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Minutes

2019 Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, February 20, 2019

6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Arts & Letters Club, 14 Elm Street, Toronto, ON

Present:

TSA Executive:

Maria Denegri – Chair

Megan Torza – Vice Chair

Charles Lau – Treasurer

Jason Dobbin – Past Chair

Alana Young – Executive Member

Ana-Francisca de la Mora – Executive Member

Barbora Vokac-Taylor - Executive Member

Kevin McIntosh – Executive Member

Anthony Lombardo – Executive Director

Joël León – Executive Administrator

Sarah Garland – Administrator

Total Attendance: 53, Total Members: 21, Total Affiliates: 18

Quorum was achieved.

Materials:

Today's Meeting Agenda

2018 Annual Report

Proposed Bylaws

Existing Bylaws

Summary of Proposed bylaws

1) Welcome Remarks by TSA Chair

a) Maria called the meeting to order at 7:20pm



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b) Maria introduced OAA Council members present at today's meeting: OAA President Kathleen Kurtin, TSA Council Liaison and OAA VP Regulatory Melisa Audet, and OAA Council member David Rich

c) Maria also acknowledged sponsors and partners present.

2) Annual Report

a) Maria presented a summary of the changing membership population – TSA membership has grown since 2017 and has a membership population made up largely by architects but also has a significant number of interns, technologist, students, and members of the public.

b) Maria presented a summary of initiatives attendance in 2018 – events were well attended, and the TSA offered an increased amount of programming in 2018 compared to previous years.

3) Review of 2018 Initiatives

a) Megan discussed the 2018 lecture series.

- i) She thanked LRI for their continued generous sponsorship of these lectures. She also thanked our in-kind and venue sponsors.
- ii) Megan gave an overview of the 2 Urban Affairs Forums and 2 IDEAS Forum held in 2018.
- iii) She also discussed the two special lectures hosted in partnership with the Toronto Chapter of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario.
- iv) We have already held three lectures in the new year, two in partnership with the DesignTO Festival, and another also in partnership with the Toronto Chapter of the ACO.

b) Maria discussed the Technical Lecture Series.

- i) This initiative was led by Bindya Lad, who is stepping down from her position as executive member and has passed on her duties to Ana-Francisca.
- ii) Maria thanked LRI for their continued sponsorship of this initiative, and IBI for their in-kind sponsorship as venue sponsor in 2018.
- iii) Maria highlighted the TSA's partnership with ARCHITECT@WORK Canada, with whom we will again partner with to hold two technical lectures as part of their annual trades show. Members of the TSA can register for ARCHITECT@WORK free of charge.

c) Alana discussed the Building Tours held in 2018.

- i) This year's tours had the theme of transit with all three tours held at stations of the Spadina extension.



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- ii) Alana noted she is looking for people who are involved with buildings nearing their completion to bring forward their projects as suggestions for future tours.

- d) Barbora and Alana discussed Doors Open 2018.
 - i) In 2018 ten studios participated in the open Studio Program.
 - ii) The TSA's panel discussion featuring architects and film industry professional was well attended and serves as a good example of the TSA engaged with the community at large.

- e) Joel discussed the Walking Tours
 - i) This is the TSA's longest lasting initiative and it will be celebrating its ten-year anniversary in 2019.
 - ii) Over 1000 people attended the walking tours in 2018 – a 25% increase average tour numbers of past years. Every tour left with groups up to 30 people.
 - iii) This year four tours were offered: Campus Tour, Towers Tour, University Avenue, and Art and Performance.
 - iv) Joel thanked the OAA their continued support of the walking tours over the past three years. They are what keep this initiative accessible by ensuring affordable ticket prices through their support.

- f) Joel discussed student outreach.
 - i) Joel described the workshop held by the TSA through the TDSB for newcomer students. Students drew plans and sections of bell peppers and croissants.
 - ii) Around 280 students participated in this one-day workshop.

- g) Ana-Francisca discussed TSA CONNECT
 - i) Last year the TSA began working to make events more inclusive to the newcomer and foreign trained architectural community starting with TSA CONNECT, a networking event held as part of the OAA conference.
 - ii) Ana-Francisca thanked the OAA for their sponsorship of this event which was done during OAA Conference 2018.
 - iii) Over 100 people attended this event.
 - iv) Since then, the TSA has planned a lecture with the same objective of being more inclusive to foreign trained architects – a lecture with the Canadian Architectural Certification Board. There has been an overwhelming amount of interest in this event.

- h) Charles discussed the Movie Nights
 - i) This year two movies nights were held at Innis Town Hall at UofT.



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- ii) The first movie night was a screening of *The Human Scale*. The second movie night was a screening of *Citizen Jane: Battle for the City*. Just under 100 people attended each of these screenings.
 - iii) Both nights were successful as outreach initiatives as they were well attended by the public, not just members of the TSA.
 - iv) This year we are planning on having up to four movie nights
- i) Megan discussed the advocacy work done by the TSA in 2018.
- i) The TSA wrote a letter to the Mayor, and Maria made a deputation to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee and published an article in NOW magazine stating the TSA's position on the REimagining Yonge project. The TSA agreed with the proposed transformative work as an opportunity for positive change for this area of the city. The TSA will continue to keep an eye on this project because it is still in development.
 - ii) The TSA also wrote a letter to the Toronto and East York Community Council, and Barbora gave a deputation to this council and spoke on CBC's Morning Metro stating the TSA's support of laneway housing and the need to amend the zoning bylaws to make them possible.
 - iii) Members of the TSA also provided commentary to the city in their Built form and Public Realm consultation.
 - iv) The TSA has already begun its advocacy efforts in 2019 with a lecture in partnership with the ACO TO on the future of Ontario Place. The TSA will also be holding a public charette on the same topic.
- j) Megan also discussed the BASH.
- i) This year's BASH was very successful as the TSA's biggest fundraising event through the support of many sponsors. She thanked all event patrons, event partners, and in-kind sponsor Revelateur for the photography. She also thanked event sponsor Entro for their in-kind sponsorship of creating all graphics and way-finding signage for the event, bar sponsor Blackwell, and venue sponsors Diamond Schmitt Architects.
- k) Megan noted that the TSA is always looking for topics for advocacy, lectures and other initiatives. She invited members to contribute their suggestions on what is important to them to see in the upcoming year.
- 4) Review of 2018 Financial Report
- a) Charles began the review by expressing his thankfulness for his time as treasurer of the TSA.



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- b) He explained the financial statement summary from the previous year including the following points:
 - i) Half of the TSA's revenue originated from membership and the OAA per capita funding
 - ii) The BASH is the largest revenue generating event.
 - iii) Revenue total in 2018 was \$174,110
 - iv) Administrative support was the largest expense in 2018 as the delivery of programming is dependant on this support.
 - v) Expense total in 2018 was \$134,628.
- 5) Review and Approval of 2019 Budget
- a) Charles also explained the 2019 budget. The 2019 budget's guiding principles were the TSA's increasing membership, increased social events and larger event venues, the new membership management system and offering more membership benefits, and logistical support to initiatives.
 - b) Charles explained the proposed budget for 2019 including the following points:
 - i) Half of revenue is predicted to continue to be dependant on membership and OAA per capita funding, with a predicted similar generation of revenue by the next BASH.
 - ii) Expenses predicted to be similar to those in 2018.
 - iii) There is expected to be a surplus of \$1,059.
 - iv) Ana-Francisca de la Mora moved to accept the 2019 budget; Alana Young seconded; motion carried unanimously.
- 6) Election of Treasurer
- a) Jason began by thanking Charles for serving as treasurer for 5 years.
 - b) Call for nominations for the next Treasurer were put out through e-bulletins; Alana Young was the only nomination received.
 - c) Maria Denegri moved to elect Alana Young as treasurer, Katie Kurtin seconded; motion carried unanimously.
- 7) Review and Approval of Revised TSA By-Laws
- a) Megan and Maria described the proposed changes to the by-laws.



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- b) Since the by-laws had not been revised since 1987, the proposed by-laws aimed to reflect the growing needs of our organization and with the aim of improving inclusion, transparency and accountability.
 - c) There will be a double election next year; for both Chair and Vice-Chair. We intend to stagger these elections to maintain coherence of administration and programming.
 - d) David Rich asked for clarity on the requirements of holding the Chair position. Maria clarified that this person must be an Architect, member of the OAA.
 - e) Barbora Vokac Taylor moved to accept the 2019 budget; David Rich seconded; motion carried unanimously.
 - f) We will now file the accepted by-laws with the OAA.
- 8) Adjournment
- a) Kevin McIntosh motioned to adjourn the meeting; Joel Leon seconded; motion carried unanimously.
 - b) Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM