Vancouver Linux Users Group Society
AGM 2024 MINUTES

Saturday, November 9, 2024

Burnaby Library, Bob Prittie Metrotown

6100 Willington Ave., 2:00PM

1 Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum.
VanLUG bylaws state that a quorum for an AGM "shall consist of at least six members, three of whom shall be on the current Board of Directors and two of whom are shall also be executive members."

Members of the current Board of Directors present and paid: Kim Kulak, John Weintraub, Nestor Balce, William Graham, Christopher Kilger, Bill McGrath

Additional members paid at the start of the meeting and as the meeting progressed.

Due to Bill McGrath being late attending the meeting the AGM was chaired by Kim Kulak.

Meeting called to order at 2:10 PM.

2 Presentation and Acceptance of the Minutes of the VanLUG 2023 AGM:
Chair Motion: To accept the minutes of the VanLUG 2023 AGM as presented.
Seconded: John Weintraub
Discussion: No discussion
Vote: For: Unanimous

3 Presentation, amendments (if any) and acceptance of this 2024 AGM Agenda

Kim brought forward two amendments to the agenda:

Amendment to insert item 3.5:
3.5   Upon reading the Minutes for the 2023 AGM the approval of the minutes for the 2022 AGM were tabled until AGM 2024.
Motion: To accept the minutes of the VanLUG 2022 AGM as presented.

Motion to insert item 3.5 into the agenda.
Moved: Kim Kulak
Second: Nestor Balce
Discussion: None
Note: For: Unanimous

Amendment to change item 7 to read:
7   Annual Membership Dues Review:

7.1   Motion: That the full (paid) membership of VanLUG be eliminated and that all attendees at future AGMs be allowed to vote and run for Board of Directors.

7.2   Motion: That upon the failure of the above motion that the current fee for full membership in VanLUG shall remain at $20 with a $10 student/hardship rate.

Motion to change item 7 in the agenda to read as above.
Moved: Kim Kulak
Second: Nestor
Discussion: Some discussion about the merits of the change but none of the amendment. Discussion

discontinued until reaching item 7 in the agenda.
Vote: Unanimous

Chair Motion: To accept the agenda for the VanLUG 2024 AGM as ~~presented~~ amended.
Seconded: John Weintraub
Discussion: No discussion
Vote: For: Unanimous

3.5   Upon reading the Minutes for the 2023 AGM the approval of the minutes for the 2022 AGM were tabled until AGM 2024.

Motion: To accept the minutes of the VanLUG 2022 AGM as presented.
Moved: Kim Kulak
Second: John Weintraub
Vote: Unanimous

4   Year end Reports:

4.1   Financial Reports:

4.2   Membership Report:

The current treasurer was not in attendance and did not submit a Financial Report, so no report.

We did not appoint a Membership Secretary last year. The role of Membership Secretary was made mostly redundant because of the motion to make paid memberships valid only for the AGM. No Membership Report.

No reports were submitted to the AGM so no vote was taken.

Chair Motion: To accept all year end reports.
Seconded:
Discussion:
Vote: For: **Against:**

5   2024 The Year in Review
Nestor Balce

See Document: "**VanLUG Year End Report.pdf**". Thank you Nestor!

6   Theme for 2025: "Community Involvement"
Kim Kulak

See Document: "**CommunityInvolvement.pdf**"

7   Annual Membership Dues Review:

~~**Chair Motion:** That the current fee for full membership in VanLUG shall remain at $20 with a $10 student/hardship rate.~~
~~**Seconded:**~~
~~**Discussion:**~~
~~**Vote: For:**   **Against:**~~

7.1   **Motion:** That the full (paid) membership of VanLUG be eliminated and that all attendees at future AGMs be allowed to vote and run for Board of Directors.
Moved: Kim Kulak
Second: Nestor Balce
Discussion: Much good discussion on both sides. Unfortunately none of it recorded.
Vote: For: 6   **Against:** 2   Motion passed.

7.2   Motion: That upon the failure of the above motion that the current fee for full membership in VanLUG

shall remain at $20 with a $10 student/hardship rate.
Motion 7.2 is set aside.

8   The Dave Michelson Award.

To recognize an outstanding effort in the promotion of Free/Libre Open Source software in the Vancouver/Lower Mainland area.

The award recipient announced by our award committee of one, John Weintraub. The Dave Michelson Award for 2024 is given to: **Nestor Balce**. Congratulations and thank you!

9   Election of the Board of Directors for 2025
Call for nominations from the floor:

Given no nominations from the floor the recommended slate of members for the board are:
>   **Kim Kulak –** President/Secretary
>   **John Weintraub –** Vice President
>   **Nestor Balce –** Vice President Communications
>
>   **Christopher Kilger -** Treasurer
>   **Jeff Wilkins –** Member of the Board
>   **William Graham –** Member of the Board
>
>   **Frank Lý -** Member of the Board
>   **Bill McGrath –** Member of the Board (Past President)

Nominations from the floor:
>   **Alex Zolotarov** - Member of the Board
>   **PJ Lilley** - Member of the Board (acting secretary)
>   **Zhejiang Zhou** (ZZ) - Member of the Board
>   **Perry** (illegible) - Member of the board

Note: PJ volunteered to act as secretary but as our bylaws require that all executive positions on the have at least one years experience on the board PJ accepted to be an acting secretary. Thank you PJ!

Note: I (Kim) have attempted to contact Perry twice by sending an email to the email list and all members on Meetup, with no reply.

Open Positions: Membership Secretary. May be appointed from the new board by the president if no one comes forward.

Chair Motion: That the above recommended/updated slate be elected as the Vancouver Linux Users Group Society Board of Directors.
Seconded: John Weintraub
Discussion: No discussion.
Vote: For: Unanimous   Thank you all! It's going to be an outstanding year.

10   New Business: Any paid member may propose a motion from the floor.

Bill motions that we get rid of Meetup and use something different, preferably FLOSS. We need our own list of members.   John seconded.

   -- discussion: for: Meetup costs more and more (~$500 CAD/ yr)

Motivation: it's about mobilizing our membership, we need to keep track of emails and contact info better.

AGAINST: Much discussion about the number of people who join, how they found out about us, many people (60-70% of our ~1500 members) have found us through Meetup. Worth it.

FOR: Let's seek alternatives, move to something else slowly/simultaneously

Bill withdraws the motion based on the feedback, but will raise at the next board meeting for further discussion of our options based on feedback received.

PJ motivates that we get more involved with the Repair Cafe movement in the area. General accord.

Currently, VanLUG uses a GNU /Mailman list and a Signal discussion group & the Meetup to bring our people together.

Frank proposes Discourse for an accessible web communication platform to build a publicly viewable digital community.   Some discussion, no firm decisions.

ZZ volunteers to video record our talks and upload.

11   Date, time, and Location of the first VanLUG Meetings of the new 2025 year.

To Be Announced

12   Motion to Adjourn:

Meeting adjoined 3:45 PM

A special thank you to PJ for her meeting notes.