



**VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION**

virrja@ymail.com

<http://acjs.ca/VIRRJA.html>

Minutes Executive meeting via ZOOM 19 April 2020

Meeting began at 11.05 AM

Present: Genesis Hunt Higginson, Vanessa Ramsdale, Bruce Curtis, Jane Waterman, Gail Jewsbury.

Check-in round

VIRRJA's area for membership

Do we include programs on the lower sunshine coast? Consensus that we are open and welcoming and serve groups and people interested in Restorative Justice and restorative practices.

Participation in committees

Consensus that committee members should represent a paid up member

Debrief of ZOOM discussion meeting 6 April 2020

Went well. 22 participants. Jane noted correction to minutes sent out of that meeting that John Howard Society Victoria works with Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre., not William Head Prison. Also Shelley Rose is new vice chair of Saanich Peninsula RJ, Sue Saunders is still Chair.

Establish a committee to revisit VIRRJA's mission statement, purpose and prepare strategic plan.

- Should the strategic plan be prepared by the board or the review committee? It was felt that the review committee is an advisory committee to review the mission, purpose, strategic plan and by-laws and make recommendations to the board. The board decides what is taken to a general meeting for adoption. The committee will be titled Advisory VIRRJA Review Committee.

Number and nomination of directors

- By-laws state we can have up to 7 directors so should we add 2 more directors-at-large positions to allow for greater participation as noted in feedback to the membership survey. Would need to be decided at the next general meeting.
- Can we accept nominations from the floor at AGMs? If so do we need to rescind the motion made and carried at the 20 June 2016 general meeting that the by-law #25 be changed to state (1) The president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and one or

more persons are the directors of the society. (2) The number of directors must be 5 or a greater number determined from time to time at a general meeting prior to the AGM.

- This change was not formally made to the society's by-laws.
- It was mentioned that on occasion people have got caught up in the excitement of the AGM, particularly when held with the annual conference, stand for office and then not fulfil their duties as a director.
- It does open up more opportunities for participation.
- Some boards have a recruiter to ensure the directors represent the skills needed.
- General meetings and AGM are open for members and non-members to have a voice but only one representative from a paid up member can vote on motions. There are moves to make decisions through consensus – the restorative way - rather than formal motions and votes.

Consensus agreement that an email is sent out to all on our email list that at the 25 May 2020 general meeting we propose to increase the numbers of directors-at-large from 1 to 3 (total directors to be 7) and asking for feedback and thoughts of nominations ahead of time.

The meeting adjourned at 12.10 PM