

General meeting 12/10/17

Members present: President Kevin Fuller, Vice President Matt Kuchar, Treasurer Maynard Cowan, Secretary Courtney Foster, Board members Ken Hargis, Steve Satchwell, Auri Vigil, Julianna Vadnais, Also Present: General Manager Hali Loving, Past President Kouri Antinone

Introduction of board members and manager.

Reading and approval of minutes: Kevin reads minutes from last general meeting. David Dunnaway motions to approve the minutes. Seconded by Rip Williams, motion carries.

President's Report: Kevin has been overjoyed to serve as our president. Our membership boost has been amazing. We've grown it by 43%. Thank you so much to Laura Dunnagan for her efforts. Maynard will go into more detail about the numbers, but there's been an amazing monetary turn around from last year. We're looking at rebranding our club and we're working with a marketing firm to move forward with that. We want to re-adhere our relationship with the press—this is very important. We've been very diligent this year in trying to get more press members in here and reestablish this relationship, as we should. Kevin would love to run again, but is moving and cannot serve next year. He appreciates the opportunity and experiences

Vice President's Report: Matt came on in about June this year. Coming in here, he was encouraged to get involved and was so happy to be involved, to be a part of the club, and to help us gain momentum to inspire change in the club.

Treasurer's Report: Maynard's goals this year were to increase our footprint in the community, be more viable, be a real club for the press. He's pleased to report that we've had a very good year. Bar income/liquor and beer sales are up 7.5% of last year. Club rentals, membership, and donations are at an 11% rise over last year. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest year as far as our Quickbooks history shows. Thank you Hali for all of your work. Club memberships, including retention, are up over 200%, which is phenomenal. Gas and water expenses are up significantly last year because of the water heater—it was not up to code, had basically rusted out and this drained us. Luckily we did the yard sale, cleaned out that room and were able to address the problem. Over the course of the next year we'll catch up and this won't be a problem. Postage is up but that's a good thing because it's all of the snail mail from memberships. Professional fees are up because we have an amazing accountant who helps with taxes and other important things. Property taxes are up but that's just the timing in which we paid it. Payroll expenses are down \$10k from last year. We're looking at an \$18k profit this year. Which is fantastic.

Kudos to management and the board for accomplishing this.

Secretary's Report: Courtney had a blast being a part of the 2017 board and is excited to continue serving in any capacity needed.

Manager's Report: Since July of 2016 her focus was to repair the foundation and remodel. This didn't happen. It seems to be a lot more work than expected. All of that money went to little expenses, our water heater etc. Our staff was able to clean out the entire building during the yard sale where we found cool things and, luckily, the water heater. We've had a lot of events this year—thank you Holly for all of her hard work. In the future we hope to keep that going. Hali will continue to watch the building and work on getting the necessary repairs to keep us standing. Hali has been going back and

forth with vendors to keep our costs down with supplies and repairs. She's been working with our accountant to make sure that all of our expenses stay on track. We have gotten no letters from the IRS this year and things seem to be going really well. Hali is excited for 2018.  
priorities?

Membership: Membership renewals up 207% this year and new memberships are up by 43%. We do have more social members than communications and journalist members and that's something we will work on in 2018. We are at 261 members this year as opposed to our 180 members last year—not counting corporate members. Laura has gone through memberships from the last two years and made multiple corrections and updated contact info, updated our database, and improved communication with the membership.

Rip wants to know about auto renewals/on-line renewals. That is our goal, though were not there yet. Thank you so much for all of your efforts this year, Laura.

Web and Media: Not too many changes this year. We streamlined our domain name and straightened out our email system. Abqpressclub.com is the current web address. Email addresses are current on the website for the board. We now have an obituary section on our website for members passed. Please contact Ken for any additions or changes.

Social Media: Kristin is not present so Auri updates us. We're working on our engagement via Facebook and Twitter but we are looking to extend to other networks, including linked in. We're really looking at our live events, live streaming and postings, and getting people active through that. It helps to bring in viewership and press and extend our brand.

Art: Kathy is not here, but we've had amazing shows this year. We've made money through art sales, brought great artists in and new people who want to see the shows. Thank you all for being present for these events.

Buildings and Grounds: A lot of repairs this year, which is ultimately a good thing. Josh Lovato has been integral to the Buildings and Grounds committee for the last year. Hes been very vigilant and helpful, as well Rhian Hibnar has. Kudos to those guys for their efforts.

Election Process: Thank you all for being here to participate in this.

Courtney Foster, running for President: Courtney is the current Controller and Event Manager for Weekly Alibi. During the last year, where she served as Secretary for our board, she has brought in multiple events and new members and wants to continue growing our club and helping it thrive. She is very motivated and excited for what 2018 will bring.

Laura Dunagan, running for Vice President: Laura is extremely detail oriented. She is currently head of our Membership committee. She has loved serving the club and hopes to continue our momentum moving forward. Laura is a fixer and is here to help in anyway she cab.

Kouri Antinone, running for Vice President: If Kouri is elected to serve, this will be her tenth year on the board. She knows Roberts Rules of Order, the constitution, our politics, and our liquor license process. She was Vice President for 3 years and President for 1 year. She loves this place and wants to make it clear that she's here to help regardless of the election results.

Maynard Cowan, running for Treasurer: Maynard is running again. He lives in the NE but he does

come back once a month and he loves it here. He's fully committed to this place. He lives in spreadsheets and wants to mentor our manager and our board to grow the club and see us flourish.

Rhian Hibner, running for Secretary: Rhian feels like this place is home. Hes' done the job before and he'd love to do it again.

Auri Vigil, running for Board Director: Auri has been a member for about a year and has been serving on the Social Media committee. She comes from a marketing and communications background and is looking to build new strategies to communicate with our members and potential members.

Juilana Vadnais, running for Board Director: Juliana is an editor and journalist at Albuquerque Business First. She wants to bring more journalists into our club. She is currently leading a committee to bring back the press club awards.

Will Fitzpatrick, running for Board Director: Will is a public information officer. He loves the acceptance of ideas here at the Press club and feels it's a safe place to talk among colleagues and nurture ideas. This is a community place. He wants to be a part of it.

Sam Allen, running for Board Director: Sam's roots go deep in the Press Club. He's served as General Manager for non profits before and has extensive Quickbooks knowledge.

We break for voting and Whittlesey House meeting at 3:15PM

General Meeting Re-adjourns

Steve Satchwell would like to have a moment of silence for members who have passed away this year and encourages everyone to view the obituary page on our website.

Kevin would like to thank everyone who ran this year and also thank the people who were willing to collect and tally ballots.

The board would like to formally thank Kevin Fuller for all of his hard work as President this year.

Election Results:

President: Courtney Foster

Vice President: Laura Dunagan

Treasurer : Maynard Cowan

Secretary: Rhian Hibner

Incoming Board Directors:

Auri Vigil

Julinana Vadnais

William Fitzpatrick

Sam Allen

Without any other new business, Rhian Hibner motions to adjourn. Seconded by Rip Williams, meeting is adjourned.