



OSSDF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

(Held via Zoom)

Minutes

June 16, 2021 at 7:00pm

Present: Board Members: Laura Barnes, Cathy Bowman, Laurel Brown, Deb Kapp, Glenys McQueen-Fuentes, Melissa Chiandussi, Melanie Randall. **Teachers:** Tara Duffy, Joanna Perlus and Nikkie Price

Regrets: Jocelyne Cranny, Meghan Kidd and guest Mary Jo Mullins

Meeting documents distributed include the Agenda, Minutes of 2020 AGM and the 2020 Financial Statements.

Laurel Brown, as Chair of the meeting, welcomed the Members, and outlined the purpose of the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Laurel Brown moved that the agenda sent out with the Notice of General Meeting be approved. Seconded by Deb Kapp. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting held June 9, 2020 via Zoom

The minutes from the Annual General Meeting of June 9, 2020 were presented for approval. The business discussed at 2020 AGM was minimal due to the cancellation of DANCEFEST 2020. There was a Resolution to the By-Laws to increase the number of Board Directors from six (6) to (10) to allow for expanded resources and contributions; with the minimum number of Board Directors set at six (6). Motion to approve by Deb Kapp; seconded by Glenys McQueen-Fuentes; carried.

Approval of Notice to Reader Financial Statements for the year ended August 31, 2020

The Notice to Reader Financial Statements for the Year Ended August 31, 2020 were presented. LRK Tax LLP prepared the Notice to Reader. Cathy Bowman reported that amended Ontario Trillium Fund requirements no longer require a Notice to Reader based on our revenue levels, which will reduce our expenses. Motion to approve by Cathy Bowman; seconded by Deb Kapp; carried.

Election/Appointment of Directors plus Board Composition

Laurel reported that we will continue to receive inquiries until June 23, 2021 from individuals interested in joining the Board. Director terms are one year. Board meetings will be held monthly on the last Wednesday of each month. There are several potential new Directors. We need to have a full slate of ten Directors to allow us to properly support each other, and share responsibilities when necessary. The full slate will be approved at the next Board meeting. The work required in the creation of the virtual Event did not allow for proper recruiting of new Directors prior to the AGM. Next year, we will return to approving the new board members at the AGM.

The creation of the Teacher's Council allowed us to get input from teachers on an ongoing basis, and provide answers and clarification where necessary.

Report on Workshops and Lectures

Laurel reported on the number of teachers/schools (78), school boards (29) and students (5,418) who accessed the workshops and lectures. Our new website will be updated over the summer for 2021-2022 to allow on-line booking of current workshops. We will also be improving the technology as lag -time was an issue this year. Laurel reinforced the importance of not sharing resources, as this costs us revenue and the inability to have accurate data. We need the revenue to recruit great professional artists and pay them accordingly.

There was a suggestion that there be one fee for Workshops and Lectures, and a higher fee to also take part in the DANCEFEST Virtual Event. Laurel reported that our entire pricing structure will be reviewed at our Board Retreat to be held in the summer.

Report on DANCEFEST Event

Laurel reported that the Event time was 2:20 with 38 entries. This is 10% of our usual participation, and our goal for 2022 is to double the entries to 20%. Results were sent to schools on the day we released the Event. The adjudication system created by UWBlueprint was not fully completed, so there are some shortfalls in the data we can collect automatically - placements were not included. We are no longer a client of Blueprint, as we reached the maximum time limit for their assistance.

Report on Website & Social Media

Laura Barnes reported that we recently transitioned to our new website, which she created. It is in-house on our own platform which is more economical for us. Our previous website was handled by a third party. The Board expressed their appreciation for her expertise and creativity.

In the fall, anticipated grant funds will allow us to complete additional updates to improve communication and usability. It will be the DANCEFEST Hub for information with plug-ins to create a communications platform with a password-protected login. There will be a Blog Space to replace DANCEBLAST, so users can go refer back for information rather than looking through emails. There will be a plugin to allow users to search for scheduled workshops by artist and genre. We will have an e-commerce hub. We will also create a fundraising campaign, and experiment with monthly donors/sponsorships.

Report on Membership & Recruitment - Attachment 1

Melissa Chiandussi reported that, with the collaboration of everyone on the Board, we were able to provide virtual workshops to teachers and students. The technology needs to be improved (noted above). She was able to connect with studios, dancers and organizations.

Report on Development - Attachment 2

Glenys McQueen-Fuentes reported on her role in providing encouragement and enthusiasm to our new, very exciting initiatives; providing a historical context based on her long experience within the Ontario Arts field. She was delighted to jump in and adjudicate the fantastic 2021 DANCEFEST Event.

Report on Teachers' Council - Attachment 3

Melanie Randall reported that the Teachers' Council met bi-weekly to share information and provide information and feedback to the Board.

Motion to adjourn by Melanie; seconded by Tara; carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.

Attachment 1

OSSDF Membership & Recruitment Report

Melissa Chiandussi

OSSDF is proud to be a place for teachers and students to collaborate together. This season of 2020-2021 (during a Pandemic) has created many challenges that no one could prepare for. What was supposed to be a 3-4 day Dance festival event live in Ontario turned out to be a Virtual Dance Festival.

With the collaboration of everyone on the board, 20 workshops have been made available since September 25th 2020. These workshops include the following: Musical Theatre, Contemporary, Hip hop, Jazz Funk, Novice Tap, Jazz, Musical Theatre, Ballet, Lyrical, Bollywood, Heels, Latin/Salsa, Stretch and Strength, Yoga & Mindfulness, Creative process, Brain and Body Boost.

The idea was to provide resources for our Dance Educators as they embark on the challenges of teaching Dance online. Lesson plans were also provided.

As a Membership recruitment for workshops and lectures, my contributions for this year:

- Collaborate with various Dance teachers, studio owners, choreographers using the LinkedIn Platform, many are connected and have heard of our organization. Some would like to know more about our organization and perhaps collaborate in the future.
- Connected with Faye Elizabeth Rudko - professional ballroom dancer from the UK. She created a Ballroom workshop for OSSDF
- Connected with Anne Marie Cabri - Professional dance teacher for National Ballet of Canada and Canadian Opera Company - created the Brain and Body Boost workshop, and she did 2 workshops for teachers at OSSDF
- Jessica G Thompson - Experienced Artist with a demonstrated history of working in the performing arts industry. Skilled in Ballet, Contemporary, Modern, Musical Theatre, Choreography and Teaching. Strong education professional with a Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) focused in Dance from New York University. Jessica created a Ballet workshop for OSSDF.
- Connected to Bengt Jorgen, Clea Iveson, and Lori Endes from George Brown College. We are in the process of potentially collaborating in the future. We had a zoom meeting with Laurel, and will continue to follow up.
- Connected to Roy Urbanozo - Founder at The Dance Plug Canada, Host & Producer of the Unplugged Podcast (continuing our connections and looking forward to collaborating in the future).
- Reconnecting with Liquid Lead on a zoom call to collaborate ideas
- Currently in the process of completing a lecture with Brooke Gursoy CEO & Founder @industrydance.co. (Her lecture is about Self Esteem)
- Currently in the process of completing lectures with Emilio Colalilo, an Experienced Dancer with a demonstrated history of working in the performing arts industry. Skilled in Acting, Event Planning, Musical Theatre, Dance, and Theatre. Strong arts and design professional with a BFA focused in Dance from Ryerson University, a Master of Fine Arts in Dance from York University and a Bachelor of Education from Redeemer University. (His lecture is about Technology and Dance)
- I was happy to provide a yoga and mindfulness workshop with a lesson plan.
- I have connected with many other professionals who do know about OSSDF and really value our cause.

Attachment 2



Unit 704, 162 Martindale Rd., St. Catharines Ontario, L2S 3S4 Canada. soundtrack@sympatico.ca
Tel: (905) 682 8593

Development Report

Glenys McQueen-Fuentes

As a member at large, my contributions were rather 'amorphous', but below is an attempt to describe my activities in pro of OSSDF:

I tried to attend as many meetings as possible and give encouragement and enthusiasm to the new, very exciting initiatives.

Often, I think my role is one of sounding board, "what if" provider, sharer and developer of ideas.

I also think I provide a sense of 'historical context' and can offer advice from long experience within the Ontario Arts field (curriculum developing & writing, CODE, OSSDF, other arts organizations and people, COU, tertiary and post-grad education, as well as k-12) and I also have a broad background in international arts, theatre, dance, languages and culture, which I think can be of help overall.

I have been and continue to dialogue with various people, teachers, school boards, etc. in OSSDF...some of whom are continuing to be in contact and interested... I see that as an ongoing duty, regardless of what else I am doing with OSSDF. One of these includes seeking advice from a very diverse cross section of people around the theme of seeking sponsorships, an area that I feel we need to explore far more in the future. Ditto media coverage.

I am happy to read and help edit material that OSSDF puts out (I'm not good at producing writing, but am quite good at editing others' endeavours).

I was able to jump in and adjudicate the 2021 DANCE FEST (a fantastic event that I was delighted to be part of).

I have several ideas for expanding dance **and** movement (virtually--which is so wonderful for being able to include far flung communities) into elementary and intermediate curricular programs...as a way of preparing for dance and again, as PR for OSSDF. I am hoping to present these for consideration over the summer.

Attachment 3
Teachers' Council Coordinator Report
Melanie Randall

This year, we started off with two Teachers' Council meetings per month, rather than monthly as planned, and moving forward. The decision to meet every two weeks (every other Wednesday at 7 p.m.) was made to accommodate on two levels:

- Providing a more frequent opportunity for teachers to share resources and network, and
- Providing the board with feedback on their planning of the virtual event.

The coordinator works within their own schedule and the requests of the teacher participants to determine the best day and time in which to meet. It has been suggested that next year, beginning in September, we meet virtually the third week of every other month, and in alternating months, the coordinator will issue a video statement delivering pertinent information and any accompanying documents for consultation with the council. Council will have the opportunity to respond to the video and documents via Google Form.

Nine teachers from 8 registered schools attended meetings with some consistency: Melanie Randall, Nikkie Price, Joanna Perlus, Jocelyne Cranny, Meghan Kidd, Heather Robert, Carly Erina, Alicia Annett, Melissa Chiandussi

Teachers were very busy this year and we found many sent regrets indicating that while they appreciated the opportunity, they just did not have the time for another virtual meeting, which was understandable.

Following each meeting, the coordinator reported new ideas and requests to the board as well as feedback and answers to any questions issued by the board to the council. Notes from each meeting were also sent out to all 50+ members of the council via email, even if they were not registered as a school, or unable to join our meetings. It should be noted that included in the invitation to each meeting was a request for meeting items - some items were submitted and addressed via email.

The TC was invaluable in providing insight into the requirements that would enable students to participate in our virtual event and the council's recommendations were instrumental in ensuring maximum participation.

Elementary and Secondary teacher workshops were also provided during scheduled TC meetings and were well-attended.

Cathy Bowman

Director

Nikkie Price

Director