The Canadian Association of Journalists
L'Association Canadienne des Journalistes

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Directors In Attendance: Brent Jolly, Paul Schneidereit, Jason Markusoff (joined at 7:05 pm ET), Laurie Few (vice-chair), Fatima Syed (joined at 6:39 pm ET), Julie Sobowale, Jameson Berkow, Zane Schwartz (chair), Paula Tran, Jenna Cocullo

Regrets: Karyn Pugliese, Patti Sonntag

Staff In Attendance: Monique Durette (ex-officio), Emelia Fournier (ex-officio)

Summary of Meeting

1. Call to order: Dec 18, 2024 6:35 pm ET
2. Agenda amendments and approval: MOTION to approve agenda as presented. M: L. Few, S: J. Sobowale, Carried
3. Previous Board Meeting Minutes corrections and approval: MOTION to approve Oct 2024 Board meeting minutes. M: J. Berkow, S: L. Few, Carried
4. Position reports:
a. President's report - B. Jolly MOTION to accept the president's report as presented. M: J. Sobowale, S: P. Tran, Carried.
b. Treasurer's report - P. Schneidereit MOTION to accept the treasurer's report as presented. M: P. Tran, S: J. Sobowale, Carried.
MOTION to go in camera M: P. Schneidereit, S: B. Jolly, Carried. In camera at 6:52 pm ET. Returned to meeting at 6:58 pm
c. Chair's report - Z. Schwartz Verbal report. Vacancies on the board have been highlighted. Board structure change could increase the number of vacancies. Request to consult networks to fill vacancies.
d. Operations Manager's report - M. Durette MOTION to accept the operations manager's report as presented. M: B. Jolly, S: P. Tran, Carried. Clarifying questions asked, and conversation moved to email to discuss further. No decisions made on recommendations at this time.
e. Program Coordinator's report - E. Fournier MOTION to accept the program coordinator's report as presented. M: L. Few, S: B. Jolly, Carried.
5. 2025 Budget a. MOTION to approve 2025 budget as presented. M: P. Schneidereit, S: B. Jolly, Carried.
6. Board decisions:
a. Governance
i. MOTION to rescind the Email Voting Policy. M: J. Berkow, S: J. Cocullo, Carried.
ii. MOTION to approve the Non-partisanship Policy. M: L. Few, S: P. Tran, Carried.

b. Communications
i. MOTION to establish an account with Blue Sky, to be used equally with other social media platforms. M: P. Tran, S: J. Sobowale, Carried.
c. Memberships
i. MOTION to establish bi-annual and low-income pricing levels for associate membership similar to that of professional membership. M: J. Markusoff, S: F. Syed, Carried.
ii. MOTION to establish the Newcomer Journalist Caucus, with terms of reference for the caucus to be determined by the caucus and submitted for approval to the board of directors at a later date. M: F. Syed, S: J. Sobowale, Carried.
iii. MOTION to establish the FOI Caucus, with terms of reference for the caucus to be determined by the caucus and submitted for approval to the board of directors at a later date. M: B. Jolly, S: L. Few, Carried
7. Activity updates
a. Conference Conference planning is well on its way and even a bit ahead of schedule.
b. Awards Judges still being recruited, still need a couple more.
8. Other business
9. Date of next meeting: Feb 2025
10. Adjournment. 7:36 pm ET MOTION to adjourn. M: J. Berkow, S: B. Jolly, Carried.

Summary of Motions (excludes meeting-operational motions)

MOTION to approve 2025 budget as presented. M: P. Schneidereit, S: B. Jolly, Carried.
MOTION to rescind the Email Voting Policy. M: J. Berkow, S: J. Cocullo, Carried.
MOTION to approve the Non-partisanship Policy. M: L. Few, S: P. Tran, Carried
MOTION to establish an account with Blue Sky, to be used equally with other social media platforms. M: P. Tran, S: J. Sobowale, Carried.
MOTION to establish bi-annual and low-income pricing levels for associate membership similar to that of professional membership. M: J. Markusoff, S: F. Syed, Carried.
MOTION to establish the Newcomer Journalist Caucus, with terms of reference for the caucus to be determined by the caucus and submitted for approval to the board of directors at a later date. M: F. Syed, S: J. Sobowale, Carried.
MOTION to establish the FOI Caucus, with terms of reference for the caucus to be determined by the caucus and submitted for approval to the board of directors at a later date. M: B. Jolly, S: L. Few, Carried

Summary of Policies and Documents Reviewed

2024-2025 Bylaw Update - Draft
Regions Policy - Draft
Elections, By-elections and Appointments Policy - Draft
Non-Partisanship Policy

Email Voting Policy

Summary of Action Items

All action items/tasks added to CAJ board and committee task lists document. Document contains all progress on task items.

No tasks assigned