

## **AGM Victoria Multi-Faith Society**

2 – 4:30 p.m., Sunday, November 26, 2016

23 attended; 18 individuals and 2 organizations paid annual dues (\$10 and \$50 each, respectively).

Board chair Ali Hemani officiated.

A Sufi prayer was led by Shoshana Litman.

A motion was made by Janine Theobald seconded by Shoshana Litman to accept the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 2016. Motion passed.

### **Treasury**

Christine Johnston reviewed the financial statement, opening balance \$3253.20, closing balance \$2263.09. It was announced that there is a new institutional membership cost of \$50/year. Individual membership remains \$10.

### **Board Election**

Henri Lock (United Church) recently replaced Malcolm Read on the VMS board. Malcolm occupied the Christian seat during the past year, stepping down during the summer due to a heavy workload at Christ Church Cathedral. Parminderjeet Virk has returned as the Sikh board member.

The board recommended that VMS members accept Henri and Parminderjeet as the new board members. The chair asked if there were any other nominations for the two seats, Christian and Sikh. There were none. There was a motion to elect Henri Lock and Parminderjeet Virk as board members; the motion passed.

Board members are therefore currently:

Ali Hemani	(Muslim)	Chairperson
Christine Johnston	(Unitarian)	Treasurer
Henri Lock	(Christian)	
Janine Theobald	(Buddhist)	
Parminderjeet Virk	(Sikh)	
Sheila Flood	(Bahá'í)	Secretary
Shoshana Litman	(Jewish)	
Sridevi Ganti	(Hindu)	

The VMS board is still seeking to fill the seat for First Nations Spirituality.

### **Annual Report**

A power point presentation of the annual report was reviewed, facilitated by Ali Hemani. Report attached. Several presentations were given as part of the report:

- Beth Gibson reported on the newly renamed Interfaith Liaison Network (ILN, formerly Faith Leaders group) which recently voted to come under the umbrella of VMS. Beth spoke of the evolution of this new group, which draws members from many diverse congregations around Victoria to act as liaisons with those spiritual communities.
- Parminderjeet Virk presented on the 2017 Lunch & Learn series;
- Christine Johnston presented on the UN Interfaith Harmony Week event, which took place on 5 February 2017 at UVic;
- Sri Ganti presented on the World Partnership Walk/Asian Heritage Celebrations in May 21017, where VMS raised \$1955 for charity.
- Janine Theobald presented on the Travel the World Religions series, which has visited 4 faith communities to date: Judaism, Buddhism, Hindu, and Bahá'í.
- Malcolm Read presented on the upcoming Lunch & Learn series, 18 Jan – 15 Feb.
- Sheila Flood presented on other upcoming activities:
  - UN Interfaith Harmony Week 2018, which will have an event similar to last year's, scheduled for 4 Feb.;
  - Living Well Dying Well, monthly, Jan – May,
  - and the continuation of the Travel the World's Religions series, visiting Muslim, Sikh, Christian, and Unitarian faith communities.

### **Living Well Dying Well Project Launch**

After a short break for refreshments at 3 p.m., Kim Holl, of the Centre for Earth and Spirit, introduced the new project and divided participants into four small groups. Each table discussed several prepared questions around the issues of aging and death, following a method of consultation designed to encourage rich and meaningful conversations. Note takers then gave a verbal report to the whole group. Reports on the quality of the discussions were unanimously positive and appreciative.

A round of thanks was given to all who contributed to the success of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Attachments:

- Annual Report
- Treasurer's Report

S. Flood, VMS Secretary