



2021 Virtual Annual General Meeting
Centre for Spiritual Living Kelowna
March 21, 2021

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m. by Chairperson of the Board, Amanda Pope. She welcomed everyone to the second Annual General meeting held in this format. There were 31 persons in attendance, plus 5 proxy votes held, and two guests. The attendance list is attached.
2. Opening treatment was given by Dr. Deborah Gordon.
3. Sergeant at Arms Jade Harms reported that we had reached quorum (being that more than the required 25 persons were in attendance). Amanda outlined the method which would be used for voting.
4. Amanda Pope moved that the agenda for the 2021 AGM be approved as corrected, to indicate that the minutes of the 2020 meeting would be approved. Seconded by Rev. Barb Samuel. Carried unanimously.
5. Amanda Pope moved that the minutes from the 2020 AGM be approved as circulated. Seconded by Laura Green. Carried unanimously.
6. Amanda Pope moved to ratify the 2021 membership and to strike the previous year's membership from the roll. Seconded by Terri Perrin. Carried unanimously.
7. Amanda Pope introduced and thanked the 2020-2021 Board of Trustees for their service during a challenging year. She paid tribute to two members whose terms have completed, and thanked Barb Duffy, Secretary, and wisdom-keeper, long term member, past chairperson, and former bookkeeper, Rev. Diane Hockey.
8. Financial reports for 2020 were shared by Derek Hinchliffe. As these had been circulated with the agenda, he reviewed a few highlights: although revenues dropped by 18%, expenses dropped by 17%; 80% of our revenue came through our offertory, and he expressed tremendous gratitude for the Conscious Givers, who contributed 70% of our overall income, giving us financial stability in these uncertain times. We also received Federal Government wage subsidy provided during COVID. Derek requested volunteers to complete our 2019 audit, deferred due to COVID, and our 2020 audit as well.
9. Bylaw changes - Amanda Pope reported that Irene Kowalchuk had recommended ways to tidy up the Bylaws, which contain several typos and have a few non substantive points which lack clarity. These items are ready to present at a Special General Meeting to be called in September for this purpose, and Amanda asked for volunteers to assist with preparing Irene's suggestions for this special meeting.

10. Board of Trustees – President’s report was presented by Amanda Pope, who began by highlighting the tremendous challenges faced and met by our Senior Minister, Dr. Deborah Gordon during this monumental year. She expressed our deep gratitude for Dr. Deb’s continuous and steadfast service to our community.
March 15, 2020 was our last in person service due to COVID, and within a week, the team known as “The Sunday Six” [Dr. Deb Gordon, Dr. Kenn Gordon, Rev. Barb Samuel, Neal Klassen, Amanda Pope and Derek Hinchliffe] began broadcasting livestream services from the Pandosy Peace Centre for 51 of the past weeks (40 services in 2020). Other highlights of the year included virtual discussion groups, AGM, grief groups, Manifesting Health group, meditations, Thursday morning gatherings, and post service gatherings, as well as one in person service. With a grant from the Hefferlin Foundation, much needed upgraded technology was purchased to support and professionalize our services. It became necessary to create a new part time position: Website and Online Communication Coordinator, filled by Annie Zed. A shout out went to Judy Kerr and Giles Prudhomme who maintain the Pandosy Peace Centre. We continued to work on the community plan outlined at the last AGM and are now looking at creating a position which would include the very necessary community pieces as well as some administrative parts, as a partner for our Senior Minister. Our online community has expanded around the globe, and this will provide many new opportunities for us to create a world that works for everyone alongside in person services in the future.
11. Spiritual Leader’s address was given by Dr. Deborah Gordon. She expressed gratitude for the rest of the Sunday Six who have tirelessly created services every week all year, especially the technological skills of Amanda Pope. She reviewed some of the constraints that may face us when are able to gather in person again, although we are definitely planning some outdoor events this summer. Dr. Deb reiterated the challenges faced by not knowing what is coming ahead for us, but that we are still achieving our mission with a strong community. She wants to create a “reinvention” team and is seeking volunteers to try to catch what is wanting to come forward. She closed by thanking everyone who has “stuck together” with us this year and mentioned our Conscious Givers. Joanne Schlachter is on leave and VIBE is currently in hiatus, and she ended by thanking Barb and Rev. Diane for the service they have given. As they are also both leaving the Finance Committee, Dr. Deb asked for any interested volunteers for that committee.
12. Nominating Committee report was given by Rev. Melody Bailey, who acknowledged the members of her committee: Fred Blunden, Irene Kowalski and Dr. Deb Gordon. One member whose term has expired has agreed to stand for reelection: Derek Hinchliffe. In addition, Ann Lotwin and Margaret Timuss have agreed to stand for election. As there were no other nominations from the floor, it was moved by Jade Harms and seconded by Rev. Barb Samuel that nominations be closed. No abstentions or objections were raised, so the new members were declared acclaimed unanimously.
13. Rev. Melody bailey introduced the 2021-2022 Board of Trustees: Rev. Melody Bailey, Fred Blunden, Annie Zalesak, Amanda Pope, Derek Hinchliffe, Ann Lotwin and Margaret Timuss.

14. Building a Thriving Spiritual Community and Living our Principles in a Virtual World: Amanda Pope shared some thoughts from a presentation she and Annie Zed had done at the CSL Annual Conference. Previously, all our marketing efforts were to bring people to in person services, and to encourage them to take classes. Now, our whole effort is towards living and teaching the spiritual principles through our social media, livestream services, online discussions and? Annie spoke about what we can do to be engaged online as members of our virtual community: our livestream services and social media are on Facebook. Our official Facebook page is our business page, and comments and feedback are welcomed here. Our Facebook Group page is more discussion oriented, and for connection opportunities.

15. Open Discussion was led by Dr. Deborah Gordon, and she began by encouraging everyone to participate in our social media on a very regular basis to make our online presence soar.

When questioned about whether we need to renew our Conscious Giving, it was stated that we do not, but more options and opportunities for supporting the Centre are coming soon.

When asked whether Facebook is our only social media platform, and what alternatives there are for people who are uncomfortable on Facebook, several additional avenues were pointed out: You Tube, weekly email, Meet UP, the two weekly blogs, and a presence is maintained on Instagram. Facebook was chosen because it is the biggest and gives us a page that's like a website for us, as well as the group page for more discussion and of course, the livestream option for services. A query about expanding the Pandosy Peace Centre reminded us of the challenges with zoning and parking.

Dr. Deb closed by expressing her heartfelt gratitude for everyone being present at the meeting and commented on how nice it was to see people on the other side of the camera!

16. Dr. Kenn Gordon closed the meeting by congratulating and thanking Dr. Deborah for her heartfelt, dedicated service to the community this year. He commented on how well she managed, when no minister he knows has been trained to serve during a pandemic! He thanked Barb, and especially Rev. Diane for her long and dedicated service to the Center over the years, and commended Judy Kerr and Giles Prudhomme on their tender care for the Peace Centre. He also thanked and welcomed the practitioners and staff ministers who will be adding to upcoming services in addition to serving the community over the year.

He went on to outline how the pandemic proves the principle that once you start doing something, all that is needed will come to you. Even after the pandemic, ministry will be changed forever as new partnerships and ways of offering services and classes emerge. He honored those he serves with on Sundays and acknowledged the ongoing presence of those attending. He closed by saying that "loving each other" is enough. He then gave a Closing Treatment.

17. Amanda Pope moved to adjourn the 2021 AGM of the Centre for Spiritual Living Kelowna at 3:38 p.m., seconded by Jan Mills.

Recorded by Barb Duffy