

UWSA Day Care Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Management Committee

Minutes – via Zoom

October 22, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Ioulia Berdnikova – Executive Director, UWSA Day Care Centre
Amy Desroches – Member/Acting Chair
Robyn Liddle – Member
Justin Friesen – Member/Vice Chair
Annie Laser – Member
Katharina Maier - Member
Natasha Hollett – Secretary
Kim Paz - Chair
Dennis Ng- Member, treasure
Karolya Vargscarr – UWSA
Stefanie Vargscarr – Parent
Robert Esposito – Parent
Magdi Bogos – UWSA Daycare staff
Yejin Lee - UWSA Daycare staff
Angela Porras – Parent
Emily Prinsloo – Parent
Pieter Prinsloo – Parent
Olayemi Olaleye – UWSA
Simon Hall – Auditor
Vallerie Pelleck - Parent
Stuart Sladden – Parent
Tara Myran – Parent
Anastasia Tanasichuk – Parent
Brandon Deamel – Parent
Joel Trenaman – Parent
DeOliveire Guimaraes – Parent
Sevani Senevirathe – Parent
Melissa Dupuis - Parent

Regrets:

Taylor Homenick

1.0 Call Meeting to Order and Quorum Count

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM we have met quorum.

2.0 Introduction of the Management Committee Members and Staff

Kim introduced each committee member to the group.

UWSA Day Care Management Committee

1. Kim Paz (Parent)
2. Amy Desroches (Parent)

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3. Natasha Hollett (Parent)
4. Justin Friesen (Parent)
5. Robyn Liddle (Parent)
6. Annie Laser (Parent)
7. Katharina Maier (Parent)
8. Jose –Ann Dallas (Parent)
9. Helen Cholakis (Community Member, past parent)
10. Dennis Ng (Parent)

3.0 Outline Rules of the Meeting

We are using the Robinson Rules for this meeting.

4.0 Agenda and Minutes approval

4.1 Approval of Agenda for October 22, 2020 AGM

No additions to be made to the agenda.

4.2 Reading and Approval of Minutes from October 15, 2019 AGM

Nothing to be added to the minutes.

Motion to approve the Agenda and Minutes from the last AGM.

Moved: Tami and Peter Prinsloo

Motion carried

5.0 Notice of Motion

MOTION

6.0 Chairperson's Remarks

Kim Paz presented.

She highlighted what the UWSA daycare stands for and that it is evident the staff love what they do. The daycare gives opportunity to families and they put families first. Kim shared her experiences with the daycare to the group and said that she is grateful to be part of the UWSA Daycare family. She also thanked Ioulia and the staff and said that as a parent she feels safe sending her children to the daycare because of the work they do. Thank you.

7.0 UWSA's Representative presentation

Karolya Vargscarr presented

Karolya presented in the absence of any other member of the UWSA.

This year there was a lot going on at the UWSA. There was a report regarding UWSA governance, a political issue which led to the administrative executive being put on leave and they are working with a consultant to complete an audit in order to rebuild and strengthen the UWSA.

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In the beginning of the year there were budget concerns, unlike the daycare, because the UWSA depends on student fees. However, in the end there was no deficit in the budget.

Ioulia is a great leader. The daycare could have closed when COVID began, but Ioulia was trying to figure out how it could stay open to help the front-line workers and families in need of childcare.

Karolya thanked Ioulia and her team for their efforts this year and also wanted to formally note Kathy's 30 years of service to the UWSA Daycare. Thank you Kathy

8.0 Directors Report

Ioulia presented.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a thank you to all the parents and the staff for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend tonight's AGM meeting. The University of Winnipeg Students Association (UWSA) Day Care Centre is a 128 space preschool/infant toddler childcare center which is provincially licensed and not for profit. We provide high quality inclusive childcare for 32 infant/toddlers and 96 pre-school children in Downtown Winnipeg since January 1, 1974. Our mandate is to provide service to the University of Winnipeg students, faculty/staff and to the community members (50% students; 25% faculty and staff; and 25% community members).

Due to COVID-19 situation, we now have to operate at a lower capacity. We have 5 cohorts:

- Infants 1,2 – 16 children
- Infants – 12 children
- Pre-school room – 16 children
- Pre-school 1,2,3 – 30 children
- Pre-school 4,5,6 – 30 children.

In total, we have 104 children and all spaces are full. We do not know when we will be able to open more spaces. As of now, we are able to accommodate almost all pre-COVID-19 families. Normally, we offer full time and part time childcare to meet the needs of the families. During COVID-19, we are trying to avoid part time spaces to limit the number of families in the building. Our center now employs 28 full time staff, and 2 substitutes. We have 86.36% of our front line staff who have two or more years of post-secondary education related to childcare and child development (ECE II and ECE III).

I would like to announce the staff who will celebrate anniversary this year with the center:
Nettie– 10 years

The Management committee and UWSA strongly support education and professional development of our staff. Our staff are taking many workshops and training sessions to improve quality of child care in the center. Our goal is that each staff member will have a minimum of 24 hours of professional development every year.

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This year Nettie graduated from the University of Winnipeg with a Bachelor in Developmental Studies and she received her ECE III certificate. As well, Yejin graduated from Assiniboine Community College (daycare management program) and received her ECE III certificate.

Over the last year we offered a practicum placement for many students. We worked closely with RRC, MITT, St. Boniface University and The University of Winnipeg Collegiate.

Program

We are implementing the emergent curriculum in our program. Usually, you can see the reflection of it on the boards just outside of the rooms. Unfortunately, now most our communication is through the HiMama program or emails. If you need to talk to the staff, please call the center during the day.

Our day care works very closely with UWSA and the University of Winnipeg. We really appreciate all of the support we receive from them. The University provides unique programs to our older children such as the Wee Wesmen program and Let's talk science. Also, children use the RecPlex & Duckworth Centre facilities. Now we stay close to the center within cohorts, but I really hope that it will be change soon.

We continue to offer, once per week, a music program for all our children and Guitar Garry comes once a week. We recently introduced weekly yoga classes for the children. We celebrated many holidays over the past year. Our staff are always looking for possibilities to enrich the celebrations by inviting special guests into the program. This past year we invited Ti-Bert the Voyager during the Festival du Voyageur, Chinese Lion Dancers for the Lunar Year celebration, and Irish dancers for St. Patrick's day. Last year we celebrated National Indigenous Day on June 21.

I also want to mention a few activities that have become a tradition in our center. We had a Teddy Bear Picnic with a first aid clinic run by our parents, an exercise program run by the university and exploring a real fire truck. We always invite neighborhood day cares to join us. Another activity is the Canada Day Parade. Our MLA opened the day with O' Canada and a short presentation and then we paraded around the block. We carried Canada flags and were led by the pipe band. At the end, the children had an opportunity to explore pipes and drums.

During the last financial year, our children went on many small field trips and we welcomed many special guests in the program. We are always looking for new ideas and volunteers for the field trips.

We are providing opportunities for the parents to meet other parents in the program and spend time in the program with the children. That is why we organized a few family days throughout the year. Such as: Family fun day, Literacy event, Winter Concert, Mother's day tea party and Father's day breakfast. These events gave parents an opportunity to meet other parents and staff in the program and observe their children playing with their classmates.

I really enjoyed writing about the previous year because as of March 23, 2020 all of our family events were canceled, so next year I will not have too much to report. It will be a very sad report!

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Fundraising

Based on parent's requests, the Management Committee agreed to cut down fundraising events to only Friday's Fundraising Lunches. It can be changed at anytime based on the needs of the center and interest from the families. This was a great financial support last year. Unfortunately, now we do not have any fundraising, but we hope to start it soon.

Grants

We received from the Winnipeg Foundation \$6,000 toward the 2019 summer activities. This grant helped us a lot to enrich our summer program. In summer 2019, we received a Canada Summer Student Grant for one student. We hired a UofW student to fill the position. On a positive note, next year I will have much more to report in this section.

At the end of this report, I want to say that all of these achievements would not be possible without parental support and involvement in our program. We appreciate your time and commitment to our program here at UWSA Day Care.

Motion to move the Director's report.

Moved: Yeojin and Natasha Hollett

Motion carried

9.0 Finance Report

MOTION (1) Financial statement as of March 31,2020

Simon presented a detailed report of the financial statement that was circulated to all parents of the UWSA daycare. He went through each page and discuss thoroughly the details. He stated that there are 3 levels of opinion which he can give to a financial report with "Clear" being the best meaning that he has no reservations about the report and that the statements are fair and accurate. Simon said that the financial position of the UWSA Daycare is very strong especially for a not-for-profit and that the daycare is trending towards a break even, which is what you would expect for a not-for-profit. This is a very good report, a clear report.

Ioulia also commented that in the statements it showed that the daycare lost a little revenue because it had to refund 2 weeks back to the parents due to the COVID-19 closure (~\$25,000).

Motion to approved the Financial Statement.

Moved: Justin and Magdi

Also, a Zoom poll was sent out to the participants of the meeting to determine if the financial report would be accepted.

Result: 100% Yes

Motion carried

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MOTION (2) Auditor for 2020-2021 (April 1, 2020 to March31, 2021)

Motion to determine if Simon would audit for the next term.

Zoom poll sent to all participants of the meeting.

Result: 100% yes.

Motion carried

10.0 Elections

Motion to accept the slate of committee members that were circulated to the parents of the Daycare. There are two new members this year, Tara Myran and Taylor Hemenick.

Slate of UWSA Daycare Committee Members

1. Kim Paz (Parent)
2. Amy Desroches (Parent)
3. Natasha Hollett (Parent)
4. Justin Friesen (Parent)
5. Robyn Liddle (Parent)
6. Annie Laser (Parent)
7. Katharina Maier (Parent)
8. Jose –Ann Dallas (Parent)
9. Helen Cholakis (Community Member, past parent)
10. Dennis Ng (Parent)
11. Tara Myran (Parent) - New
12. Taylor Homenick (Parent) - New

There was a vote by all participants via a Zoom Poll

Result: 82% accepted, 18% abstained

Motion carried

11.0 New Business

There is no new business at this time.

12.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:41pm

Moved: Yeojin and Robyn Liddle

Motion carried