

**Minutes for ACWC/AFCC Zoom Meeting, Sat, Nov. 7, 2020
12:00noon EST/9:00am PST**

Present: Carol Ann Weaver, Diane Berry, Janet Danielson, Stephanie Orlando, Sharon Singer, Christie Morrison, Pat Morehead, Brenda Muller, Amanda Lowry, Jana Skarecky, Fiona Evison

Regrets: Colleen Muriel, Elaine Keillor, Veronika Krausas, Jocelyn Morelock, Jean Etheridge, Edith Covach, Anita Pari

1. Brief words of welcome from the Chair.

Carol began the meeting by welcoming everyone and noting that Joe Biden had just been named the president-elect of the United States. She found it extraordinarily emotional and felt it gives us hope for the tomorrows of our lives.

2. Acceptance of previous ACWC/AFCC AGM/General Meeting Minutes, Aug. 22, 2020, 12noon EST/9am PST.

Christie Morrison moved that the minutes of the meeting of Saturday, August 22, 2020 be accepted, and Brenda Muller seconded the motion. All were in favour so the motion was passed. Jana Skarecky pointed out that Edith Covach's name had been misspelled in the member's information section of the minutes. Carol said she would make sure it was corrected. There were no other comments or questions.

3. New ACWC/AFCC Guidelines for Funding Procedures.

Carol told the meeting that the 2014/2018 guidelines for concert creation have been in the works for a number of years and remain a work in progress. The current version, which is a guideline for working out funding procedures, had been discussed by the Board at a meeting the previous week and was approved. There had been an additional comment during the week that a statement about adjudicators not being able to have works chosen from a call, should be included in the guidelines. Carol pointed out that not all funding requests involve a call for scores, and so the guidelines are trying to cover many circumstances and so, are a template. She also said that she felt it should be kept to a single page. Pat suggested that concerts with juries, and those in which the music is chosen without a call for scores, should be dealt with separately in the guidelines. Members agreed to this suggestion. The most recent version of the guidelines had been sent on Saturday, November 7th, to those who had indicated there were attending the meeting and it was felt it should go to all members, to allow everyone the opportunity to put forward comments. Carol agreed to include it when she sent the minutes for this meeting. Brenda suggested it be set up as a google document with the link sent to everyone. Members would then be able to contribute their thoughts directly to the guidelines. Everyone would be able to read the comments, and it would be the responsibility of the members to inform themselves – a seemingly good idea. Carol said she would consider creating it as a google document, although there were various other suggestions that email-sending may possibly be more effective and efficient, in the long run.

4. Transitioning towards new ACWC Treasurer, Amanda Lowry. Discussion led by Janet Danielson, and Amanda Lowry.

Carol told the meeting that board members serve six-year terms, which meant that Janet's term as treasurer would be ending soon. Janet herself has indicated she would like that to happen sooner rather than later. Carol reported that as a result, there have been conversations about a replacement. Amanda Lowry, who had been highly recommended and approached, has agreed to take on the position. Carol informed everyone that the transition is already underway. Amanda said that she had a productive meeting with Janet, where she was informed of the various aspects of the job. She has been treasurer before with other organizations and has done a lot of arts administration work so the job is quite familiar to her. Amanda said that there has been some delay in the transition due to the fact she is moving from Toronto to Waterloo, but Janet will be sending her the documents she needs, once that happens. Janet said that she was thrilled Amanda was taking over as treasurer, that she is eminently qualified and will be able to take up the ball and run with it. Carol asked about a timetable for the transition and Janet said she hopes it will be by the end of November. Carol added that Janet will continue to run the Roberta Stephen award, as it is separate from the duties of the treasurer. Everyone in the meeting agreed that Janet has done an outstanding job as treasurer and thanked her for her hard work. Carol added that she felt Janet has done an amazing job and encouraged all members to send her their thoughts and their thank yous to Janet, so she can collect them all.

5. ACWC Chair updates.

Carol informed the meeting that she, too, will be transitioning out of her position as chair, and that talks are going on with a highly qualified person, first to be vetted by the Board, and then brought forward to the ACWC membership.

6. Upcoming ACWC/AFCC 40th Anniversary, 2021. Updates by 40th Chair of Committee, Diane Berry

Diane reported that, thanks to Mary-Catherine, the anniversary page on the website had been updated and is starting to look the way it will be during the anniversary year. She is hoping it will receive regular visits from members throughout 2021. There are plans to have a regular history information piece added every month, as well as a link to the playlist, which Amanda will speak more about.

Diane also told us that she has been speaking to a number of members from the early years, including Carolyn Lomax and Elma Miller, and there are plans to hold a panel/ webinar discussing those early years, early in the new year.

The idea of concerts had been put on hold once the pandemic struck, but Amy Brandon has organized a concert on the east coast that will be live-streamed, perhaps with a small audience. Amy has been planning this since Carol first asked for ideas about how to celebrate our anniversary. It will be a concert of piano music and will probably be held in March.

Diane said she will look again into the possibilities of concerts to celebrate the anniversary. With many concerts now being virtual, Diane told the meeting that she put out a call in the most recent SoundBox for members with some technical expertise, even to just to help as a consultant as these events are planned.

Diane also said she had been talking to Fiona about dedicating the spring/summer edition of the ACWC Journal to the anniversary.

7. ACWC/AFCC Playlist, Amanda Lowry

Amanda said that there has been a slow trickle of submissions, and that she has received eight in all, which is about an hour and a half of music. She realizes that many people will wait until the deadline so she is hopeful there will be more. Submissions are made through a google form, which is quite easy to do, and if there are technical problems, she is happy to work with members to ensure they can submit their recordings. Once the deadline is past, she will reach out to those members who haven't submitted, as she would like the playlist to include as many members as possible.

Any time that is remaining, she will fill with recordings of members who are no longer with us. To help with that, she has been speaking to the CMC about accessing recordings. While there are links on the CMC site, Amanda is unable to upload those files and will need permission from the composers or their estates to add those pieces to the playlist. Nicole at the CMC has said that once Amanda knows what music she would like, they are happy to help with obtaining the necessary permissions. There was some question amongst the members about the need for permission and whether it was that of the composer and/or the performers. If it is a recording in which the performer was paid, the only permission needed is that of the composer or the estate of the composer.

Jana asked Amanda about the deadline for submissions, and was told it is December 15th. Carol thanked Amanda for taking on this big job.

8. Brief Board Reports

a. Treasurer – Janet Danielson

Janet reported that the association has a healthy bank balance, partly due to concert spending being down quite a bit. She said that she has received 80 percent of the membership fees and there have also been \$500 in donations from members. Those donations will be used to help cover the fees of those who are unable to maintain their membership as a result of the pandemic. Many members sent letters explaining what the organization means to them but also saying they were unable to pay this year's dues. Janet was able to tell them they would remain active members due to the generosity and commitment of other members.

b. Secretary Report – Diane Berry

Diane said she had nothing really to report, that things are running smoothly.

c. SoundBox Report – Stephanie Orlando

Stephanie also said she has little to report. There is still good content coming in for the SoundBox, with much of it starting to be about virtual concerts and events. She will continue to include information on the anniversary as it comes in.

d. Journal Editor Report – Fiona Evison

Fiona reported that she is currently working on the next issue of the journal, which will contain many interesting articles. She said she would be interested in any write-ups about online performances, to help keep everyone informed of the kinds of things that are going on. She is looking forward to working on the anniversary edition and wondered about obtaining copies of some of the earlier newsletters and other older files. Janet said that she has some of those older newsletters and Jana said she has a number of old photographs she can send to Fiona.

e. Website Report – Mary-Catherine Pazzano:

Diane read Mary-Catherine's report, saying that it will be possible to incorporate SoundCloud playlists into the ACWC/AFCC site for the anniversary page, and that she

has updated that page. Mary-Catherine has continued to add ACWC/AFCC-related events and opportunities to the appropriate pages on the site as well as continuing to update the home page with time-appropriate updates.

9. Other

Brenda added a quick word about a CD of women's music that was released in the nineties, and had some *interesting* reviews, due to representing all-women's music. She wanted to point out that we have come a long way from the earlier struggles and it is worth remembering those days.

10. Member info – comments from participating members, giving comments about what you are able to do now, and about how the coronavirus situation is affecting you.

Amanda Lowry is busy working on her graduate degree, with all of her classes online, and is in the middle of moving, as well.

Carol Weaver's book "Poland Parables" is about to be released. It includes a CD and she expects to be receiving copies in the mail on Monday.

Fiona Evison is also keeping busy working on her graduate degree, but recently did a piano version of "O Canada" which she enjoyed.

Brenda Muller is enjoying the feelings left over from the River Songs Festival. She was so pleased to be able to use the donation from the ACWC/AFCC to commission three additional pieces from what was originally planned. All were successful and will continue to be played through the year.

Janet Danielson is also basking in the afterglow of the River Songs Festival. She was commissioned to write a piece and said the whole festival was a wonderful experience.

Christie Morrison was interviewed recently by a local station (Chek TV) about her holocaust piece. The interview included her friend, a holocaust survivor who is ninety-five. The interview will be shown on November 11th, and will possibly be picked up CTV.

Diane Berry said that after indulging herself and buying an alto flute, she is just finishing up a solo piece for that instrument.

Jana Skarecky will be having her work, "The Path Before Me-A Woman's Journey" which is about, and dedicated to her Grandmother, premiered on Wednesday, November 11th. Here is the link to the concert, which will also be available on youtube after the 11th. <https://uwaterloo.ca/music/events/noon-hour-concert-path-me-womans-journey-premiere>

Librettist *Sharon Singer* and composer *Pat Morehead* both have songs that will be performed by Hot House Chicago, a group of politically involved, black singers in the Chicago area.

Stephanie Orlando is continuing to work on her graduate degree at the University of Toronto and dealing with online classes. She reports that she is composing "tons of music."

11. Next ACWC/AFCC Skype General Meeting:

The next meeting will be on Saturday, January 9th, 2021 at 12:00 noon EST/ 9 am PST

12. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm EST/ 10:15 am PST

Respectfully submitted by Diane Berry

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