

November 2016 Canadian Freelance Union (CFU) Annual General Meeting (AGM) Meeting Minutes

1. Call the meeting to order
 2. Adoption of the agenda
Moved: Leslie
Seconded: Nora
Agenda Adopted
 3. Approval of the [minutes of the Jan. 31 GM](#)
Moved: Leslie
Seconded: Ethan
Minutes approved
 4. [Executive Board Report on accomplishments since January 2016](#)
 - a. Campaigns
 - b. Solidarity with others
 - c. Internal coordination and organization
 - d. Events
 - e. Member services, advocacy, and support
 - f. New services
 - g. Plan for 2017
 - i. [RFP for new website theme](#) coming out this month
 - ii. RFP for translation services out this fall
 - iii. Expand ways to involve members in growing our numbers and supporting members
 - iv. Continue advocacy work for freelance media workers and individual members
 - v. Work with Unifor organizers to grow our numbers
 - h. Discussion of Executive Board Report:
 - Halifax Pride
 - Urban Workers Project update
 - CFU national profile: Media council, Unifor National convention
- Motion:** to approve Executive Board Report
Seconded: n/a – all in favour
Motion passed
5. Organizing and Unifor Report – Roxanne (Info only)
 - a. Community Chapter Model review
 - b. Hiring Organizers
 - c. Events/ recruitment
 - d. Four positions for 2017

- e. Other community chapters starting. Ex: East Danforth Community Chapter. Temp agency work.
6. Trevor Beckerson, Atlantic Director Financial Report (info only)
Sept 2015 – Sept 2016
Discussion:
- Cost of credit card processing? Similar across the board.
 - When are membership dues due? As you renew, join. No longer just in October.
 - Request to separate “interest” in income statement in future.
 - Monthly instalment issues: Hoping to make changes with website redesign.
7. [Bylaws Changes](#)

Bylaw amendment #1-24

Motion: Move to approve amendment of bylaws no. 1 thru 24.

Move: Leslie

Seconded: Derek Blackadder

Questions/ Debate:

- Why does document refer to “national union” instead of “Unifor”? Not the end of the changes to the document. Bylaws were adapted from CFU bylaws when associated with CEP. Must serve ample notice, so was not able to address in this round of edits. This could be addressed in a future bylaw amendment.
- Suggestion of Housekeeping motion: regarding minor changes can be done without membership approval.

Count: 26 for, 2 against, 0 abstentions.

Motion Carried. Bylaw changes no. 1 thru 24 approved.

Bylaw amendment #25

Motion: Amounts over \$500, **or** expenses to the president for reimbursement, require a board vote.

Move: Leslie

Second: Trevor

Discussion/ Debate:

- Article 5, section 6: You need a second person to sign expenses over \$500.
- Geographical challenges of having a treasurer in Halifax and a president in Aldergrove.
- The bylaw amendment is to bring the threshold in line with current practice, which is higher than the existing standard.

Motion: change “And” to “or” in motion:....Amounts over \$500, *or* expenses to the president for reimbursement, require a board vote.

Moved: Andrew

Second: Jim

Vote: 20 for, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Motion amendment carried

Motion: Amounts over \$500, or to the president for reimbursement, require a board approval vote.

24 for motion. 0 against. 0 abstentions.

Motion carried.

Bylaw amendment #26

Motion: Be it resolved that the following change to the Responsibilities of the Treasurer be withdrawn:

- ~~co-sign all cheques or other authorizations for the removal of funds of the CFU over \$500 or paid to the president.~~

Moved: Leslie

Seconded: Trevor

Rationale: This was intended to provide a high level of accountability but is not necessary since the amendment to Bylaw #25 is approved.

Nairn [Last Name]:

Motion: to table this amendment and hold a special general meeting to deal with this issue.

Second: Andrew

Vote: 14 for, motion failed (34 members in meeting)

Ethan Call Question:

Motion: All those in favour in voting on bylaw amendment #26 put up your hand.

Vote: 22 for, 0 against.

Motion to vote on motion approved.

Motion: All those in favour of bylaw amendment #26, Please vote:

Vote: 2 for, 21 against. Motion failed.

8. Elections

Motion: We Vote to affirm CFU Trustees:

Derek Blackadder

Andrew Wetmore

Sam Bradd

Vote: 93% voted in favour (secret ballot)

Motion carried.

Motion: Nora: To approve Ben Lewis (who has not yet been a member for 6 months) as an observer (non-voting) member of the executive until he can be appointed by the executive in 2 months.

Rebecca Rose to read a message from Ben Lewis, who had to leave meeting early.
Discussion/ Debate:

- 6 months requirement
- observer status
- Purpose of this motion is to be more democratic and have input by membership into the appointment of an Ontario Director.
- Suggestion from membership just to appoint Ontario Director and be in compliance with Bylaws, and not have motion.
- Could be precedent setting.

Nora: **Point of Order:** Must move to not have vote, or we need to vote on it.

Lucas [last name]: **Calling the question:** All in favour of calling the question

Vote: 12 for, 3 against, 0 abstain (Ontario Members Only)

Motion: Nora: To approve Ben Lewis (who has not yet been a member for 6 months) as an unofficial, non-voting member of the executive until he can be appointed by the executive in 2 months.

Vote: 62% in support (blind ballot)

Motion carries

9. Derek: **Motion** to adjourn: 1:50 PM

Second: Andrew

Motion to Adjourn carried.

November 05, 2016 at 12pm - 1:30pm

Video Recording of AGM can be found [here](#).