



## MAVLI Annual General Meeting Minutes 2016

Red River College  
E205 – 2055 Notre Dame Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Saturday, March 19, 2016  
9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### Members:

Boscow, Cindy  
Braun, Amy  
Castellano-Sinclair, Carmela  
Dumont, Shaina  
Dyck, Jodi  
Fong, Elaine  
Iftody, Alana  
Janzen, Terry  
Kroeker, Chad  
Langes, Jane  
Loewen, Danica  
MacDonald, Mandy  
MacNeil, Tania  
Purll, Cheryl  
Rasing, Dianna  
Rogowski, Tessa  
Rutherford, Brenda  
Smith, Libby  
Stout, Diana  
Toews, Brittany  
Wilson, Hali

### Proxies:

An, Arleen  
Badger, Candice  
Demers, Hubert  
Duré, Scotty  
Furer, Monica  
Hildebrand, Dawn-Marie  
Hummelt, Erika  
Knox, Jodi  
Mauws-Muirhead, Bianne  
McDougall, Lauralee  
Morden, Christina  
Rhona, Marlo  
Saunders, Jan  
Turner, Jennifer  
Vitucci-Spencer, Josie  
Wiebe, Gordon

### Exemptions:

Gessner, Meaghan  
Horvath, Jennifer  
St. Yves, Suzanne

### Non- Members:

None

**1. Call to Order: 10:10 am****2. Welcome, Housekeeping, and House Rules**

- 2.1. Restrooms are located down the hall.
- 2.2. Parking is free for the day.
- 2.3. Thank you to Terry Janzen for being the parliamentarian for our proceedings.
- 2.4. There will be a scheduled break from 10:45 - 11:15 am for the MAVLI raffle ticket draw which will take place in The Cave.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

- 3.1. The following has been added to the announcements:
  - 3.1.1. Winnipeg Church of the Deaf Bake Sale Announcement.

Motion to accept the agenda with the addition.

**Motion:** Jenn Horvath

**Seconded:** Jodi Dyck

**Carried**

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes**

- 4.1. Dianna Rasing's name is misspelled in various places throughout the minutes.
- 4.2. AVLIC Name Change Committee Survey:
  - 4.2.1. Terry Janzen asked for more information regarding AVLIC's consideration of a name change as was brought forth by Patrick Boudreault during his Keynote speech at AVLIC 2014. Mr. Boudreault highlighted that the term Visual language interpreter is not something that is used by the Deaf community and does not reflect accurately the full scope of the work that interpreters provide. Cindy Boscow responded with the following information: A committee has been struck to discuss possible naming alternatives. In doing research, it was discovered that most organizations use the terms signed language or sign language interpreters. The committee has developed two surveys and are currently in the process of having the information made available in both ASL and LSQ. AVLIC typically does not cover the cost for LSQ interpretation and therefore the committee is seeking volunteers who would be able to provide the services on a pro-bono basis. The two surveys will be sent out in the near future, one requesting ideas for the name and a second to address the financial commitment that may be involved. More discussions will likely be had at the AVLIC 2016 conference in Fredericton, NB. Once the survey results have been compiled, there may or may not be changes made to the name of AVLIC and/or MAVLI.

**5. Approval of the Annual General Meeting Minutes - March 21st, 2015**

- 5.1. Motion to approve Minutes with the corrections to Dianna Rasing's name.

**Moved:** Brenda Rutherford

**Seconded:** Dianna Rasing

**Carried**

**6. Executive, Committee, Representative, and Standing Committees' Reports**

- 6.1. President.....Cindy Boscow  
 6.2. Vice President.....Dianna Rasing  
 6.3. Treasurer.....Leanne Muldrew  
 6.4. Secretary.....Tania MacNeil

- 6.5. Motion to accept the Executive reports as disseminated.

**Moved:** Shaina Dumont

**Seconded:** Mandy MacDonald **Carried**

- 6.6. Fundraising..... Cheryl Purll and Libby Smith  
 6.7. MAVLI Education Committee.....Jodi Dyck  
 6.8. Membership.....Shaina Dumont  
 6.9. Newsletter.....Vacant  
 6.10. Professional Development.....Mandy MacDonald  
 6.11. Public Relations.....Amy Braun and Hali Wilson  
 6.12. AEIP Student Representative.....Diana Stout and Marena Wiens

- 6.13. Motion to accept the committee reports as disseminated.

**Moved:** Dianna Rasing

**Seconded:** Jodi Dyck

**Carried**

6.13.1. Terry Janzen thanked the student representatives for their work with MAVLI and emphasized the importance of their role in MAVLI's structure.

6.13.2. Cindy Boscow added that MAVLI very much appreciates the student's commitment given their busy AEIP schedule.

**7. Old Business**

**7.1.1. AVLIC 2016 Conference Fundraising:** Cheryl Purll and Libby Smith organized the fundraising raffle. MAVLI spent \$1139.50 for the TV and 2 shadow boxes (one was broken and needed to be replaced), received two donations, one from ECCOE and one from Sorenson. There were many, many hours spent to make the raffle a success. MAVLI set up booths at 10 venues and had 34 members donate their time. There was varying success depending on the location, U of M and the Forks were not revenue makers, however, RRC was the most successful, thank you to the students! The revenue generated from the raffle is unofficially \$4,348.50. It was an advantage for MAVLI to be able to fundraise outside of our interpreting and Deaf communities to have access to a greater number of people. During those interactions with the larger community, it was noted that most people do not immediately understand the term Visual Language Interpreter and often our members at the booths would clarify with signed language interpreter.

**Action:** The Webmaster and the Fundraising Committee to work together to create a Survey Monkey to gauge the membership's interest in various types of fundraising strategies and to assess the level commitment that can be anticipated from the membership for the next fundraising activity.

**7.2. Bylaws**

**7.2.1.** MAVLI struck an adhoc-committee a year ago to review and update the current bylaws. The committee consisted of Cindy Boscow, Monica Furer, Chad Kroeker, Tania MacNeil, Dianna Rasing and Josie Vitucci-Spencer. A number of meetings were held to discuss the revisions, ensuring compliance with Canada's Not-For-Profit Act and AVLIC's recently ratified bylaws. During the process, 76 motions were identified, some were simply renumbered or had minor wording changes, and a few had more substantive modifications. The proposed changes were sent out to members for their perusal 30 days prior to the AGM.

7.2.1.1. Terry Janzen requested that some of the motions with more substantive changes be identified to the members in attendance.

7.2.1.2. **2016-9** is the addition of a Subscription Membership category. This was already in use by MAVLI but had not previously been outlined in the bylaws.

7.2.1.3. **2016 -58** is the change from the current 15 days notice for a general meeting to a proposed 30 days notice.

7.2.1.4. **2016-59** addressed the number of votes for quorum at member's meetings. The current bylaws states:

"The presence in person of at least five members who are eligible to vote and who do not hold positions on The Board, and a quorum of The Board shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for a general meeting."

The proposed bylaw states,

"A Quorum at any meeting of the members shall consist of 20 percent of the total number of members with voting rights (Active and Student categories), of which 51% must be active members."

The committee felt that 5 members was too low and that it should be increased.

Motion to exclude **2016-59** from the omnibus motion to accept all bylaw changes.

**Moved:** Cindy Boscow

**Seconded:** Brittany Toews

**Carried**

Omnibus motion to accept the proposed bylaw document with the exclusion of **2016-59**.

**Moved:** Cindy Boscow

**Seconded:** Jane Langes

**Carried**

7.2.1.5. Terry Janzen acknowledged the amount of work that the committee did to complete the bylaws.

7.2.1.6. **2016-59** Discussion: Shaina Dumont felt that the word active needed to be capitalized to make the bylaw clearer. Terry Janzen inquired as to whether this was attainable for the AGM. The new requirements would equal about 24 people given our current membership numbers, the board felt this was appropriate.

Motion to accept **2016-59** of the proposed bylaws with the word active capitalized.

**Moved:** Terry Janzen

**Seconded:** Cindy Boscow

**Carried**

**8. Fundraiser Draw:** The draw was conducted in the Cave and the winners were:

- First Prize: Rudy H
- Second Prize: Robin Shore
- Third Prize: Dennis Simcoali

**9. New Business**

**9.1. Newsletter Discussions:** Cindy Boscow mentioned that we currently do not have a Newsletter chair, MAVLI has solicited feedback from other Chapters to see how they manage publications. It has been noted that some are doing 3 newsletters per year, others have online publications ranging from very in-depth newsletters to more modest ones. One chapter has moved the responsibility to the PR committee and they update membership regarding the board activities. Another chapter is not publishing anything.

- 9.1.1.** Terry Janzen noted that it would be important to think about how the website can be utilized and have a separate link to submissions from the membership.
- 9.1.2.** Brenda Rutherford recommended that submissions be posted to the website once they are vetted.
- 9.1.3.** Mandy MacDonald stated that MAVLI could have a designated person for the vetting process (Suzanne St. Yves and Judy McGuirk have done this in the past).
- 9.1.4.** Dianna Rasing stated that the information could be published online in a separate link possibly called Member's Submissions.
- 9.1.5.** Chad Kroeker mentioned the possibility of a blog with comments permitted.
- 9.1.6.** Mandy MacDonald noted that the comments can be vetted before they are displayed to ensure appropriateness. The comments could be limited after a specific time frame.
- 9.1.7.** Suzanne St. Yves liked the idea of having comments permitted to allow for a dialogue on the topic.
- 9.1.8.** Terry Janzen replied to the fact that although AVLIC's newsletter is only accessible to members, he felt that the information should be available to all who would be interested.

**Action:** For Board to re-evaluate the position of Newsletter chair and to explore ways to get information and articles on the MAVLI website.

**9.2. MAVLI Mentorship:** Student mentorship is set up through our PR portfolio to pair students with interpreters. There was discussion about whether it should be extend to recent grads and also our general membership for setting specific mentoring, ex. religious settings.

- 9.2.1.** Cindy Boscow indicated that there could be the possibility for the membership to sign up with their area of interest and then MAVLI could seek an appropriate mentor.
- 9.2.2.** Terry Janzen said that it could be an informal process that would not be constitutional and that if interpreters are interested in the program it does not necessarily need to be tied to membership status (consider exempt status interpreters and students who are not currently members). It could be treated as an outreach opportunity, to encourage membership so that we can be inclusive.

- 9.2.3. Dianna Rasing wondered if providing the service without the expectation of membership is fair to our current members.
- 9.2.4. Tessa Rogowski proposed offering a year of mentorship without the obligation of membership and if they would like further mentoring we could request membership status,
- 9.2.5. Shaina Dumont indicated that the Policy and Procedures manual says the mentorship program is a benefit of membership.
- 9.2.6. Brittany Toews liked the idea of a Survey Monkey where interpreters could be indicate the names of mentors and areas of work they would be interested in.
- 9.2.7. Suzanne St. Yves supported the idea that the mentors should be MAVLI members.
- 9.2.8. Other discussion points were that it could be under the Public Relations portfolio but they could delegate to others as required.

**Action:** For the Public Relations chair to set-up a committee to reach out to the membership regarding a revised mentorship program.

#### 10. Nominations: Libby Smith and Jodi Dyck

##### 10.1. Nominations for Vice President:

10.1.1. Meaghan Gessner (Cindy Boscow, Dianna Rasing)

10.1.2. Motion to close nominations for Vice-President.

**Motion:** Jodi Dyck

**Seconded:** Mandy MacDonald

**Carried**

Meaghan Gessner is declared Vice-President by acclamation.

##### 10.2. Nominations for Secretary:

10.2.1. Tania MacNeil (Mandy MacDonald, Dianna Rasing)

10.2.2. Motion to close nominations for Secretary.

**Motion:** Dianna Rasing **Seconded:** Cheryl Purll

**Carried**

Tania MacNeil is declared Secretary by acclamation.

##### 10.3. Nominations for Membership:

10.3.1. Shaina Dumont (Dianna Rasing, Cheryl Purll)

10.3.2. Motion to close nominations for Membership.

**Motion:** Jodi Dyck

**Seconded:** Tessa Rogowski

**Carried**

Shaina Dumont is declared the Membership chair by acclamation.

##### 10.4. Nominations for Professional Development:

10.4.1. Mandy MacDonald (Dianna Rasing, Shaina Dumont)

10.4.2. Motion to close nominations for Professional Development.

**Motion:** Libby Smith

**Seconded:** Tessa Rogowski

**Carried**

Mandy MacDonald is declared the Professional Development chair by acclamation.

**10.5. Nominations for Public Relations:****10.5.1.** Libby Smith (Mandy MacDonald, Dianna Rasing)**10.5.2.** Motion to close nominations for Public Relations.**Motion:** Jodi Dyck**Seconded:** Mandy MacDonald**Carried**

Libby Smith is declared the Public Relations chair by acclamation.

**10.6. Nominations for Newsletter:****10.6.1.** None submitted (Brittany Toews nominated by Cindy Boscow) Brittany declines**10.6.2.** Motion to close nominations for Newsletter (Dianna - Abstains).**Motion:** Libby Smith**Seconded:** Jodi Dyck**Carried**

No accepted nominations; Newsletter Chair will be reviewed by the board.

**11. Appreciation and Acknowledgements:****11.1.** Vice-President Award:

The Vice-President Award acknowledges a member whose actions have benefited MAVLI. Dianna Rasing presented the honours.

The Vice President's award goes to a member of the community who gives back to MAVLI in some way, and I had a very easy time choosing this year's award recipient. She has time and time again, not only this year but in all of her years of work, supported MAVLI, either by volunteering on different committees, supporting our students, supporting parents of Deaf children, and is an all around valuable member and wonderful person. This year in particular she has volunteered many times and many hours at fundraising events (and we've had many!) She's also volunteer interpreted at many meetings that we've had call-outs for, and she was also heavily involved with the MAVLI By-Law committee.

This year's VP Award recipient is Monica Furer. Thank you Monica for all your work and volunteerism this year. MAVLI needs more members like you!

**11.2** President Award:

The President Award acknowledges a board member and their contributions. Cindy Boscow presented the honours.

The President's Award goes to someone who has worked very hard and was also on the bylaw committee. They were roped into being on the MAVLI board and they have recently accepted to continue in their position for a new term. She is a wonderful board member.

This year's President's Award recipient is Tania MacNeil. Thank you.

**12. Confirmation of Acts**

**12.1. Motion:** I, as President, move that all acts, contracts, bylaws, proceedings, appointments, elections and payments enacted, made done or taken by the Directors and Officers of the Manitoba Association of Visual Language Interpreters for the last 2-year term and the same as set out or referred to in the minutes of the Board of Directors or in Financial Statements submitted to this meeting be hereby approved and affirmed.

**Moved:** Cindy Boscow

**Seconded:** Carmela Castellano-Sinclair

**Carried**

**13. Announcements**

**13.1.** Magic Of ASL – MAVLI will be hosting a Magic of ASL evening on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 7:00 - 10:00pm. The evening will include a variety of performances; plays, skits, songs, etc. We will hope to have the drumming group from MSD, mime troupe, DSP students, AEIP students, Interpreters and community members involved in the show. It will be free to all and we will be allowing a community organization to host a popcorn fundraiser at the event. This year, the Youth group will be hosting. If you would like to perform (it doesn't have to be long), please contact Mandy MacDonald. There was some discussion as to whether the show should be interpreted and Terry Janzen mentioned that MAVLI could consider it depending on the content of each individual performance.

**13.2.** PD Events: Sex, Drugs and Rock n' Roll workshop will take place on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at the Irish Club (654 Erin St.) from 7:00-9:00pm.

**13.3.** AVLIC 2016 Conference Ticket Giveaway: We had one recently graduated interpreter express interest, Arleen An has been awarded the conference ticket!

**13.4.** Winnipeg Church of the Deaf -Bake sale: WCD will be having a bake sale on Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Main Floor Lobby at the Deaf Centre Manitoba, 285 Pembina Hwy. Please contact Carol Demianyk if you could like to contribute - caroldemianyk@mymts.net

**14. Thank-you**

**14.1.** Thank you to those who volunteered to be our whisper interpreters today, Tessa Rogowski, Shaina Dumont, Carmela Castellano-Sinclair and Diana Stout.

**14.2.** Thank you to all who helped babysit Olivia today. It was very much appreciated.

**14.3.** Thank you to Terry Janzen for acting as our meeting parliamentarian.

**14.4.** Thank you to Cheryl Purll and Libby Smith for all the hard work they did in organizing the fundraising draw.

**14.5.** Thank you to those who baked to raise money for the AVLIC 2016 conference. We raised \$54.00.

**15. Adjournment – 12:17pm**

**Moved:** Cindy Boscow

**Seconded:** Dianna Rasing

**Carried**