

## SMUFU AGM - Minutes

**Date:** October 28, 2021

**Time:** 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Location:** Via Zoom

Call to order: 2:32 pm

Quorum: 47 Members in attendance

(SMUFU Bylaw #8.2 - Twenty members of the Faculty Union shall form a quorum of a Faculty Union meeting.)

### 1. Call to Order and Welcome

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

**Motion:** That the agenda be approved (T. Heffernan, A. Zaman) Carried

### 3. Approval of the Minutes - Annual General Meeting of October 29, 2020

- <https://www.smufu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/DRAFT-SMUFU-AGM-Minutes-October-29-2020.pdf> )

**Motion:** That the minutes from October 29, 2020 be approved (L. MacDonald, R. Thacker) Carried. 1 abstention

### 4. President's Report, October, 2021

- <https://www.smufu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/AGM-President-report-2021.pdf>
  - S. Krishnamurti summarized report verbally to the membership
  - S. Krishnamurti asked members if anyone has any questions about the report

### 5. Treasurer's Report, October, 2021

- <https://www.smufu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Treasurers-Report-AGM-October-28-2021.pdf>
- *B. Bunjun provided a summary and walkthrough of reports.*
  - Auditors Report - Page 4 - discussion regarding Defence Fund and operating fund
  - Discussed expenditures and changes in the budget due to Covid and supporting student bursary
  - Discussed revenues
  - B. Bunjun shows gratitude to A. Zaman for being a member of the SMUFU Financial Committee

a) Auditor's Report for year-end - March 31, 2021

- <https://www.smufu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/SMU-Faculty-Union-2021-Audited-Financial-statements-FINAL.pdf>

**Motion:** “That the auditor’s report from Levy Casey Carter MacLean for the financial year ending on March 31, 2021 be accepted.” (J. Thomson, M. Byers) Carried

Discussion:

- J. Thomson asked about the defence fund and asks why it was higher than previous year.
  - B. Bunjun responded that it was a result of the impact end of last fiscal year (2019-2020 - Covid impacted investment) More gain in 2020-2021 investment

**Motion:** “That Levy Casey Carter MacLean be appointed to complete the audit for the 2021-22 financial year.” (T. Heffernan, J. Thomson) Carried.

Discussion:

- S. Krishnamurti asked a question regarding auditor and noted that the same group has been auditing for several years. Would we want to discuss matter?

b) Budget Report to August 31, 2021

**Motion:** “That the 2021-22 budget proposed by the SMUFU executive is approved by the membership.” (J. Thomson, M. Mohd) Carried.

Discussion:

- B. Bunjun discussed the budget for 2021-2022
- S. Krishnamurti asked for questions from membership
  - J. Power asked about the legal fees and budgets
    - B. Bunjun and S. Krishnamurti responded that they looked at what was spend over the last 5 years.
- S. Krishnamurti discussed the importance of spring OGMs in order to pass incoming budgets.

c) Investments – TDW Report, October, 2021

- <https://www.smufu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/TDW-Portfolio-Performance-Report-AGM-October-28-2021.pdf>

Discussion:

- Divestment – members asked about divestment and ethical investing, moving away from fossil fuels
  - B. Bunjun stated that more work to be done with bank TD
  - Past SMUFU treasurers respond (V. Tabvuma, A. Watson) that work has been done in the past on divesting and will share with B. Bunjun on work done.
  - A Watson discussed that most was done before her role as Treasurer – takes time to divest

- Defence Fund & Legal Fees
  - Discussion regarding Defence Fund & Legal Fees in budget
    - S. Krishnamurti – legal fees are ongoing and is not always connected to grievances and arbitration

## 6. Health & Wellness Trust Report, October, 2021

- <https://www.smufu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Health-Wellness-Trust-Report-AGM-October-28-2021.pdf>
  - B Konopasky spoke to the provided report and asked for members questions
  - S. Krishnamurti spoke about long serving trustees and succession planning

## 7. Grievance & Arbitration Report, October, 2021

- <https://www.smufu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Grievance-and-Arbitration-Committee-Report-AGM-October-28-2021.pdf>
  - N. Neatby provided a verbal report about G&A activities
  - B. Bunjun mentioned to members that there is a specific email for G&A issues outside of the SMU infrastructure

## 8. Policy Committee Report

### a) Conflict of Interest Policy

- [https://www.smufu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Conflict-of-Interest-Policy\\_Oct-14-2021-AGM.pdf](https://www.smufu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Conflict-of-Interest-Policy_Oct-14-2021-AGM.pdf)

Discussion:

- S. Krishnamurti spoke to the policy and how it applies to all SMUFU members
- S. Krishnamurti requested that members review policy to be approved at the spring OGM.

### b) SMUFU Constitution and By-Laws Amendments – proposal for review

- <https://www.smufu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/SMUFU-Constitution-proposed-revisions-Oct-13.pdf>

Discussion:

- S. Krishnamurti discussed the By-Law amendments and indicated that they are minor. Needed to create Co-chair model for Grievance and Arbitration Committee.
  - Vote will be required by all membership (2/3 approval) not just those in attendance at AGM
  - Discussion regarding SMUFU executive terms and start dates and meetings during year and hiatus in summer.
  - Discussion regarding Lecturers being in separate category – language should be ‘academic staff’ to be inclusive of Faculty, Lecturers, and Librarians.
  - Vote on changes will take place at Spring OGM
- c) Professional Officer Position- proposal for review
- <https://www.smufu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Professional-Officer-Proposal-and-Grievance-and-Arbitration-Committee-Policy-Changes.pdf>

Discussion:

- Response positive from membership, questions about where funds to support position: Annual Dues increase? Defence Fund?
- Concerns expressed about how to have it be a sustainable position, worries about increased dues.
  - S. Krishnamurti explained how position could be funded with dues increase
- Concerns about recruiting an experienced Professional Officer if only able to support part-time (3/4 time).
  - S. Krishnamurti explains that we don’t have a large enough membership to support
- Could a position be shared with other unions in area?

## 9. Preparation for Bargaining

- R. Thacker provided an update to the membership regarding bargaining
- Past year saw a 1-year agreement
- Bargaining will begin in summer 2022

## 10. Other Business

## 11. Adjournment Motion to adjourn

**Motion:** to adjourn the AGM (T. Heffernan, S. Gaon) Carried.