: Karen Sunabacka, Stephanie Orlando, Tawnie Olson, Julia Potocnik, Diane Berry, Elaine Keillor, Katerina Gimon, Edith Covach, Janet Danielson, Carol Ann Weaver

regrets: Julia Mermelstein, Diana McIntosh, Veronika Krausas, Sylvia Rickard, Jana Skarecky, Colleen Muriel, Paulette Popp, Maya Badian, Elise Letourneau, Maria Eduarda Mendes Martins, Julia Jacklein, Kye Marshall, Fiona Evison, Christie Morrison, Cecilia Livingston, Jean Etheridge

1. Brief words from the Chair, proudly noting least four new members: Karen Sunabacka, Michelle Southern, Christine Donkin and Maria Case.

Carol Ann began the meeting with a welcome to everyone present, reading names of those who sent regrets. She comments, "For this meeting we had 12 members planning to attend, matching our previous record of 12 attendees. Also for this meeting, we had more members sending in 'regrets' than ever before, which indicates larger involvement by the membership in our Skype meetings. For one to send in a regret indicates their engagement, so this is great news! Let's keep it going!"

She was pleased to announce that we have four new members, one of whom, Karen Sunabacka, was in attendance at the meeting. Karen told us that she grew up in Winnipeg, studied in California and is now teaching at Conrad Grebel University College, which is part of the University of Waterloo. She has just finished a large piece for choir that was sung through for the first time today and is working on a piece for cello and viola for a friend in Texas which will be performed in November.

Carol Ann noted the other new members were Michelle Southern, Christine Donkin, and Maria Case who was one of this year's winners of the Roberta Stephen award.

Julia Potocnik, who joined fairly recently, was in attendance for the first time and told us that she is honoured to be a member. She has diplomas from the Royal Conservatory of Music in piano performance and teaching and has started composing as a hobby. One reason for her joining the ACWC is to have the chance to learn from our more experienced members.

2. Acceptance of Previous AGM AGM/General Meeting Minutes, Sat, June 2, 12:00noon EDT/9:00am PDT.

Edith Covach moved that the minutes of the last AGM be accepted, seconded by Stephanie Orlando. All members present agreed. Motion carried.

3. Roberta Stephen 2018 Award winners: Maria Case, Gayle Young (ACWC member) - Janet Danielson

Janet informed us that the two winners for 2018 were Maria Case and Gayle Young. Maria has just joined our organization. Janet told us that Maria is primarily a choral composer and encouraged us to Google her work.

Janet and Carol both told us about Gayle Young and her work. She has been active for decades, writing experimental, microtonal and electro-acoustic music. Gayle has been a major factor in the ACWC, is editor of Musicworks and has run some wonderful workshops in Ontario.

4. Further discussion as to whether Roberta Stephen should be awarded only to ACWC members.

Carol informed the meeting that board members had discussed this at their meeting on Tuesday, September 4th and now she would like other members to weigh in with their thoughts as to whether composers should be members before they apply or be required to join after winning.

Edith and Tawnie both thought that there should be a requirement to join after winning but Tawnie also felt we should know what thoughts Roberta Stephen has about the issue.

Janet has been our liaison with Roberta and the board members who work with her. Janet informed us that the award has ended up going to one member and one non-member each year with the non-member joining the organization without it being required. That division of winners was not on purpose; each time there has been a different, international jury with the same outcome. Janet also pointed out that there were not a lot of applications from members. If those numbers were increased, the likelihood of both

winners being members would be greater. After winning, the non-members have received a letter of encouragement to become members and that seems to have yielded the results the organization wants. Janet felt that it was best to leave sleeping dogs lie, as changing the requirements would mean consulting both Roberta Stephen and the her board members.

Carol pointed out that writing the gently worded letter does take time and energy on the part of the Chair but that it does seem to be successful.

Elaine felt encouraged that results have been split, thus allowing for ACWC to gain more members.

5. New Initiatives Fund for 2019 for ACWC members; deadline, Dec. 1, 2018; results Feb. 1, 2019 CAW and Board members

Carol informed the meeting that there has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes to put this initiative forward. She reported that the ACWC, at this point, has enough funds to encourage members to apply for assistance. The proposed initiative would go only to members and the deadline for this pilot project would be December 1st of this year. Members may apply for a maximum of \$500. The fund could be for travel to a concert or a project of some kind, perhaps a CD, a workshop, creating a multi-media work or other compositional endeavors. The award would be adjudicated in-house with a straightforward application. The applicant will be asked for a description of the project, a biography, a budget and how this endeavor would benefit the organization.

Kat Gimon has been working hard to upload the items onto a special website. A few edits were suggested for the site.

Janet asked about who would act as convener for this project, who would handle receiving the applications, sending them to the jurors, and sending out the results. Carol suggested Kat because she has been handling all the technical things involved in setting this up. At the time Kat was not present at the meeting but arrived a few minutes later and agreed to looking after the things Janet had mentioned.

Carol said that she would be happy to be involved once she returns from Africa, which would be in December. She also stated that she would not be a juror.

Janet said that from her experience with the Robert Stephen award, jurors often come back with questions about criteria for the award, and what things the organization is looking for in the accepted applications. She informed us that there is often a lot of back and forth. Carol will be back in Canada at that point and able to help with those tasks.

Carol put it out that if anyone would like to volunteer to adjudicate they should let us know.

Stephanie agree to put a notice in the next edition of SoundBox and Carol will put together an announcement that will be emailed to all members.

Carol reminded us that this is a pilot project and once we are a charitable organization we will hopefully be able to get more funding for this initiative in the future.

Janet suggested something be put in the initial information on the application to indicate that we expect the winning project to align with ACWC's mandate. As that is part of the last question on the application it was felt that this is sufficient, and to let things stand.

6. ACWC while CAWeaver is in South Africa from mid-Sept – mid December, 2018; Janet Danielson will serve as Acting Chair during this time period. Please contact her with any further ideas/concerns: Janet Danielson <janet_danielson@sfu.ca>

Thank you Janet for looking after this.

7. Brief Board Reports

a. Treasurer: Financial Report, Membership Report – Janet Danielson

Janet Danielson reported that she has good news, some PayPal payments were delayed in coming through to the bank, so now that they have come in, our balance is, in fact, really healthy.

Janet told us that Heritage Canada has approved our charitable status and we are just waiting for the CRA to grant it to us. One of the strengths in our application is that we have been successful in mounting

concerts and that we need to continue to do so. While the Initiative Fund is good, we will need members

to think of more concert ideas. At the moment there is enough for at least one more concert.

Janet explained that we can't carry over too much in the way of funds each year but we do have to have enough in the account to cover other things that may arise. We are allowed to fund things such as board members travelling to conferences to promote the ACWC, or the Chair to travel to meet with members and potential members.

Janet also reported that we have 43 paid up members. We have one associate member, seven student members and thirty-five full time members. We are still waiting on some other members to pay their annual dues. She also noted that associate members don't need to be composers, they need only be supportive of the ACWC's mandate and activities.

b. ACWC Journal Report – Julia Mermelstein

Carol informed us that Julia was unable to attend today's meeting but that she had sent her report, which Carol read. Before doing so she did want to say hats off to Julia for doing a stellar job.

Julia reports, "With the most recent Journal issue, Spring/Summer, I've created a new view of the Journal on the ACWC webpage through a platform called Issuu which allows people to look through it on the Journal webpage with the option of downloading the PDF below. Current issues will be displayed online in this way since it creates a nice visual and allows you to interact with the Journal. I plan to build a submenu Journal page to list all previous Journals with their download links so that there isn't one long list. I've discussed this with Kat, and she's approved so I'll be doing this before the next issue.

I also have some stats to share about how many people viewed/opened the current Journal through a link tracker, called bit.ly and Issuu:

Through bit.ly we got a total of 190 clicks with the majority of clicks coming from email and shares on Facebook

Through Issuu we got 36 total reads and 545 impressions, which means this was counted each time the Journal was displayed to a reader either on the Journal webpage or viewed through Issuu. These are the first stats I've collected, so it'll be nice to see how this evolves and how much engagement we get.

I'm currently working on the Fall/winter Journal, and it's coming along nicely. Looking forward to sharing all the fantastic work going on in this community!

Best, Julia Mermelstein"

c. Website Report and call for member's headshot photos for Member Pages – Kat Gimon

Kat reported that things have been running smoothly. She has been working on a number of the pages on the website, bios and photos are still coming in and she has worked a bit with Julia on the Journal pages. She would still like to encourage members to send in their bios and photos. Carol pointed out that if someone's name is Googled, the first link is quite often to ACWC so it's good to have something there.

d. Secretary Report – Diane Berry

Diane reported that she and Janet have managed to keep the membership list up to date and overall things are running smoothly.

Carol noted that Diane also writes the ACWC report for IAWM Journal (International Alliance for Women in Music). Members who can should look up her reports at the back of this journal.

e. SoundBox Report – Stephanie Orlando

Stephanie told us that over the summer she has been receiving fewer notices for the SoundBox but that was probably due to less happening during July and August. She would like to have more listings of opportunities and would like members to forward them to her, such as calls for scores, residencies, workshop opportunities etc. Previously she has had to go looking for them in order to list them. Carol wanted to commend Stephanie for stepping so seamlessly into Bekah's place as editor of the SoundBox last February. Carol also pointed out that Stephanie has just started her doctorate at U of T.

8. ACWC Choral and Piano Collectives: Discussion about boosting them, allowing them to be yet more effective

Carol told members that a lot of effort has been put into getting these two collectives up and running. The member who was in charge of the Choral Collective has left and Carol is hoping a member will step forward to assume this job.

The Chair of the Piano Collective is Edith Covach, who co-ran a very successful concert last year for younger piano students playing works by our members.

Carol asked if anyone had suggestions for these collectives and to think about them. She told us that these collectives occasionally are referenced, so they do serve a good purpose.

Edith suggests adding an Art Song Collective, which she could Chair. More discussion to follow.

9. Reminder of ACWC Facebook Group, which all members are encouraged to join and post: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/181080832525102/> and ACWC Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ACWCAFCC/> where members can also post via Visitor Posts on the site, or by sending items to Facebook manager, Kat Gimon to post as news items: katerina(dot)gimon(at)gmail(dot)com

Carol invited members to join the ACWC facebook group, where they can post their own info – musical or personal. Or they can sent items to Carol or Kat for the ACWC Facebook page

10. Other items

Janet told the meeting that she had received payment from another person, but without email trail. Kat gave ideas on how to locate this person.

11. Member info – one-sentence brief, compact comments from participating members, as time allows

Unfortunately there was no time for extra information from members.

12. Next ACWC Skype General Meeting:

Next meeting: Saturday January 12, 2019 at 12:00pm EST / 9:00am PST

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. EST / 6:00 p.m. PST