

1996 Annual General Meeting of the Archives Association of British Columbia – Minutes

April 27, 1996

R.N. Atkinson Museum and Archives, Penticton, B.C.

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda moved by Doreen Stephens and seconded by George Brandak.

2. Approval of minutes of 1995 Annual General Meeting

Motion to approve minutes of 1995 Annual General Meeting moved by Gary Mitchell and seconded by Erwin Wodarczak.

3. Executive Reports

President's Report

- Joanne Rajotte expressed thanks for work of executive committee members, members of other committees, and contract employees Irene Bekes, Rosaleen Hill, and Bill Purver.
- Reported continuation of several successful projects from previous years: Community Archives Education Program, the B.C. Conservation Service and the B.C. Archival Union List. Also please to report on the successful establishment of the new program: Archives Advisory/Network Coordinator and the hiring of Bill Purver to fill the position. As network coordinator he completed the final development phase of the B.C. Archival Union List Project.
- The second edition of *A Guide to Archival Repositories in British Columbia* was completed by Bill Purver and distributed to participating repositories. The AABC offered copies of the original *B.C. Thesaurus* free of charge, and offered for sale copies of the *Addendum*. A project proposed by the Publications Committee for the revision of *A Manual for Small Archives* was supported by the executive but funding for the project was not forthcoming. Alternative sources are being explored.
- The interest of the AABC have been promoted through an article in the B.C. Museum Association's publication *Museum Roundup*, and through participation in the Heritage Council of B.C.
- All of our committees have continued their work informed by the AABC Five Year Plan introduced at the 1994 Annual General Meeting. Members are invited once again to participate in a discussion of the plan following the AGM.

Treasurer's Report

- Three statements of account were presented to members.
Archives Advisor/Network Coordinator - \$71,727.33 total revenue; \$63,802.83 disbursements; \$8,556.21 balance 31 March 1996.
Conservation Program - \$91,017.85 total income; \$77,895.10 disbursements; \$13,125.75 balance 31 March 1996.
Education Program - \$25,329.44 total revenue; \$30,541.55 disbursements; \$2,123.18 balance (counting the opening balance of \$7,335.29).
- Treasurer will submit general account report in Newsletter for members' consideration.
- Treasurer reported that all accounts are healthy.

4. Committee Reports

Education Committee

Joni Mitchell presented report on behalf of the committee. A generally successful year. This year developed new guidelines for holding locally or regionally sponsored courses to complement the regularly scheduled courses. Offered four scheduled courses to 51 participants, three sponsored courses to 39 participants, two specialized workshops, and workshop prior to the AABC conference.

Conservation Committee

Francis Mansbridge presented the committee report. In this the fourth year of the Conservation Service, while site visits remained important, more institutions are initiating consultation with the Conservation Coordinator. Fifty-nine institutional members received site visits or other services. Three conservation workshops were held during the year.

Archives Advisor/Network Coordinator Program

Joni Mitchell reported for the Advisor/Network Coordinator, Bill Purver. She reported that the executive has designated itself as the Archives Advisor Committee. The second edition of *A Guide to Archival Repositories in British Columbia* was recently published and distributed to all participants. It will be available on the Internet later this year. The B.C. Archival Union List (BCAUL) is now accessible directly on the World Wide Web and BCAUL is entering the Sponsorial Record Phase. Advisory services are now available including site visits for needs assessments and mini-training sessions at regional and ad hoc meetings.

Grants Committee

Report presented by Joanne Rajotte in Christine O'Donnell's absence. Reported that not all applications could be approved this year due to a further reduction in funding. Christine thanked all those who participated in reviewing and adjudicating the applications.

Membership Committee

Report presented by Erwin Wodarczak. Reported a successful year including mailing out a package to 107 prospective members, distributing brochures and applications to MAS students at UBC, placing advertisements in various newsletters, and distribution of the 1995 Membership Directory.

5. Other Business

- Joanne Rajotte reported on AABC participation in development of a recruitment poster for the MAS program at UBC. She also reported on proposal for development of an AABC homepage on the World Wide Web and the formation of a committee to study and develop it. Propose to develop our own site.
- Ruby Nobbs from Revelstoke reported that a report for her institution by Bill Purver resulted in the approval of a new air conditioning and invited the AABC to hold its conference in Revelstoke in 1999, the centenary of Revelstoke incorporation.
- Some discussion about the new policy regarding allowing only one person per institutional membership to attend workshops at membership rate. Agreement that the new executive will address this once again.
- Susan Hart suggested that archival institutions look into persuading donors to include "archival dowries" (funds) to pay for processing of donated records.

- Gary Mitchell reported on developments at the British Columbia Archives and Records Service (BCARS), including the proposal that non-government records, and perhaps the archives itself and the CAAP Grants, be transferred to the Royal British Columbia Museum under the Ministry of Small Business, Heritage and Culture.

The following resolution was moved by Chris Petter and seconded by George Brandak: "The AABC strongly protests the re-organization of the information office to split non-government records collections from BCARS. We believe that such an approach would lead to a significant deterioration in the services of BCARS and to the possible erosion of support for all B.C. archives provided through the community grants programs. We strongly recommend that they reconsider this decision which we view as misguided and short-sighted with regard to the preservation of our province's documentary heritage."

The resolution was passed unanimously.

- Bill Barlee, the Minister of Small Business, Heritage and Culture joined the meeting at this point and spoke in favour of the proposal to transfer the provincial archives to his ministry. The Minister was informed by those present of their opposition to this proposal.

6. Nominations Committee

Chair Linda Wills reported that three positions are open: Vice-President, Secretary, and Institutional Member at Large. The new executive was presented to the membership: President - Joni Mitchell, Vice-President - Trevor Livelton, Treasurer - Jay Gilbert, Secretary - Kelly Harms, Institutional Member at Large - Wendy Hunt, and Individual Member at Large - Joan Cowan.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am