

## **Minutes of the 2014 International Costumers' Guild Annual Board Meeting**

**April 25, 2014 – Toronto, Ontario, Canada**

Convened: 9:07 AM

Recessed: 10:55 AM

Re-convened: 11:34 AM

Adjourned: 11:36 AM

### **In Attendance**

Philip Gust (Pres.), Aurora Celeste (V.P.), Jeanine Swick (Treas.), Kathe Gust (Rec. Sec), Pierre Pettinger (Parl.), Joni Brill, Sarah Richardson, Emanuel Henault, Jean-Luc Larose, Bruce Mai, Elaine Sims, Kevin Roche, Byron Connell, Stacey Feldman, Michele Jaye Solomon, Henry Osier

Parliamentarian declares quorum. Ratified by the President.

There were no emendations of error corrections proposed for the minutes. Motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting in Aurora, CO by Byron Connell. Seconded – Henry Osier. Passed with no opposition or abstentions.

### **President's Report on the State of the ICG**

Gem State Costumers is the newest chapter of the ICG with 17 members. Their current president, Tonya Aldofson, is running for Corresponding Secretary of the ICG.

ICG has a new website hosting service which makes it possible for the ICG to offer free website hosting to our chapters. Some chapters have already taken advantage of this, and others plan to do so.

A new Arts and Sciences fund has been created and the board has voted to name it the Marty Gear Costuming Arts and Sciences Fund. It will make it possible for the organization to offer grants to ICG members for projects or activities that advances the art and science of costuming and benefits the costuming community as a whole or a local costuming community.

The archive has continued to promote the gallery and create intriguing projects based on the material in the archive and is making it accessible to the broader community in a number of ways. The archive is a true gem of the ICG and we should all be grateful for the stewardship and innovation Pierre, Bruce and Nora bring to the work of archiving our history.

The 2015 focus of the President will be on new chapters and affiliations. He will be looking what is involved in promoting ICG, and training and documentation for our incoming board members at the chapter level.

Kevin Roche stated that chapter Treasurers need more information on how taxes work in order to be more effective at their job.

## **Officer Reports**

Aurora Celeste (VP) – nothing to report.

Kathe Gust (Rec. Sec’y) – nothing to report.

Jeanine Swick (Treas.) – ICG has 17 chapters with 403 members, 21 of those belong to more than one chapter. Chicon 7 made a donation to the ICG Archive Fund after their successful conference.

Archives – will report in the general meeting.

Arts and Sciences Fund– will report in the general meeting.

## **Chapter Reviews and Questions**

Question from Bruce Mai – what happens if a chapter misses GEL deadlines. How can they re-instate?

Elaine Sims replied – She is now working with Bruce MacDermott on GEL and will help chapters get up to speed with it and remain there. A group purchase of Quickbooks software has been arranged and will be given for free to the GEL chapters. This software can produce the reports needed for the IRS and should simplify the GEL filings for everyone. If your chapter wants to join the US tax exempt status for GEL, you need to be in touch with Elaine so as to get the reports done by July 31, 2014.

Follow up question from Aurora Celeste – Are there templates ready to use?

Elaine -There are templates and samples of the required documents on the website.

Greater Columbia chapter passed on thanks from Balticon for the ICG contributions to their Marty Gear memorial webpage. Jeanine Swick asked whether we have copies of the material in the archive and on the ICG website. The answer is that we do have this material since we supplied it to Balticon. Marty also has a memorial on The Marty Gear Costuming Arts and Sciences Fund pages.

Aurora Celeste suggested that we send out official press releases to SMOFs about Marty and the creation of the new fund. Some of them may want to donate. Phil Gust responded that there will be ongoing fund raising efforts for both the Archive and the Marty Gear Fund from individuals and businesses.

## **New Business**

### **New business of recognizing Special Interest Groups**

Discussion of a proposed change to the Standing Rules was initiated. A draft proposal for standing rule 32 was circulated which proposed the creation of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) as distinct from geographically located chapters.

Jeanine Swick offered comment that SIGs should have a non-voting rep to the board. Aurora Celeste suggested that each can request a current board representative from the voting body who is a member of the SIG to represent them. Kevin Roche suggested that if they have no current board members in the SIG, then they should be able to recruit one. Phil Gust said he believes that the president could appoint one for those who have none in the SIG in question.

Henry Osier wondered whether the Armed Costumers Guild would need to be reclassified. The Parliamentarian is of the opinion that it need not reclassify since it was largely a location based chapter, but that they might add a SIG if they chose to do so.

Michele Jaye Solomon moved that the board should adopt the standing rule 32 as written. Seconded – Elaine Sims. Passed with no opposition or abstentions.

Henry Osier moved that further discussion be postponed, in the interest of not all board members being present at the meeting, and moved to the Board’s online discussion list so all could participate. Seconded – Margaret Decker. Passed with no opposition or abstentions.

Point of order by Byron Connell – Is this move to discuss being requested by the President or a petitioner? Clarification: the original motivation resulted from an application of member Lisa Ashton and others for a non-geographic, interest-based chapter. That document is available on the front table.

#### **New business of review of affiliation rules**

Costuming groups who might consider affiliating with the ICG often have different membership and dues structures than ours. This has been a barrier in several cases recently, especially for more established groups. The President is seeking three or four volunteers to work with Aurora Celeste investigating alternative methods that might allow them to affiliate without causing a major loss of funds to either group. Margaret Decker, Stacey Feldman, Elaine Sims have volunteered to serve. Pierre Pettinger will be an ex-officio member of the group

#### **New business of motion to officially thank Chicon 7**

A motion by Byron Connell to adopt a resolution to thank Chicon 7 for its generous support of the ICG Archives, to be sent to Dave McCarty. Chicon 7 offered to consider a grant/donation if ICG would make a formal request. Upon the request being made, they confirmed a \$1000 donation to the Archives. Jeanine Swick or Pierre Pettinger know how to contact Mr. McCarty if an address is needed.

The board placed itself in recess at 10:55

The general meeting began at 10:39 AM and ran until 11:33 AM (minutes are separate)  
The President reconvened the board meeting at 11:34 AM.

#### **Adoption of Slate of Officers**

There was a motion by Byron Connell to adopt the slate of officers approved by the members in the General Meeting as stated. Seconded - Elaine Sims. Passed with no opposition or abstentions.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Byron Connell. Seconded - Elaine Sims. Passed with no opposition or abstentions. Meeting adjourned at 11:36 AM by the President.

## **Minutes of the 2014 International Costumers' Guild Annual Members Meeting**

**April 25, 2014 – Toronto, Ontario, Canada**

Convened 10:39 AM

Adjourned 11:33 AM

The meeting was called to order at 10:39 AM

Copies of the agenda and previous minutes were distributed. There were no emendations of error corrections proposed for the minutes. Motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting in Aurora, CO by Jill Eastlake. Seconded – Carole Parker. Passed with no opposition or abstentions.

Call for proxies. Proxies were turned in to Jeanine Swick to verify.

### **Officer Reports**

#### **President's Report on the State of the ICG**

ICG has a new website hosting service which makes it possible for the ICG to offer free website hosting to our chapters. Some chapters have already taken advantage of this, and others plan to do so.

Gem State Costumers is the newest chapter of the ICG with 17 members.

A new Arts and Sciences fund has been created and the board has voted to name it The Marty Gear Costuming Arts and Sciences Fund. It will make it possible for the organization to offer grants to ICG members for projects or activities that advances the art and science of costuming and benefits the costuming community as a whole or a local costuming community.

The archive has continued to promote the gallery and create intriguing projects based on the material in the archive and is making it accessible to the broader community in a number of ways.

GEL continues and Bruce MacDermott and Elaine Sims are putting in place some things that should make it easier for chapters to participate in it.

The 2015 focus of the President will be on supporting out 17 chapters and seeking new chapters and affiliations. He will be looking ways to promote ICG, and provide better training and documentation for our incoming board members at the chapter level. He will also continue to explore ways the ICG can offer more benefit for chapters and members.

### **Officer Reports**

Aurora Celeste (VP) – will report later in this meeting under committees.

Kathe Gust (Rec. Sec'ty) – nothing to report.

Jeanine Swick (Treas.) – ICG has 17 chapters with 403 members, 21 of those belong to more than one chapter. Chicon 7 made a donation to the ICG after their successful conference.

## **Committee Reports**

**Membership Benefits Committee** – chair Aurora Celeste would like to discuss six recommendations from her committee later in this meeting, after the other reports.

**The Marty Gear Costuming Arts and Sciences Fund** – this new fund is currently lead by Byron Connell and Jeanine Swick. There is documentation on the website. Grants can be applied for by any member who meets the criteria. There will be fund raising efforts after the IRS confirms the fund's tax free status so that donations will be deductible. The President mentions that once approval is granted, all of 2014 will be covered and a committee is in place to evaluate grant requests. The President thanked Byron and Jeanine for their service to the community by working to get this new fund started.

**Archives Committee** – Nora Mai reports that the gallery is back up and thanks Phil Gust for getting it moved to the new host and working again. Photo loading can resume. Last year approximately 4000 photos from the Los Angeles Science Fiction Society archives were scanned into our collection and the originals returned to them. There have also been several small donations from other photographers. The archives Facebook page has generated 521 "likes" since its inception.

Bruce and Nora Mai have begun producing a new card game called "Struts & Buts" on behalf of the Archive. Small packs of cards are available at this meeting. There is a Facebook page for updates. Collect the cards to play the game. Byron Connell is a rare card, if you get him hang on to it.

Bruce Mai reports there are new videos and more being planned. The archive will give several panels at Toronto. They have also acquired a Betamax machine and can convert that format if you have any old tapes you care to donate.

**Newsletter** – Carole Parker will be stepping down after the next issue. There was a rumor of a possible new editor from the MACS membership. Support for the new editor has been promised by the current Publications Committee. The last issue of International Costumer under Carole's editorship will be the May/June 2014 issue.

## **Membership Benefits Committee Discussion**

The six ideas the committee presented are:

1. Tech support to increase online presence – enthusiasm is not particularly high for this one.
2. ICG lending library – books to circulate to chapters on a 3-6 month rotation. The issues are vulnerability of loss of the material, cost of shipping back and forth. Logistics need more work.
3. Student memberships – a committee has been formed and will explore this.
4. Teaching scholarships - exploration is ongoing and covers issues of who can request, whether webinars qualify, what type of teaching qualifies, how does this impact our 501-3C status.
5. Making various promotional materials available online to members and chapters.
6. Acquiring more status with other conventions, such as Anime, by providing more material on how to run masquerades – such as revising old handbooks and forms and offering them as e-books or print on demand. Comments from the audience warned of potential backlash reaction

if the ICG is seen as wanting to “take over” this area. It is possible that creating a “resource area” might be considered less threatening. Henry Osier agreed that caution is needed in how things are presented, but that the idea is a good one. Bruce Mai suggests a Facebook page may be a good outreach tool.

### **Selection of Officers for 2014-15**

The nominations were read.

Philip Gust -- President (CA). Philip enjoys sci-fi and fantasy costuming, and has particular interests in props, special effects, and prosthetic makeup. He also costumes in historical periods, and has a fatal attraction to difficult fabrics.

Aurora Celeste -- Vice President (PA). Aurora's costuming interests are all over, but her passion is reproducing costumes, mostly sci-fi and fantasy movies and tv shows, anime and manga, and Joseph Michael Linsner's Dawn character.

Jeanine Swick -- Treasurer (MA). Jeanine's work is "period inspired" rather than historically accurate, incorporating her own creativity. She costumed in high school for theater, and later for her own teens. She sells at regional renfaires, cons, SCA, and belly dance events

Tonya Adlofson -- Corresponding Secretary (ID). Tonya has done costumes for stage and screen as well as private collectors, charities, schools, and non-profit organizations. She is well-versed in everything from wigs to shoes to packable props.

Kathe Gust - Recording Secretary (CA). Kathe enjoys clothing for many historical periods, and various sci-fi and fantasy genre. She has been sewing since childhood, and began theatrical costuming for a university class.

There were no additional nominations from the floor. Kevin Roche moved to accept and affirm the slate as read. Seconded- Henry Osier. Motion carried. None abstained. None opposed.

### **Announcements**

Kevin Roche reminds the meeting that WorldCon London is still seeking ideas for the costuming track of that convention. He also hoped to organize a mass shipment of costumes and luggage from Boston in for the event and requested interested parties to contact him. This later proved to be impossible to do.

Jill Eastlake announced that she is recruiting for Sasquan (WorldCon 2015), in Spokane WA. Anyone interested in events please contact her. Carole Parker is also recruiting for this convention. Website: <http://sasquan.org/committee-list/>

Motion by Kevin Roche to adjourn the meeting. Second – Carole Parker. Passed with no opposition or abstentions. Meeting adjourned at 11:33 AM.