

ANKORS AGM Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 26, 2019
Street Angels, Cranbrook
Noon - 3pm

1. Welcome: Present: Barry Burnett, Cheryl Dowden, Michelle Shewell, Alexis Hekker, Nora Lilligren (Chair), Thomas McLeod, Brad Fergusson, Sarah Rolleman, Rachel LeDrea, Serge Popoff, Joe Reiner, Milo Leraar, Amelia Halisheff, Vera Horsman, Alex Sherstobitoff, Maria Jackman (Treasure Khadikin, Chloe Sage, Heather Cameron, Ryall Giuliano, Adrian Tenesse, Jasmin McMechan, Rosanana Benincasa, Polly Sutherland, Tara Woods, Heather Fenner, Pam Schneider (Minutes). Regrets: Karen McConnel, Michelle Frensel, Catherine Gamon.

2. Moment of Silence

3. Acceptance of Agenda: Change item #4 to read 'Minutes' rather than 'Agenda': Motion to accept the revised agenda, Ryall, seconded by Michelle S.

4. Minutes of June 27, 2018 Meeting: Change item #12 to read, 'unceded' rather than 'unseated'. Motion to accept revised minutes, Brad, seconded Adrian.

5. Business Arising from the Agenda: None at this time.

6. Board of Director's Report - Nora Lilligren: Many amazing achievements. ANKORS has had a huge turnaround - moving from a major funding cut to a time of growth (41 staff at present) - ANKORS has been a phoenix rising from the ashes!

7. Executive Director's Report - Cheryl Dowden: ANKORS is a strong and resilient organization. Aligned beliefs, innovation and honouring lived experience are just some of the factors that contribute to the strength of the ANKORS team. The ANKORS team is known for leadership in harm reduction and opened the first rural Overdose Prevention Site.

8. Staff Reports: All staff in attendance reported out prompting discussion:

- Many local folks come to ANKORS due to low barrier service provision - the essence of harm reduction. The commitment of staff was commended as Cheryl provided the example of Gary's pledge to organize an annual Ride for Pride until local communities organized their own events. Numerous road trips were undertaken with Gary at the wheel and the van loaded with people making the trek from Cranbrook to Nelson Pride. Now there are Pride events throughout the Kootenay.
- Human Rights changes are occurring due to work done at ANKORS.
- ANKORS staff are, "Just trying to be humans, working with other humans".

- The needle exchange amount of 146,298 reflects the West Kootenay and Boundary area only.
- Shambhala is featuring a video on their website of ANKORS staff at the festival. The video shows staff providing harm reduction services including drug testing and praise from festival attendees.
- Exciting to see policy change due to the work of the ANKORS team. Changes occur not just locally but globally. Knowledge and technology has helped this work increase significantly.
- Discussion about micro-dosing and a request for Rob to present to the Board
- A board member who attended the AGM brought surplus dried food items to distribute to people in need.

9. 2018-2019 Financial Statements: Forensic reports are done annually.

Draft financial statements were presented at the AGM. Many thanks to Maria for her significant contribution as treasurer over 14 years. Motion to accept, Tara, seconded, Thomas.

10. Appointment of the 2019-2010 Accountant: With the annual audit in mind a motion was made by Maria to hire Pinnacle Accounting for the audit in 2019-2020. Seconded, Heather C.

11. Membership and Board Member Nominations: The membership form was provided to those in attendance. Many thanks to Jen Driscoll and Brian Le Blanc who were both board members who stepped down this past year due to work obligations and relocation. Nominations include Rosanna Benincasa, Bernice Shewell, Chyann Pan, Ron Khadikin, Heather Cameron and Karen McConnel. Motion to accept all those who were nominated as a slate made by Ron, seconded by Tara.

12. Acknowledgements: Almost too numerous to count, especially in an organization known for relationship building and partnerships. Briefly, thanks go out to, Ktunaxa Nation for Health, Street Angels, Pride organizers, Salvation Army, staff, board, people who use the services, all community partners. The work couldn't be done without this help.

13. Next Board Meeting Date and Time: In August 2019.

14. Meeting Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Brad, seconded by Alex.