

The Albuquerque Press Club

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ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87102

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ABQPRESSCLUB.COM

Annual General Meeting • December 15, 2019

Board Members Present: President Laura Dunagan, Vice President Justin Cumley, Treasurer Maynard Cowan, Secretary Courtney Foster. Directors: Ken Hargis, Adam Gates, Sarah Blanton, David Hayden, Kouri Antinone, William Fitzpatrick.

Also Present: General Manager Shaun Gay

Call to Order: 2:20PM

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Steve Satchwell suggests that we change the “introduction to board members”. Ken motions to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Adam, motion carries. Everyone in favor, yes.

New Member Orientation—APC Structure: Laura and Maynard thought it would be a good idea to give everyone a break down on how our club works. We’re a non-profit with a Board of Directors. The board’s duties are securing the liquor license, managing finances and membership, making sure that we’re in compliance with all state laws, and appointing our General Manager. Our General Manager handles all operations duties, including handling events, staffing, bar duties, etc.

Officer’s Reports

- President: We’ve had some changes over the last few years, in which we’ve tried to figure out our actual direction, while keeping true to our charter as a national press club. We need to figure out how to get more journalist and communicator members in, but we also need to stay afloat, which is why we open our club to other forms of membership. Another big change has been finding our new General Manager. Shaun Gay has been an amazing addition to this club and has been a strong manager for us. Thank you, Shaun!
- Vice President: Justin also thanks Shaun and Laura, for making this one of the smoothest years we’ve had to date.
- Treasurer: Maynard has never seen a year like this. Our membership is up, our involvement is up, our liquor license has been up to date without a hitch. Income from the bar, it’s up 26% from last year, which is huge. The rest of the income, such as memberships, club rentals, etc, has also gone up exponentially. Our total income for the year is \$288,000. Which is a 34% increase in one year. Our GRT is higher, because we’ve been making more money, which is expected. Our utilities are mostly inline, if not a little lower because we’re using more eco-friendly energy saving options. Our CC fees are lower because we’ve switched to a different company with a better rate. Dues and Subscriptions are up because of our new inventory system, which has helped with making sure our inventory and POS systems are correct. Equipment expenses are higher, though this is justified. We’ve purchased new coolers and more up to date audio and visual equipment and other things that will last us for a long time. Pest control is a higher, but that’s because the quality of their work is higher. Our property taxes look

different because we're actually paying them on time. We made \$54K in profit this year. That's a 542% increase since last year.

- Secretary: Thank you for a wonderful year. Courtney has been very proud of this board and the progress we've made. I'm excited to see how much you can accomplish in this upcoming year.

Manager's Report

Shaun thanks the membership for being here with us and keeping the club open. We've increased our hours of operation, which seems to be working for the membership. We had a movie filmed here this year! We closed down for two days and brought in a lot of revenue for us. We did have to spend money on bar improvements, but it was well spent and long lasting. Our membership events have been very successful and is something that we're going to continue to do. Shaun has a lot of renovations we want to do in 2020. We will use some of our upcoming events to fundraise for this. In the same thread, we're working on our social media and outreach to get more people in here.

Adam makes a motion to take a 20 minute break Seconded by Will, and opposed by none, motion passes. 2:58pm
Call back to order 3:32PM

Committee Reports

- Art: Over the last few months we've done pretty well at keeping art on the walls. We've branched out to different artists, which has brought a lot of new faces and more diversity. If you are artist or have artist friends, please come forward and help with booking shows! From a financial standpoint, 80% of the sales go to artists and 20% comes to the club. Buildings and Grounds: David shares with us that over the last year we've done a lot of maintenance and smaller, more aesthetic improvements. In the past, we haven't had the money to do a lot of these projects but, moving forward it looks positive. We're going to work on renovating the bathrooms downstairs and making them more welcoming in general. David and Maynard call for volunteers and suggestions.
- Web and Media: There haven't been a whole lot of changes, though through the last couple of months, Ken has looked through the other press club websites across the nation and has plans to institute these new updates within the next month or so. Shaun will be creating a contest for our new logo starting in January. There is an upload form on the website for members to submit club photos.
- Social Media: We technically don't have a social media committee right now. Laura would like to ask for volunteers for a committee.
- Membership: We have been over 250 members for a few months. We are currently at 308 members. We've had a slow trend upwards, including member retention. We've added a few membership categories including first responders and service industry. 44% of our members are newer members.
- Newsletter: Veronica is putting together a newsletter committee to move forward on this in the next year.
- New Committee Ideas/Volunteers: Press Committee possibly?

Constitutional Amendments

As everyone has these in hand, Bob makes a motion to skip the reading of the amendments. Seconded by Will, motion passes.

The first Amendment we're proposing is to accept Service Industry people as members. Steve motions to approve. Lou seconds. Open to discussion. Luke objects to this amendment because it seems to him that we're going against our charter as a Press Club and thinks the approval of these amendments means that we have to rewrite our Article 1. Stu rebuttals, stating that these new memberships keep the club open and profitable.

Maynard reminds everyone that Albuquerque doesn't have the same type of press or journalism numbers that it used to, or that a place like DC could possibly have. Rip argues that all of these categories should land under Social because it's wrong to bring in Service Industry folks and not teachers etc. Steve Satchwell makes a modified proposal motion to add both service industry and first responders as a sub-category of our social memberships. With a vote being taken, majority rules. Motion carries. Satchwell reminds us that we need to vote on these amendments to go into the constitution. Sarah makes a motion to accept the motion as amended to accept into the constitution. Seconded by Courtney, motion passes.

Retired Members: Parch moves to approve amendment as written, seconded by Justin. Vote approved by majority.

Motion to approve removal of "out of town" from constitution by Will. Seconded by Sarah. Approved by a majority vote.

Updating verbiage of section 9: re-admission---moved to approve by Kouri, seconded by David. Approved by a majority vote.

Looking at Section 10—Late Renewals: there's discussion back and forth about whether or not late renewals have to re apply and pay for their initiation fee or not. Lou motions to approve this. Seconded by many, with no objections, motion carries.

Elections

Candidate Speeches:

- Laura Dunagan for President: "You know how much I love this club. The past year has been focused on keeping this building up and running and the club prosperous. I've put in a lot of time and work and effort into making this place enjoyable and aesthetically pleasing. Over the last year, I've spent the majority of my free time here helping make this place run smoothly. Going forward I would like to focus on upgrades to the clubhouse"
- Douglas Vanbenthuyzen for President: "I joined the club this summer, traveling around Austin as a poet, living out of my car and I felt completely welcome here. I got back from a trip and was drinking water and smoking shorts. I taught at UNM for 13 years. I already know that I love this place because I'm going to keep coming back here no matter what. I have a publishing company that's based partially here and part in Austin. I've founded 3 newspapers. I was in the Navy. I taught college English for 13 years. I've been on 3 boards. I am the press. I have access to a printing press."
- Luc Moulson for Secretary: "I'm excited to join the board. I have the strangest passion for good administration. I've taken many board meeting minutes before. I love the club and enjoy the people and relish the opportunity to give back all I can."
- Justin Cumely for Vice President: "I would like to give thanks to Laura, David Hayden, Shaun, and everyone else who has made this club what it is. I am honored and humbled to be a part of this club."
- Maynard Cowan for Treasurer: "I make numbers happen and I love you all."
- Luke Davis for Director: "Jack of all trades master of nothing. Whether you vote for me or not, I would like to acknowledge the board for all of their hard work. This club is so much more inviting and inclusive, I'm so proud to be a member. I went to UNM Anderson School of Management. I work with KRQE, Locations Managers, and other film industry/location scouting. I want to get more members of the press in here. And more press events."
- William Fitzpatrick for Director: "I've been a board member for the last two years. We've found a calmness and cognizant way to make decisions as a board. This club is a conglomeration of individuals with intellect and differing opinions and that's beautiful."
- Nathaniel Marsh for Director: "I'm a new member but have helped with maintenance work, which is how I got involved. I want to pursue more grants for the club and get more volunteers involved."

- Lynn Embick: “I came here because of my love for scotch and historical buildings. I’ve worked with fair boards, school boards, mayoral committees, and other things of that sorts. I’m a writer and have a huge interest in the place and would love to be involved.”
- David Hayden: “I was appointed to the board last year to fill a vacancy and I really enjoy it. I would love to continue the work that we’ve started. I’m a project manager for a contractor and head up the buildings and grounds committee here at APC.

Whittlesey House Preservation Fund

Recall to order 6:01PM

Election Results

President: Laura Dunagan

Vice President: Justin Cumley

Treasurer: Maynard Cowan

Secretary: Luc Moulson

Three New Directors:

Lymm Embick

David Hayden

Will Fitzpatrick

Adjourn: Kouri Antinone motions to adjourn. Seconded by many, motion passes. Meeting adjourned. 6:05PM