

## CFU Executive Meeting Minutes Jan. 17, 2017

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**Date:** Jan. 17, 2017 ☐

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. ET ☐

**Location:** Google Hangouts,

[https://hangouts.google.com/hangouts/\\_/canadianfreelanceunion.ca/cfu](https://hangouts.google.com/hangouts/_/canadianfreelanceunion.ca/cfu)

**In attendance:** Leslie, Nora, Ben, Ethan, David, David, Jaime

☐ **Regrets:** Roxanne

**Serving as secretary:** Jessica

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### 1. Adoption of Agenda ☐

Moved: Leslie ☐

Seconded: Ethan

*Motion carried*

### 2. Approval of minutes of [Dec. 8, 2016](#) ☐

Moved: Leslie ☐

Seconded: David

☐ *Motion carried*

### 3. Reports from regions ☐, vice-president, president, co-ordinator

Director - Atlantic

- Position currently vacant. No report

Director - Ontario

- Held holiday social in Toronto on December 14
- Working with member in Markham to organize social there
- Working with member to try and organize a workshop around best practices for secure communications for freelancers

Director - Prairies

- Writers working on Canada's 150th project.
- Developing educational materials re: wages and copyright

Director - BC

- No report.

Vice-President

- Started work on the template contract project.
- Setting up training for January on NB for the organizers. Will circulate to executive/ staff for opportunity to receive training as well.

President

- Developing systems to keep track of initiatives and timelines so the work of the executive gets done as efficiently as possible.
- Working with Jessica to support members and Nora in her role as treasurer.

Coordinator

- Corrected most expiry dates for remaining members on monthly dues. Will correct as memberships expire.
- Submitted lists of members needing welcome packages and full list of existing members to Unifor on quarterly basis. There were no returned packages on last batch.
- Has taken over managing and issuing national press cards and coordinating IFJ press cards.

#### **4. Appointment of Ontario Rep** □

**Motion:** To appoint Ben Lewis, who has now been a member in good standing for 6 months, to represent members in Ontario.

Moved: Nora

Seconded: Ethan

*Motion carried*

#### **5. Atlantic Director position** □

Letter sent to 19 Atlantic members on Jan. 13 with a deadline of Jan. 20. Three people responded right away. There may be more.

Leslie will contact them to see if they're still interested and request a bio be submitted by Jan. 23. Update will be presented to the board via Slack shortly after.

#### **6. Next general meeting**

□ **Motion:** Schedule next GM on Saturday March 4, 2017

Second: Ethan

Discussion of possible agenda items:

Open executive positions, committees, budget for 2017

Motion: carries

#### **7. Treasurer's report**

□ **Motion** to appoint Nora as treasurer was passed on Dec. 16.

Discussion:

- Priority is getting payroll set up properly
- Remit owing funds to CRA
- Create budget and accounting system

#### **8. Organizing report** □

We have 197 members from a high of 250 last April. There are 255 lapsed members, 11 in the grace period, and 5 who have cancelled.

The 4 organizers (Lizzy, Raul, Anne, and Trevor) are beginning work in their regions.

Roxanne & Jessica met to discuss work relations of staff position with organizers. The organizers are:

BC - Lizzy  
Halifax - Trevor  
Toronto - Raul  
Montreal - Anne

10/ hrs a week  
Report to Roxanne

4 main priorities:

- New recruitment
- Organize 1 event per month
- Create recruitment lists informal/ formal
- Call/ engage lapsed members

## 9. Initiatives

- Jamie's [blog](#): Freedom of access for journalists. Just needs a preamble and posting to the website.
- Ethan's [draft letter](#) re. membership survey for a template contract will be sent out soon
- Nora's recommendation that we send a letter to the new federal Minister of Employment Patty Hajdu. Consensus that this be done and Nora will draft the letter.
- Nora's suggests that we offer support to the Chronicle Herald workers on strike (a year as of Jan. 23, 2017).

**Motion:** Be it resolved we donate \$100 to Herald strike fund and encourage messages of solidarity

Moved: Nora

Second: Ethan

*Motion carried*

**Motion:** Be it resolved that the CFU maintain a blacklist of those writing for the Herald and deny or revoke membership for those who write for them.

Moved: Ethan

Second: Nora (for discussion)

Discussion

*Motion deferred:* to defer decision regarding escalating action for those freelance writers working for the Herald to next meeting.

## 10. Check in on Website RFP

A couple of members of the executive had to leave the meeting before we got to this item so quorum was lost. It will be followed up on Slack.

**11. Check in on Translation RFP**

Ethan offered to work on this.

**12. Regularly scheduled board meetings**□

Discussion about people's availability. Recommended that two dates in February be presented (14th and 16th).

**13. Adjournment**□□

Motion to adjourn at 11:50 a.m.

Moved: Leslie

Seconded: Nora

*Motion carried*

**NEXT MEETING to be determined on Slack**