

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes

Monday, 1 February 2021

13h00 EST

held online (ZOOM)

Present: Eric Anttila, Angela Sumegi, Hope MacLean, Pauline McKenzie-Aucoin, Kierra Beament, Idoia Arana-Beobide, Marie-Françoise Guédon, Linnéa Rowlatt

Regrets:

Chair: Idoia Arana-Beobide

Minutes: Linnéa Rowlatt

Agenda

1. approval of agenda
Idoia moves to approve the Agenda. Marie-Françoise seconds. Approved unanimously.
2. approval of Minutes 2020.02.07 (Rowlatt)
Linnéa moves to approve the Minutes 2020.02.07. Angela seconds. Approved unanimously.
3. statement from the President (Rowlatt)
Linnéa provided her report for 2020 (see Appendix 1). We have established a solid presence on the internet with our website, and we have launched our flagship project, *Matrix: A Journal for Matricultural Studies*. In brief, we have had a slow year but in the context of the pandemic, we are still here, individually and collectively, and this is our success.
4. statement from the Treasurer (Sumegi)
Angela expressed gratitude to Kierra Beament for her excellent bookkeeping. She notes the very reasonable cost of finalizing our website and the largest expenditure of the year for the *Anjali Archives* (a digital danceography of Anne-Marie Gaston's classical Indian dances). Our membership has increased from the last year, no matter how slightly, and that is going in the right direction. See Appendix 2. Angela expresses gratitude to Eric Anttila for his work and moves to appoint Eric Anttila for our Public Accountant for 2021; Linnéa seconds. Approved unanimously. Angela moves to accept the 2020 Financial Statement; Marie-Françoise seconds. Approved unanimously.
5. statement from the Secretary (Aucoin)
Pauline reports that the administration has gone smoothly (see Appendix 3); we have fulfilled our obligations for reporting and updated our address. We did not have to submit a financial statement because we did not receive over \$ 10,000 from public sources. We have seven members (five regular and two student), one of which is an international member. Pauline reminds us that we launched two years ago in Cuba, and how long ago that feels.
6. statement from the Vice-President, Research (Guédon)

Marie-Françoise reports that our research activities were concentrated on *Matrix*, with all the tasks associated with a scholarly journal. The pandemic has hit us hard and forced us to shelf several projects. Our search for funding has slowed and all our funding has so far been within. Our current idea of matrilineality has proven to be inadequate against the data and our definition of matriculture becomes more and more important to understand what is actually going on. Developments will be presented at CASCA and be included in Part 2 of her Research Report. With regards to the World Matricultural Exhibit, the situation in China has changed so dramatically that we will not be able to return for the foreseeable future. We had changed the project into a book; technical support and a printer are returning to operations and they will be able to process the photos. The project will revive in May 2021 and she will seek assistance for finding maps, formatting photos, and determining original citations, for example. Mapping the matricultures is the first priority, with the book the second priority. Pauline and Marie-Françoise discuss the opportunities for archiving Marie-Françoise documents among the women's archives at the University of Ottawa; Pauline will look into that archive. Several of us will be participating in CASCA 2021, the material of which will need to be summarized for *Matrix*. InterCulture (Ottawa) has successfully sponsored Chinese students, some of whom are interested in joining the Network on Culture. Theories are the link between what we want to study and politics; theories matter a lot. Kierra's research project focuses on investigating the reason why Indigenous women artists use geometric designs and male artists use figurative designs; Marie-Françoise hopes Hope will be involved with the challenge of identifying the artist or creator of artefacts. See Appendix 4. Marie-Françoise expresses her gratitude for the Network on Culture, without which there would be much less happening.

7. approval of 2020 financial statements (Anttila)

Eric Anttila confirms our Financial Statements are well presented and offers his congratulations. For future audits, he requests the monthly bank statements; this will allow him to do a more thorough audit. Kierra agrees to do this and will send them all at the end of the fiscal year, in one email.

8. appoint a public accountant (Sumegi)

Angela expresses gratitude to Eric Anttila for his work and moves to appoint Eric Anttila for our Public Accountant for 2021; Linnéa seconds. Approved unanimously.

9. By-Laws

No by-laws to edit or amend; nothing to report.

10. Confirming Directors and Officers (Arana-Beobide)

Idoia declares that she is willing to stand as Chair for 2021. Idoia asks Linnéa, Angela, Pauline, Marie-Françoise and Kierra if they intend to stand in the same positions. Linnéa is willing to stand as President, Angela is willing to stand as Treasurer, Pauline is willing to stand as Secretary, Marie-Françoise is willing to stand as Vice-President of Research and Kierra will continue as bookkeeper.

Hope departs.

11. Other

1. Use of Zoom account: We have a premium ZOOM account and Linnéa has shared the log-in information with the other members of the Board of Directors. Linnéa moves that we limit access to the Zoom account only to Directors and Officers of the Board. Marie-Françoise seconds. Approved unanimously.

Annual General Meeting concluded at 14:45 EST.

APPENDIX 1

President's Report for 2020

Network on Culture Annual General Meeting

Linnéa Rowlett

Monday, 1 February 2021

2020, which was the Network on Culture's first full year of operations, happened in the context of Covid-19. In this context, I am so very happy to see all of us around the table, hale and hearty, even with a few cracks. I think our continued existence, individually, as scholars, and collectively, as the Network, is a great gift. We're still here, all of us.

Having acknowledged that, 2020 was a slow year for the Network on Culture. On the very positive side, our website is a solid piece of work, now having upgrades, and our *Matrix: A Journal for Matricultural Studies* has launched and received some very positive feedback. Our second issue promises to be excellent, and our third and fourth issues are in production. Once those four issues are published, we can apply for Grants and Aid to Scholarly Journals from SSHRC.

On the other hand, there were some tasks left undone, such as applying for Community Group status with SSHRC, and some projects that have necessarily paused, such as our collaboration with Cultural Horizons and the World Matricultures project. We have not initiated our vision of mapping matricultures against the North American Indigenous language families.

I don't see these as failures; as I said earlier, we are all still here, we are all still working towards creating our visions, and, for 2020, that's good enough. It may even be great.

In 2021, I intend to finish our application to SSHRC to register with Community Group status or, if the requirements for that have changed, to explore what kind of relationship with them we can achieve. I also intend to seek other funding opportunities for the Network on Culture, from foundations and other granting bodies, similar to the Yukon government's Covid-19 Recovery Research Programme. I have not heard back yet about the Expression of Interest, and hope that some of you will also find individual research projects that will be supported by the Network on Culture.

APPENDIX 2

January 30, 2021

Re: Network on Culture Treasurer's Report

As everywhere, 2020 was a very quiet year for the Network on Culture, but despite that we have managed to keep ourselves financially viable. We began 2020 with \$4830 in the bank, which gave us a cushion to face the year.

With regard to expenditures, we were happy to finalize our website at a very reasonable cost. Our major expenditure for the year relates to the work done on the Anjali Archives; a project in collaboration with Cultural Horizons to construct a digital danceography of Anne-Marie Gaston's classical Indian dance performances.

Finally, our memberships are up from the previous year, a trend we hope to see continue and increase.

Respectfully submitted by
Angela Sumegi
Treasurer

APPENDIX 3

Annual Secretary's Report to the Network on Culture
Prepared for the Annual General Meeting
01 February 2021
Submitted by: Pauline McKenzie Aucoin, Ottawa, Canada

Please accept the following Secretary's Report, submitted to the Board of the Network on Culture.

Administration

The Secretary reports that the administration of the Network on Culture has proceeded smoothly over the past year, notwithstanding the Covid-19 pandemic. We have continued to meet regularly online via Zoom to facilitate the business of the Network, and I report on the following.

Membership

The membership consists of seven members (five regular members and two student members). The member who is not a Board Member changed from La Ming Ying (China) to Heidi Goettner-Abendroth (Germany), thus continuing as an international organization. There are currently ten (10) collaborators (scholars and community members) working in association with *Matrix: a Journal for Matricultural History*.

Obligations for a Non-Profit Corporation

The 2020 Annual Return required by Corporations Canada to renew our not-for-profit status was submitted, according to government requirements, with the required information being noted of any change of Directors, change of Address for the Directors, and change of By-Laws for the Corporation. The income from public sources for the corporation remained under \$10,000.00, and so the Financial Statement of the corporation did not need to be submitted for approval at this time.

Financial Obligations

The T3010 was submitted as required for a not-for-profit corporation. Receipts for all donations were issues for 2019, and I note that there is no change in status in our GST/HST status.

APPENDIX 4

Network on Culture, AGM, Monday 1 Feb 2021

Report on research activities by Marie-Françoise Guédon, V.P. Research

For the most part, research activities were concentrated on contributing material to Matrix,; writing contributions, editing, translating and the multiple tasks associated with publishing a scholarly journal

The Covid crisis has hit us hard. forcing us to temporarily shelf several early projects. And it slowed down our efforts to reach sources of funding; so far all our activities have been financed from within. Yet, is has been a productive year.

A-Let me start with the problematic items

1- “Mapping Languages of matricultures” ; a five years project for Africa, started 2 years ago and directed by Martin Kalulambi.

Martin has simply disappeared. We last heard of him a year and a half ago; his colleagues at the were able to locate him in Gongo, then nothing. The project was to be built continent by continent: North America, South America; Africa (Sub-Sahara, northern Africa), Eastern Asia; Southeast Asia. We feel Martin’s absence.

However, building on an affidavit on Algonquian-speaking peoples and matrilineal tendencies, I went on constructing data bases for North America, and checking sources in order to refine our hypotheses, and discovered that the current uses of notion of matrilineality had to be re-examined and tested against “real” data, and the notion of matriculture became even more important. Consequently, part II of my contribution to Matrix, vol 1-1 on the matricultural aspects of the Algonquian-speaking culture” has become a full- scale research project of its own, resulting in my contribution to the coming CASCA event.

2- World matricultures exhibition: From exhibit catalogue to stand alone publication.

This was brought to a stand-still by the COVID quarantine that blocked access to technical support. In order to transform it as planned into a pedagogical project budget, we are all going to contribute some expertise. Good news: The most probable printing outfit (DLR, Gatineau) is back in (virtual) business, I contacted them, and they assured me of their technical support especially as far as photographs and illustrations are concerned. It is up to us to assemble the material.

3- Also in virtual holds:

Digital Archiving for Cultural Horizon- Anjali

Cultural Research Archives: especially for us to let it be known that we would welcome scholarly material other wise endangered or inaccessible

The Ottawa Chinese Free Masons plans for a festival and a museum on Chinese immigrants in Canada

B- Success stories:

1- My congratulations to all of you who worked so hard to produce the first two issues of *Matrix*.

2- Laming Ying (Lala for us) is back in Chengdu, China, after a long wait to secure a passage in spite of the Covid restriction; we wish her success in her new position. We were able to secure a visa renewal for her friend Jinhua Liu, who is working under my supervision at the University of Ottawa on her project exploring seniors care in Canadian First Nations communities, compared with official seniors care in Tibet.

3- Our links with Northern Books is still active:

We have successfully transferred the responsibility for the Frederica de Laguna library and about 100 copies of Frederica de Laguna's Under Mount Saint Elias monograph to the Yakutat corporation in Alaska. (They are presently in Whitehorse).

Following the instructions of, and as agreed with, the Yakutat corporation, Dr. Dawn Ambler, living in Vancouver, has been retained to edit Frederica de Laguna's manuscripts and field notes, in order to produce the biography of a Yakutat woman, whose English name is Minnie Johnson, and who used to be one of de Laguna's main collaborators. Dawn Ambler got her Ph.D. in the department of religious Studies at the University of Ottawa.

4- Several of us are preparing contributions to the coming CASCA conference, with a symposium on matriculture, composed of two sessions and a round table

5- My own project on "Northern Athapaskan Nomadism from a female perspective" has resulted in one article that has been accepted for publication as one chapter in « Vies de nomades », in the "Natures en Sociétés" collection (Museum national d'Histoire naturelle de Paris (PSM)).

I can add three evaluations for scholarly articles, and two book reviews, including one for *Matrix* 1-2 on *Les plongeuses jamnyo de Jéju en Corée*, by Ok-Kyung Pak.

6- I know we are all looking forward to developing links with researchers all over the world. Meanwhile, my thanks to all of you for a wonderful and active year.

MFG