

# Red Press Society

August 8, 2017, 9:30 a.m. PST  
President's home in Mission, B.C.

## Agenda

### Present:

Jess Wind, President  
Dessa Bayrock, Secretary  
Aymee Leake, Treasurer  
Katie Stobbart, Ex Officio

### Absent:

Jessica Milliken, Member-At-Large

1. CALL TO ORDER
  - At 9.47 a.m.
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
  - Everyone approves.
3. APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES
  - Everyone read the minutes. Two members read them in the car on the way here, but that still counts!
  - Minutes will be posted to the website after this meeting.
4. REPORTS
  - 4.1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT
    - Given by: Jess Wind
    - Went to the bank and is now a signer on the RPS account
    - Arranged and attended a meeting with Chris from Memento Mori to organise an event - more details will come up later in this meeting.
    - Met with UFV English Department regarding the Mission Writers' Festival and RPS' role in it, which will also come up later in this meeting.
    - And organized some stuff with Aymee regarding grants... which will come up later in this meeting.
  - 4.2 TREASURER'S REPORT
    - Given by: Aymee Leake
    - Was part of the talk with Memento Mori and worked out some of the finances of the proposed event.

- Still working on reimbursing Tony.
- Making progress on grant work.
- Looked at getting a RPS credit card, but it looks like someone would have to be personally responsible for the credit, and that's not something any of us are able or comfortable to do right now - and it's not really necessary to have a credit card at this point so there's no real reason to force the issue.
- In the coming month we will be paying what we owe EventBrite for the fundraiser, and this will be through PayPal.

RE: Reimbursements

- RE: What we still owe Tony
  - We now have a second signer on the account, which moves us closer to being able to pay him back.
  - But it looks like we can't e-transfer because of the way the system works - two signers are needed to approve it but everyone with access to the account signs in through the same portal. So it looks like this will have to be done through the bank itself.

4.3 RASPBERRY REPORT

Given by: Katie Stobbart

- Because of time and resource limitations right now, the August issue is running late but should be out this week.
- We're taking the summer pretty slowly because that's what we're capable of right now, and that's okay.
  - It is pretty understandable that we're having a slow period, because summer is difficult for most publications, but we need to keep an eye on pumping back up for the fall.
  - And it's difficult to stay energetic about this project, because we've all been working on it for so long, and there is a very real danger of burnout. And we're working through that as best we can.
- The magazine has regular columns coming in, which is good, but running low on feature pieces - and it's hard to run an issue without a "hook".
- The long and the short is that we need more writers - not just columnists but people who can go out and cover stuff.
- It just seems like we've gone from a team of writers to a handful of people.
- Aymee suggests asking high school seniors and chasing them to get new writers - because the average age of people who work at Raspberry is still pretty young.
- And there are ways to limit our scope and work within our means, but it's kind of like shooting ourselves in the foot to cut feature content - because that's the draw.

- We also haven't been getting Fresh Fiction in at all, which is difficult.
  - We have some names and writers in mind to approach to get content.
  - We might also approach Alex to see if he wants help or a break or someone to help push things along in another editorial role.
- Aymee suggests putting out a call for writers and artists, maybe something like a press release?
  - But as Jess notes, it's difficult to look like an attractive place to work when we don't have money to pay them
  - But that said, Jess has also seen a call for writers for another local publication and that seemed pretty successful.
- It would also be great to start selling more ad space, and it looks like Aymee will start to be a pair of boots on the ground to help beat the streets and get some ads in.

## 5. OLD BUSINESS

### 5.1 UPDATE ON RESEARCH COMMITTEE

- Right now, the research committee is pretty focused on grants, so we can just cover that below:

### 5.2 UPDATE ON GRANTS

- Aymee heard back from the financial advisor at Envision, who says there's a way to access a grants tab online through Envision, which runs a community grant, but we haven't been able to access it
- There are a lot of literary grants open right now, including annual grants which we can apply for every year, and we're able to apply for these for Raspberry and also the Writers' Fest.
- It is very likely that we will be applying for a Canadian Council grant on behalf of the Writers' Festival, in partnership with UFV.

### 5.3 UPDATE ON TABLING / PROMO

RE: Abbotsford Airshow

- Katie sent in the contract for the Abbotsford Airshow, after confirming that we do not in fact need insurance or WCB.
- Our passes will be waiting for us at the Airshow office.
- Aymee and Katie and Val are going to table for the entire Airshow, "because why the hell not."
- We still need to look into printing promo materials - brochures, business cards, dummy issues.
- The dummy issues are the real problem because we need someone who will print with a bleed. But it's possible we could just

do it ourselves for one or two issues if we only need a couple of copies.

- We're still on board to have a collaborative painting - Aymee has some large wood which should be big enough to have some fun with.
- Everything is on track with the people who are lending us a tent.

#### 5.4 UPDATE ON RPS SOCIAL MEDIA

- Right now Dessa has control over it, but she's looking to share the power with someone on the ground in the valley who can be more in tune with what needs to be shared.
- We don't need scheduled content - just someone to say "Hey, come see us at this event where we have a table!" and "Check out this sweet new issue!" as appropriate.
- It looks like Katie and / or Jess will get access to it and occasionally post, which is great.
- And Katie might start a Facebook page. Gangbusters.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

### 6.1 Memento Mori Painting Evening

- Basically it's a "Paint Nite"-like event at Memento Mori, where they would donate us the space and we would run the event and reap the profits.
- We can't call it Paint Nite because that's copyrighted, but we have some other ideas. Paint and Ink? Tat and Splat? Paint or Die? Something to do with Memento? What's the Latin word for painting?
- Chris at Memento Mori has been great - some super ideas:
  - Like having a themed painting that ties into whatever company is supplying the libations
  - Like auctioning off the paintings at the end of the night to the attendees and the person who gets the biggest offer for their painting wins a \$200 gift certificate to Memento Mori
- And the studio is super hype about the event, and super hype about hyping it.
- Aymee has numbers but estimating \$1000 profit after expenses (canvases, brushes, paint, paying an instructor).
- Looks like we could get tables from AgRec.

### 6.2 Fraser Valley Writer's Festival

- This is an idea that basically got dropped in our lap, and we all lost our minds in a good way because it's going to be amazing.
- The Mission Writers' Festival is looking to spell off the labour of the festival, and also to widen it out of Mission and into the Fraser Valley as a whole.
- And this came to us from Andrea MacPherson, our UFV English contact

- We started spitballing ideas and before we knew it RPS was the official partner of the Writers' Festival, and it's great.
- There isn't a lot of money in the existing pot, but we have a list of people who have donated in the past, and UFV donates the space. Basically, UFV has the cash, and we have the labour.
- This is wonderful because running a literary festival is literally in the RPS aims and goals and mission statement, and we're able to put our passion to work on an established festival as it transitions into something bigger and better, which lets us ride on the prestige of something established but also shape it into what we've been dreaming of since we were a wee non-non-profit.
- In order for this to happen, we need grants. But because the festival has longevity, it's actually not unlikely to receive grants.
- The festival has traditionally been in March, but we have to make sure it doesn't run into Raiseberry or the Loudon launch, but this should be pretty easy.
- So now we're at the point where we need to start putting concrete ideas into play and nailing things down.

#### 7. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

- September 5, 3:00 PST, 6:00 EST

#### 8. ADJOURNMENT

- Adjourn 11:00 sharp. Because we're all very sharp. See you next month!