

PSAC 901

PSAC 901 SGM October 31, 2022
11:30 am Hybrid: In Person and Zoom

Minutes

Start Time: 11:47 am.

Welcome:

Lizzie Bygott called the meeting to order. She welcomed attendees and introduced herself as moderator.

Determination of Quorum:

Quorum has been met with 20 members in attendance.

Election of Secretary:

Motion: Jake Morrow motioned that Tracie Dixon be elected as secretary for this meeting.

Second: Brittainy Bonnis

Discussion: None.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Statement on Harrassment and Land Acknowledgement:

Prerna Subramanian read the statement and provided the acknowledgement.

Rules of Order:

Lizzie Bygott familiarized members with the meeting rules of order.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Brittainy Bonnis motioned that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Second: Astrid Hobill

Discussion: The package was emailed with the notice of meeting and included in the Zoom chat.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Discussion: Note any corrections/amendments.

Motion: Brittainy Bonnis motioned that the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Geeral Meeting be approved as circulated.

Second: Astrid Hobill

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Reports:

1. Written Reports:

Reports circulated in agenda package include:

- President's Report – Astrid Hobill
- Vice President Community Relations – Justyna Szewczyk-El Jassem
- Vice President Postdoctoral Scholars – Kaveh Mousavand
- Vice President Research Assistants – Gabriela Castillo
- Treasurer and Budget Committee – Harshavardhan Thyagarajan
- Chief Stewards and Stewards Council – Jake Morrow and Avi Friedlander
- Equity Officer and Social Justice Committee Reports – Prerna Subramanian
- Health and Safety Executive – Jacqueline Giesbrecht

Discussion: No questions.

Motion: Brittainy Bonnis motioned that the reports be accepted, as a slate, as presented.

Second: Annika Fuernsinn

Vote: Passed unanimously

2. Budget Committee Proposals

Harsha Thyagarajan, Treasurer, provided an overview of the 6 Budget Committee recommendations.

- A. Increase in Staff Member Salary Budget Line Item to cover full-time hours.

Discussion: This motion will allow for staff salary budget line be increased to support a full-time position in the office. (\$20,000)

Motion: Harsha Thyagarajan motioned that the Staff Management Budget Line Item be extended 20k to cover a full-time position staff position.

Second: Justyna Szewczyk-El Jassem.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

- B. Increase in Special Membership Levy to cover costs of full-time staff contract.

Discussion: Staff member salary is covered through membership dues and a special staff levy. The proposed increase is equal to \$1 per person or \$10 annually.

Motion: Harsha Thyagarajan motioned that the special levy be increased to cover the \$20,000 increase to the Budget Line Item.

Second: Jake Morrow.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

- C. Consolidation of all Software Line Items.

Discussion: The current line item is specific to membership software. Other software has been allocated to different line items. Consolidating the line items will provide greater transparency for expenses. Adobe is new proposal which will increase software expenses.

Motions: Harsha Thyagarajan motioned that the current Membership Software budget line item be changed to Software to reflect all software costs incurred by PSAC Local 901, representing an increase to \$5400

Second: Avi Friedlander.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

D. Consolidation of Donation and Solidarity Budget Line Item

Discussion: The two line items do not have distinct functions.

Motions: Harsha Thyagarajan motioned that the current Donation (\$1,500) and Solidarity (\$1,250) budget line items be combined into one line item (\$2,750).

Second: Astrid Hobill.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

E. Reserve Budget Investment – Guaranteed Investment Certificate KCCU

Discussion: Has accumulated some reserves due to collecting funds as well as not having gone on strike. Suggest risk free investment of 70% of the reserves. Are there any concerns around interest, no CRA. Western is doing it. Any impact on the next few bargaining rounds. Not investing postdocs account and only investing 30%. Reserve funds are independent from strike funds. Cash out GIC what is the penalty? The software comes from reserve. Discuss at budget meeting what the interest could be used for? Do the strike fund caps need to be raised?

Motion: Harsha Thyagarajan motioned that up to 70% of the local's reserves be spent on a guaranteed investment certificate at KCCU to maximize earnings.

Second: Justyna Szewczyk-El Jassem.

Vote: Passed unanimously. 19 votes, 1 abstained

F. Bargaining Line Motion – Increase in support of Unit 2 Bargaining Research.

Discussion: Unit 2 bargaining unit is in the planning phase. By increasing this budget line item by \$2,000 the planning group should be good until the next SGM.

Motion: Harsha Thyagarajan motioned that the bargaining line item be increased by \$2,000 to support Unit 2 bargaining demands research

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Announcements

November events:

- November 9 - Open Mic at Union Gallery for an airing of grievances
- November 14 - Stewards Council
- November 22 - a RA Social, more details to follow
- November 23 labour film festival coming up
- Trainings end of November for Stewards
- PSAC Women's Conference

All members were thanked for their attendance and patience with any technical challenges encountered.

Adjournment