

**Minutes for ACWC AGM and General ACWC Skype Meeting, Sat, June 2, 12:00noon
EST/9:00am PST**

present: Ilkim Tongur, Jana Skarecky, Edith Covach, Diane Berry, Carol Ann Weaver, Janet Danielson, Nephenee Rose, Julia Jacklein, Christie Morrison, Julia Mermelstein, Colleen Muriel, Fiona Evison

regrets: Xenia Pestova, Elaine Keillor, Kye Marshall, Jean Ethridge, Veronika Krausas, Elise Letourneau, Joanna Estelle, Sylvia Rickard, Julia Potocnik, Gayle Young, Stephanie Orlando, Cait Nishimura

1. Brief words from the Chair, noting at least two new members: Cait Nishimura and Julia Potocnik.

Carol Ann began with a welcome to all, noting that this meeting had the largest response with 12 members sending their regrets, and 12 planning on attending. At the beginning of the meeting there were nine members on line, Ilkim, Nephenee, and Colleen connecting later.

Carol continued by saying while many things around us are falling apart, we are coming together, and should congratulate ourselves.

A recent highlight has been the success of Clarisse Toniguissi, a young singer who has just finished a concert tour with all the music being that of Canadian women. It was pointed out by journalists and others that it is a *first*, particularly in covering all parts of Canada. The tour ended recently in Yellowknife. It featured the work of ACWC members: Mary Gardner (now deceased), Jana Skarecky, Carol Ann Weaver, Rebekah Cummings, Julia Jacklein and others.

Over the year, ACWC has sponsored four events: (1) piano concert on May 30, 2017 at University of Waterloo featuring 10 ACWC composers, organized by Carol, Edith Covach, Julia Mermelstein, Joanne Bender, and Jana Skarecky; (2) ACWC concert October 27 at Heliconian, Toronto, featuring 12 ACWC composers; (3) Jana Skarecky's November birthday concert at the Heliconian in Toronto; (4) Caution Tape concert March 24, 2018 in Toronto. Bravo to all!

Carol brought it to member's attention that the Journal of the International Alliance for Women in Music had just put out their journal. There is a report from the ACWC, written by Diane Berry on page 37, and on page 36 a piece on Hartford Connecticut's Women's Festival in which Tawnie Olsen was composer in residence.

Kat Gimon has a piece featured in Kitchener, ON on June 2 (today) at the Open Ears Festival.

Carol noted that new members Cait Nishimura and Julia Potocnik weren't able to attend this meeting so she would welcome them and get them to introduce themselves at the next meeting.

Julia Jacklein, another new member, was in attendance and told us that she lives in Barrie, teaches piano and is piano and vocal composer.

Carol extended a welcome to all who are new.

2. Acceptance of Previous AGM Meeting Minutes, Sept. 23, 2017, taken by Tawnie Olsen:

Janet Danielson moved that the minutes of the last AGM be accepted, seconded by Ilkim Tongur.

3. Acceptance of previous ACWC General Meeting Minutes, April 2, 2018 Minutes, as recorded by new ACWC Secretary, Diane Berry:

Moved by Colleen Muriel, seconded by Christie Morrison.

4. Roberta Stephen Award update:

Janet Danielson reported that the application process was complete, after having delayed the deadline due to applications being slow to come in. There are six applications now being considered by two judges, one from the U.S. and one from the U.K, one older and one younger, both distinguished women. There will be some delay as one of the jurors is away but should be back in three weeks and so results are pending.

5. **Charitable status and donations button on website update:**

Janet reported that there was a positive response to our application for charitable status, the paperwork, minus one certificate went to Heritage Canada and has been approved. To complete the process we had to register with Canada Revenue and they needed the missing form. Janet was able to get a replacement copy of the certificate, which was sent to Revenue Canada. The application passed a big hurdle with approval by the CRA being the last step. Janet doesn't know how long this will take. Once we have charitable status it will be possible to issue receipts to donors for tax purposes. Bravo to Janet and Kat for their work on this.

Carol asked everyone to please send her 15 ideas for how we can best use the money from donations – the more concepts the better.

Jana pointed out that for members any money put towards a concert is best counted as a business expense.

Janet added that the receipt is primarily for those who aren't members but want to support us, and wealthy donors.

Janet also noted that there is a \$35 Associate Members fee, a way of involving those who want to support women composers, and put forward the idea that a large donation could possibly include Associate Membership.

6. **New ACWC Facebook Group Page – members are encouraged to join, and can post!:**

The new Facebook group page < <https://www.facebook.com/groups/181080832525102/>> is available and some members have been posting. Carol encouraged everyone to join, pointing out that it is easy to do. The purpose of this page is to let members post their personal news. The page is user friendly and to join, just request membership.

7. **ACWC Dues due, July 1, 2018:**

This year's dues are due on July 1, 2018: \$40 for Members and \$25 Composers-in-Training. There is also a \$35 fee for Associate Members who aren't composers but are active supporters of women's music. Janet wondered if invoices or receipts should be mailed, because members seem to have a more difficult time keeping track of whether they paid their dues or not when it is all done on-line. Carol said that she doesn't like to send out those pleas for dues to be paid. It was suggested that the website could possibly have a page which listed the members who have paid and those whose dues are still outstanding. Christie said that NATS (the singing teacher's organization) handles the problem that way. Carol asked Christie to get in touch with Kat and work on setting it up on our website.

8. **Brief Board Reports**

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

The budget report was sent around to members before the meeting, and the news is good. There were some unexpected expenses: a professional was hired to complete the application for charitable status which was \$200 including postage; there was \$35 for a replacement certificate; a translator was hired for \$500 to translate most of the website into French in order to broaden our national presence; \$1275 went out for sponsorships of concerts; a surprise donation of \$70 from Noah Franche-Nolan for proceeds from an April 20, 2018 TILT concert produced by University of Toronto student composers. The budget is tracking well, with a cushion of around \$3,000, quite healthy. A huge thank you to Janet for her work.

b. ACWC Journal Report – Julia Mermelstein

Julia reported she is in the midst of organizing the next issue and it should be out in the next couple of weeks. She is waiting on two articles.

She also updated us on the idea of putting a comment page connected to the journal on the website. It turns out that because of ACWC's Wordpress setup, the necessary plug-in is not possible. Currently there is a box where members can leave comments, each of which has to be approved. The message prompt just says 'leave a reply' and Julia wondered if something more specific would be appropriate. Carol pointed out that leaving it as it would be the simplest and most straightforward.

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

Kat was unable to attend so Carol read her report, that there is nothing new to report. Kat has continued to add new members pages and headshots as they have come in. Carol encouraged members to please send their information in for their pages.

d. Secretary Report – Diane Berry

Diane reported that things have been running smoothly with Janet and her working together on membership information.

e. SoundBox Report – Stephanie Orlando

Stephanie was also unable to attend so Carol gave her report. The change in deadline for the Soundbox has been fine, with no problems. The time covered by the SoundBox begins at the beginning of each month and includes all events in that month.

9. Election of Board – serving as *re-election* of current Board since all vacancies have been filled:

Carol put forward that all vacancies on the board have been filled and that if anyone has issues with Board members, they are encouraged to contact her later, after the AGM. She also added that we routinely re-elect our board members each year.

Edith moved that those currently on the Board be re-elected: Carol Ann Weaver, Chair; Janet Danielson, Treasurer; Julia Mermelstein, Journal Editor, Kat Gimon, Website Manager; Diane Berry, Secretary, and Stephanie Orlando, SoundBox Manager.

Christie Morrison seconded. The motion was passed by all.

Carol put it to the members that she would not always be Chair and at some point there would be discussion of the length of terms board members would serve.

10. New Projects/initiatives – managers of new projects/initiatives may explain, lay out projects:

Maria Martins and Amy Brandon are working on a concert for December, 2018 based on the #MeToo movement. It will be for string quartet and choral group. Currently they are also working on getting funding for the project. There will be two concerts, one in Victoria, BC, one in Halifax, NS, with both concerts being live-streamed with the other. If anyone has any questions or is interested in more details, please contact Maria or Janet.

11. Current projects, concerts:

a. CWC Cross-Canada Tour (Can Women Composers – Clarisse Toniguissi), May 26, Yellowknife, NWT: At the beginning of the meeting Carol spoke of Clarisse's tour of music by Canadian women that included many ACWC composers.

b. Other items:

Edith spoke of her orchestrations of Chopin Preludes for strings that will be played in Belgium. She will be sending us more information on that.

Jana will be in Vancouver and Victoria later in the year and would like to connect with the B.C. members. Diane suggested Jana email her with details and something could be set up.

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

- Ilkum is writing a piece for oboe and orchestra that will have a performance in Europe
- Fiona had some songs performed with Jewish poetry and made a connection with another Jewish poet who is interest in collaborating.
- Julia J finished a requiem which she has been working on for several years and is now in the process of writing proposals to various choirs to get a performance.
- Colleen is writing her first orchestra piece for a workshop to take place in February, hoping to get most of it done by September. It will be for a community orchestra in the U.K made up of music teachers.
- Jana just had a piece performed by 44 preschoolers, the oldest being 5. It took place in Mississauga and was a huge success. We all thought it sounded really fun.

- Julia M. is working on a piece for solo piano and electronics for Barb Pritchard, a Halifax pianist. It will be performed in October and then Barb will tour with it.
- Christie had a successful debut of her song cycle "Tooth or Consequence." While some want her to write a sequel, she says no and is currently working on a piece for piano and flute inspired by the Kawartha Lakes.
- Diane is working on a string quartet, trying out new ideas, with no concrete plans yet for performance.
- Janet is working on a piece for oboe d'amore for a performance in September. Recently her piece for piano trio and two percussion was performed in Surrey and got a standing ovation (audience of around 300)
- Carol is working on a CD in which she is pianist as well as co-producer. It includes "Songs for My Mother" with vocalist Mary-Catherine Pazzano, including Jana playing digeridoo.

14. Next ACWC Skype General Meeting: **Wednesday September 5th, 2018 8:00pm EST/5:00pm PST**

15. Meeting adjourned at 1:03 EST/10:03 PST.

(Minutes recorded by ACWC Secretary Diane Berry, June 2, 2018)