

Minutes for ACWC Skype Meeting, Sat, February 1, 2020
12:00noon EST/9:00am PST

Present: Sharon Singer, Jana Skarecky, Pat Morehead, Fiona Evison, Stella ter Hart, Janet Danielson, Diane Berry, Carol Ann Weaver, Laura Hawley, Stephanie Orlando

Regrets: Jean Ethridge, Karen Sunabacka, Joanna Estelle, Linda Catlin Smith, Jocelyn Morlock, Amy Brandon, Maya Badian, Sylvia Rickard, Elaine Keillor, Tawnie Olson, Christie Morrison, Amanda Lowry, Colleen Muriel, Véronique Girard, Julia Jacklein

1. Brief words from the Chair, noting our encroaching 40th Anniversary, and certain world events

Carol began the meeting by thanking everyone for attending, and reading out the names of those people who had sent their regrets. She observed that the ACWC members are a great group to work with and the meetings are such a good way to connect. Then she went on to say that she has been sent a number of ideas for the organization's upcoming 40th anniversary, as well as some good comments on the subject. At this point she is searching for those who can take on leadership roles with this project. Laura Hawley and Diane Berry have offered to help with some of those tasks.

Carol also wanted to recognize some of the events currently happening in the world, particularly the coronavirus in China. It has affected her directly as her daughter is currently living and working there.

2. Acceptance of previous ACWC General Meeting Minutes, Sat, Nov. 16, 2019, 12:00 noon EST/9:00 am PST.

Stephanie Orlando moved that the minutes of Saturday, November 16th meeting be accepted, and Janet Danielson seconded the motion. All were in favour so the motion was passed. Janet commented that there may be some confusion in using the term General Meeting in the title of the minutes. Carol pointed out that it was called general because the meeting is open to all members and to differentiate it from a board meeting. The annual general meeting, held in September, is referred to specifically in those minutes. Janet's concern came from our charitable status and having to meet the CRA criteria. It was decided we would drop the word "General" in the title for our regular meetings.

3. Two Shout-outs: to Hildegard Westerkamp and Jocelyn Morlock

a. Hildegard Westerkamp has been prominently featured in *The Globe and Mail*, Sat., Jan. 25, 2020, in an article, "The Quest for Quiet", by Gayle MacDonald, (page P7) and for her articulate chapter, on her own groundbreaking work in sonic ecology, "The Disruptive Nature of Listening: Today, Yesterday, Tomorrow" in *Sound, Media, Ecology*, ed. Milena Droumeva and Randolph Jordan (pp. 45-63). Southampton, UK: Palgrave/MacMillan. Link here:

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/health-and-fitness/article-in-an-increasingly-clamorous-world-silence-is-becoming-essential-to/>

Carol referred to Hildegard as "arguably the world's leading sound ecologist, a long-time member of ACWC, and a person as gracious as she is renowned." Pat Morehead had been interviewed by her a number of years ago when Pat was visiting the west coast.

b. Jocelyn Morlock is featured prominently, along with her photo, in *The Globe and Mail*, Sat., Feb. 1, 2020, Arts, page R3, in an article by Brad Wheeler about her recent composition, *My Name is Amanda Todd*, to be performed by violinist Joshua Bell, in Ottawa and Toronto, early Feb. 2020. Link here:

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/arts/music/article-jocelyn-morlock-says-her-juno-winning-piece-my-name-is-amanda-todd/>

Carol noted that Jocelyn Morlock had sent regrets about being unable to attend today's meeting. The article in the Arts section of the *Globe and Mail* is about the piece Jocelyn wrote recently about Amanda Todd who was bullied on-line and eventually committed suicide. Janet commented that Jocelyn is another wonderfully creative, gracious composer.

4. **Deadline for ACWC/AFCC Call for Scores and Proposals: February 28**, for ACWC concert, July 17, 2020 at the Canadian Music Centre (Toronto), inspired by theme of “Building Up,” organized, performed, and produced by women-identified composers, organizers, technicians, and performers. Info/application here: <https://acwc.ca/2019/11/25/acwc-afcc-call-for-scores-and-proposals/> -Stephanie O.

Stephanie updated us on the status of the call for scores for the ACWC concert to be held in July. The call went out recently and is hosted on the website. Matthew Fava, of the CMC, helped to craft the submission form, which is working well – submissions are coming in, with no problems reported. They are still looking for a member to serve as one of the jurors, someone who is not closely involved in the concert or the call. Janet Danielson suggested Dorothy Chang at UBC, and agreed to send the contact information to Stephanie. The organizers have the performers lined up: Amanda Lowry (flute), Naomi McCarroll-Butler (bass clarinet/ alto sax), Marketa Ornova (piano) and Yang Chen (percussion), with possible electronics. The organizers have submitted an application to the Ontario Arts Council and should hear some results soon. They are also applying to the Toronto Arts Council. The current timeline is to have all the submissions in by February 28th, 2020 with the announcement of the pieces chosen occurring by the end of April. Scores and parts are expected to be received in May with the concert being held in July. Carol congratulated Stephanie on her hard work to get all of that done, particularly the writing of the grant applications.

Sharon asked if anyone knew of calls for librettists, as all the ones on the website are for composers. This was addressed later in the meeting. Carol pointed out that Sharon is the first librettist to join our organization and this is the first meeting she has been able to attend. Sharon thanked everyone for the warm welcome she has received from the organization.

5. **New Deadline for Initiatives Fund: March 1**, 2020, open to ALL ACWC members for:

- creating new compositions
- creative compositional networking
- creating a CD and/or online recording project
- curating workshops, conferences, or venues where new compositions are created

To apply, go here: <https://acwc.ca/2019/11/26/acwc-initiatives-fund/>

The Initiatives Fund was started last year and is running a second time, with extensive possibilities for how the fund can be used. The deadline has been moved to March 1st and the application can be basic. Carol encouraged everyone to go to the home page and check it out. There will be outside adjudications, and anyone is eligible to apply except last year's winner, Stephanie Orlando.

6. **New Deadline for Bert Weir Memorial Music Commission Call for Proposals: March 1**, 2020.

Information: Available at: <https://www.whisperingrivermusic.com/bert-weir-memorial-award>

The 2nd Bert Weir Memorial Commission of \$500 for a Canadian composer will be awarded to compose a 7-15 minute work for community string orchestra, or community orchestra and choir, inspired by a work of art by a Parry Sound or Northern Ontario artist. Check Bert Weir artwork at: <http://www.bertweir.com/> The work will be premiered by Whispering River Orchestra in June, 2020 on Bert Weir Memorial Day. Send proposals to Brenda Margaret Muller, Artistic Director of Ardeleana Chamber Music Society, at: whisperingriverorchestra@gmail.com. Call: 905 960 9281 for questions or more information.

Brenda was not able to attend the meeting to speak further about this opportunity. Diane had been given the commission last year. She said it is for a local orchestra in a small community, that Brenda had been extremely helpful through the process and that it had been a rewarding one. She encouraged members to consider applying. Diane also said that she loved the art work of Bert Weir who is celebrated with this commission. Carol told us that Bert Weir had been a pacifist who served in the war, but didn't kill anyone, and had returned afterwards to devote himself to art. He passed away not long ago and was a good friend of Brenda's.

7. Upcoming ACWC 40th Anniversary, 2021. Continued discussion.

ACWC is asking for interested persons to volunteer to help brain-storm/create ideas/provide leadership. So far the following persons have sent in ideas and/or expressed willingness to help plan/organize in various ways: Amanda Lowry, Amy Brandon, Brenda Muller, Carmen Braden, Carol Ann Weaver, Elaine Keillor, Emily Martin, Fiona Evison, Hope Lee, Janet Danielson, Julia Jacklein, Laura Hawley, Patricia Morehead, Paulette Popp, Tawnie Olson, Tina Pearson and Véronique Girard. A few new ideas which have been brought forward include: a Halifax concert on March 8, 2021 via Amy Brandon <amygbrandon@gmail.com>; concerts in Quebec via Véronique Gerard, a North Bay, Ontario band composition opportunity and Huntsville, Ontario concert, both via Patricia Morehead <patmorehead3@gmail.com> who has a hall available, and can provide a pianist and an oboist (her husband and herself), and much more.

In an earlier CMC call for scores for community band, only one work was by a woman composer. Pat knows of four bands in North Bay of varying levels of ability. When discussing band levels the CMC uses the Royal Conservatory system of grading, whereas the bands themselves use the American system. The American publishers will send out free pieces to the bands to introduce new music and composers, but it is unaffordable for the one Canadian publisher of band music to do so. Pat would like to encourage more women to write for community band. Janet suggested she look into the work of the late Vancouver-based ACWC composer, Anita Sleeman, whose work is available through CMC, B.C. region. Sleeman was very active with bands and led one in Vancouver. Pat said that she would send out the names of the conductors of the North Bay Bands, two of whom are women.

Carol reported that the prospect of the 40th anniversary is both scary and exciting. Information and ideas about the 40th are continuously coming in, and collected in a constantly-updated file which Carol is happy to send around to any interested persons. Janet noted a wealth of ideas in this document. The official start date of the anniversary would January 1st, 2021.

8. Brief Board Reports

a. Treasurer – Janet Danielson

Janet reported that we currently have a healthy bank balance due in part to Carol and Diane contacting members to remind them to send in their dues. There are some upcoming expenditures – some honoraria, the last payment to the web manager in this fiscal year, and some funding to the Vancouver Island Symphony Orchestra. Janet feels it would be a good idea to start a separate 40th anniversary fund in order to allow funds to be carried over to next year in an official way. As we are now a charitable organization the rules are stricter. Janet also told us that we now have charitable receipts available that are up to standard for the CRA. There was some concern with the Roberta Stephen fund that the foundation wanted to move those funds into our account; but those concerns have been dealt with and things should now proceed smoothly. Janet suggested we wait to run the Roberta Stephen Award until after the New Initiatives Fund, so there are not too many things occurring at once. We were also told that our first return under the charitable status was submitted. Janet also asked for and was granted permission to use \$100 to consult with a legal or accounting expert to ensure that what we do is legally correct. Carol then thanked Janet for all her work and offered congratulations on her accomplishments in her role as treasurer.

b. Secretary Report – Diane Berry

Diane said that things have been running smoothly with nothing really to report.

c. SoundBox Report – Stephanie Orlando

Stephanie also said that she had little to report, and that things have been going well. She reiterated that she would like members to remember to send material in before the deadline, as she starts to compile the SoundBox before then and it is difficult to add things after the fact. The SoundBox has been going out through Gmail with no problems so she assumes things have been functioning fine.

d. Journal Editor Report – Fiona Evison

Fiona reported that with the last journal she set up a spreadsheet for the articles. While she has taken a

short break from the journal she will be back into it in February and will be asking members soon for their ideas and their articles for the next edition.

e. Website Report – Mary-Catherine Pazzano:

She says, “I have continued to update member pages with pics, bios; have added any new members to the members page, have updated News and Opportunities pages with opportunities for composers and any initiatives, have been in contact with other ACWC board members/ reps regarding possible website updates/rehals, have added plug-ins, embed codes, and widgets when possible/when site is capable of uploading said items.”

Carol said that she has been talking to Mary-Catherine and other members about the website and that some things people would like to see are not possible at the moment. Updating the website is something that is currently being looked into.

9. Keeping ACWC Fiscal year on July 1, but sending out timely reminders – Janet D., Diane B.

Carol reported that after some discussion the start of the fiscal year will remain at July 1st. It was felt that timely reminders will help to bring in membership fees at that time, and it will save the difficulties involved in making a change.

10. Noting Gayle Young as new Honorary ACWC Member, found on ACWC website here:

<https://acwc.ca/2019/11/01/gayle-young-becomes-acwc-afcc-honorary-member/> and also “pinged” on CMC site: <https://cmccanada.org/gayle-young-becomes-acwc-afcc-honorary-member/>

Carol reported that Gayle was happy to receive this honour. Gayle was one of the charter members of ACWC. Carol remembered her from the early 80's, when she first moved to Ontario.

11. Other

Sharon asked again about opportunities for librettists. Pat said that she knew of one, a group that had presented three short opera excerpts in North Bay last year, and will emails contacts to Sharon.

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

Diane Berry will participating in ARTSong Lab in Vancouver, in which composers are paired with poets to write a piece that will be performed in the first week of July.

Janet Danielson will be having a work for piano quartet and oboe d'amore premiered on February 10th.

Stella ter Hart has taken on the directorship of two choirs near Kingston, one a women's chorus and one a mixed choir. She is looking forward to 'foisting' her choral works on them.

Fiona Evison was asked to fill in as music director for a choir in December and is now asked to take on the job full-time. She has the opportunity to play the pipe organ every week and will also be getting her choir to perform her works.

Stephanie Orlando has just returned to Toronto from Banff where she wrote a piece for piano and electronics for the pianist Megan Thibeault.

Laura Hawley will be going to Banff, she was hoping to take part in the choral arts section but the timing was not optimal so she will be working privately with the composer in residence. She has also been working on a commission for the choir Canzone, which is doing a concert of works by female Baroque composers. As there aren't a large number of known women composers from the time period, she has been asked to re-imagine a piece for their concert.

Pat Morehead will be having a piece, “Voyage Across the Century” premiered in a concert in North Bay, in which she shares the program with Beethoven.

Jana Skarecky will have her three movement, string piece entitled "Australia Images" performed at the Heliconian Club. She is also working on a piece for voice and piano about her grandmother.

Sharon Singer told us about an artsong CD, *Hail, Canadian Art Song*, that featured her poetry, performed by Doreen Taylor Claxton. Her contribution was a song cycle, "Names of Water,"

with the music by Colin Mack. Contact Sharon at ssinger@sympatico.ca for more info. *Carol Ann Weaver* is continuing to work on her WWII Polish-themed piece, including orchestrating some of the pieces for one of Brenda Muller's groups in Parry Sound, Ontario. *Maya Badian* announces that her new book, "Program Notes on My Own Compositional Output" was just released. She is noted to be "the only Canadian composer of Romanian origin to have her life and accomplishments reflected in an international biographical work." Book is \$30. Contact Maya: <badian@sympatico.ca> for info/ordering. - from emails, Badian to CAW, Jan.27-8, 2020

13. Next ACWC Skype General Meeting:

Saturday, March 28, 2020 12:00 pm EST/ 9:00 am PST

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm EST/ 10:00 am PST

Respectively submitted by Diane Berry