



MINUTES 2019

AGM of the VRSC/ARAC
held Thursday May 30th at 15:30 PM
in the Boardroom of the Arts and Letters Club, 14 Elm Street,
Toronto, ON, M5G 1G7, Canada

In attendance: Elspeth Domville (Chair), Nancy Marcotte (Vice Chair), Kelley Fry (Treasurer), Laura Lucas, Erin Chisholm, Denise O'Brien, Willa Marcus, Elizabeth Klinck, Mary Rose MacLachlan, Celina Bell, Sonja Carr, Joel Elliott, Laura Blaney, Kathleen McKenna, Gina Cali, Max Berger, Catherine Machado, Robin Hall, Ari Castillo, Alicia Fletcher, Kristina Howard, Maggie McCaw, Michelle Demeyere, Kristina Howard, Jennifer Givogue Lowe, Julietta McGovern and Jalana Lewis.

Minutes : Laura Lucas

Meeting called to order: Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 3:35 pm.

Adoption of 2018 minutes

Nancy Marcotte moved to accept the Minutes of the 2018 VRSC/ARAC AGM.
Mary Rose MacLachlan seconded. Vote: All in favour.

Board of Director's Slate

Elsbeth introduced the current BOD. 1 board member, Janet Torges is stepping down for personal reasons. Elspeth appealed to the eastern Canada members for interest in filling the position.

President's Report by Elspeth Domville – VRSC/ARAC

Elspeth thanked Monica Penner, Laura Blaney, Michelle Demeyere, Joel Elliott, Laura Lucas and Kathie McKenna, for their work on the AGM. She also extended welcome to Elizabeth Klinck, long-time founder who was present. There are currently 106 members nation-wide. Elspeth highlighted the great experiences for members and our work as a group in the industry. Elspeth asked for help on the Membership Selection Committee. Kristina Howard and Denise O'Brien both volunteered to join the selection committee.

Elspeth highlighted the September 2019 LA Trip to FootageFest put on by AMCUP and Lola Clips. 15% of the membership is interested in attending. Nancy Marcotte is working on some really great tours for the group. VRSC/ARAC is being granted booth space "gratis" at the FootageFest show.

Elspeth asked for input about a venue for the spring 2020 AGM. Suggestion is to go to Quebec City. Discussion tabled to Other Business.

Elspeth reminded members that last year's 4-part workshop series and music clearances seminar are on the website.

Elspeth reminded that VRSC/ARAC has a medical and dental plan and that 10% of members currently take advantage.

Elspeth highlighted the Getty cocktail party on June 13th. All are invited.

FINANCIAL REPORT – KELLEY FRY

Kelly Fry reviewed the 2018 financial statements. Spending is higher by about \$2000 more than the year previous. About \$8100 in the bank account. Kelly reminded everyone we do not have an audited report, rather an accountant overseer statement. The Barbara Sears Fund was used last year to help fund 5 lottery bursaries to members on the trip to Vancouver AGM in 2018. Kelly noted that e-transfer payments have gone up and are saving the group money in fees.

REPORT FROM QUEBEC - NANCY MARCOTTE

We have now 30 members in the Quebec chapter, which is about the same as last year.

We have continued the tradition of doing a X mas party in November each year.

We have had a cocktail hosted by Getty where almost 20 members showed up and where Elspeth was present.

No workshop were done at RIDMS this year but Sophie Moreau represented our group at a workshop lawyer Remy Khouzam and RIDM board member did on law of images

ATELIER #2 - La loi des images Lundi 12 novembre @ 14h00

Cinémathèque québécoise (Salle Norman-McLaren)

We had a visit/tour at Archives nationales du Québec where we were able to ask all our questions about their online digital collection

Still trying to organize with Ragnhild at the NFB a workshop of Visual research on Augmented and Virtual reality) where big creators should be present such as Hughes Sweenie from NFB but also independents

No one from our organization volunteered as a jury for the Gemeaux. You need to be a member of the Academy and not all our members are. I will follow up once we know the nominees to be sure that none of our members were left behind and to announce on our social platforms the names of the ones in nomination.

Quebec members are proposing a VRSC/ARAC AGM in Quebec City next year.

FACEBOOK REPORT – ELIZABETH KLINCK

Elizabeth continues to use the social media platform to share industry-related stories and member achievements. She reminded everyone to help keep it engaging.

TWITTER REPORT – DENISE O'BRIEN

After 2 years, we have 580 followers – a small growth from last year. There are 26,000 impressions on our posts. She reminded everyone to post member content.

UPDATES ON THE RATES SURVEY AND DEAL MEMO TEMPLATE

Elsbeth shared results of the 2018 anonymous membership survey on rates for Visual Research. The results are so diverse, it is a struggle to pull it together into a concise document. The next step is to make it more readable as a guide. Sonja Carr offered to take a look at the data. Request to set a deadline for end of June will be cut off to add details to the survey. Discussion about publishing a fee range on the website. General consensus is to share experience but not money.

Thank yous to Mary Rose MacLachlan and Chris Uhlig for updating the Archival Sources spreadsheet with preferred rate data.

Nancy Marcotte and Willa Marcus will be working to have a sample “Deal Memo” template for members to have in their back pocket to help protect us. Clauses can be useful to help us negotiate. They will also produce a document for members about what should or should not be in a contract agreement for hire. Professionalizing our organization and expressing our services is important. Willa also stressed the need for work satisfaction for members. Elizabeth Klinck added that credits are important for our members.

Discussion about definition of VR vs. Archival producer. Suggestion to add this to our FAQ document on the website. Elspeth thanked Willa for donating her time.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM – ELSPETH DOMVILLE

No further workshops are planned until the fall 2019, but there is a tour planned to the Ontario Archives for October 5th at noon. Elspeth called out for other topic ideas to add to the already long list of workshop ideas. Some suggestions included:

Virtual Reality types of work and clearances required. This might link well with the NFB workshop Nancy is working on.

Case Study conversation following up on today’s Fair Dealing workshops

How to develop an archive budget. Elspeth adding this to the FAQ on the website too

Workshop and Speakers List. No VR presented this year’s LIFT workshop on research. Suggestion to create PPT template cover basics of VR 101. Kelley volunteered to take on the template.

FOIA & PIRs topic

Understanding Legalese in agreements and releases

Getty workshop on their license

PODCASTS REPORT – PAMELA GRIMAUD (read by Elspeth)

The inaugural VRSC podcast was recorded, sealed and delivered in April of 2019. Elizabeth Klinck kindly sat for an interview via Skype, answering questions about her experience as researcher for the 2016 documentary, Eat that Question: Frank Zappa in His Own Words. If you heard it, you may have noticed that the interview clocked in at close to 50 minutes — every minute of it fascinating! The planning took longer, with the idea first broached at the 2016 AGM and finally getting underway in the winter of 2018.

Thanks to the VRSC, I attended the TIFSA Podcast Festival in November, 2017. Panelists included Canadian and American podcasters who addressed their experiences with podcasting, followed by an audience Q&A. The sessions weren't as instructional as I had hoped, but the event was inspiring and a lot of fun. I came away with recommendations for such basic equipment as microphones and editing programs. Further tips were kindly (and very patiently) shared via email by VRSC member Joel Elliott, too.

Microphones: after much researching of where I could borrow or rent one, I bought one of my own, an Audio Technica AT2005 USB. More unnerving than finding the right mic was getting myself up to speed on podcast editing. Ultimately, Kate Lingley stepped up to the plate and took care of the editing, going beyond adjusting sound levels and banishing extraneous noise to surpass herself by adding music!

If there is to be more podcast episodes, my recommendation would be that a team of 3-4 VRSC members join forces. Kate and I came up with topic ideas — good ones, we think — but since interviewing, editing and getting up to speed on podcast basics like posting, distributing etc takes time, the ideal solution is to have a committed group pulling together to make it happen. I stress committed because members expressing an interest in participating, beginning and then dropping off, did delay this first episode by a few of months.

A final heartfelt thank-you to Elizabeth, Kate and Joel for helping get this episode off the ground!

Hello to all of you and best wishes for a wonderful time together in Toronto,

Pamela

Podcast Discussion. Catherine Machacado expressed interest. Suggestion about short case studies. Interviewing people who worked on archival films; ie Peter Jackson, Serge Bromberg.

VOTE TO ACCEPT THE REPORTS PRESENTED TODAY

Erin Chisholm, moved “to accept the all the reports as presented into the official minutes.” Michelle Demeyere seconded. All in favour

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion about hosting the 2020 AGM in Quebec City. Talk about one night in Montreal and one night in QC. Nancy Marcotte will be looking at sponsorship for facilities. Quorum should not be a problem. Possible financial assistance from Barbara Sears Fund again?

Kelley Frey suggested a portion of annual education funds be designated to workshops and bursaries of the AGM. Motion: That the Barbara Sears Fund make an annual contribution to VRSC/ARAC main account to a maximum of \$1500 for education activities and workshops.” Second. Sonja Carr.
All in favour.

Nancy Marcotte moved” The spring 2020 AGM of the VRSC/ARAC be held in Quebec City.” Michelle Demeyere seconds. All in favour.

Further discussion about bursaries for LA and the AGM tabled. General consensus is yes we should offer these. The Board members will look at this further and report back.

Willa Marcus commented about CAVCO rules. Suggests that VRSC/ARAC has some authority to bring issues forward in the industry and use its voice to address these types of things. Question raised about whether doing so would affect our incorporation papers – and our non-profit status. Erin Chisholm will check.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn by Laura Blaney Seconded by Michelle Demeyere
The Chair officially adjourned the AGM at 5:30 PM.