

Minutes of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
September 22, 2021 6:00PM - 7:30PM

The Annual General Meeting on September 22, 2021 was held online over Zoom, due to COVID-19. The number of members registered for the annual meeting exceeded the quorum requirements and, in addition, staff, students and guests were present. There were 38 attendees.

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Nadia Rajaram to approve the agenda for the business portion of the AGM.

Bryan Daley - seconded. **Motion is carried.**

2. Adoption of Minutes of last AGM, October 14, 2020

Motion by Bryan Daley to approve the minutes from the October 14 2020 AGM.

Nadia Rajaram - seconded. **Motion is carried.**

3. Presentation of 2020-2021 Annual Report

Caseworkers and staff lawyers summarized casework highlights from PCLS' four areas of law practice this past year. Mary Gellatly and Cole Webber, community legal workers, also highlighted key organizing campaigns that PCLS was involved with over the past year.

4. Presentation of Audited Financial Statements

Christine Andrews presented the Auditor's Report. The purpose of an annual audit, is to provide the membership with a "reasonable assurance" that the Financial Statements do not contain any misstatements, due to fraud or error. Parkdale's audit was performed by the accounting firm Segal LLP. The auditors test the financial systems and assure the members that the financial picture presented is a fair description of Parkdale's financial position.

PCLS received over 95% of its funding from Legal Aid Ontario and other core funding from Osgoode Hall Law School. Generous donations to our community legal clinic accounted for 5% of the annual revenue.

Christine also presented the Financial Report. The full audited Financial Statements is available on our website at www.parkdalelegal.org. Christine noted that PCLS received a clean audit with one exception—the only qualification in our audit is a standard one for most not-for-profit organizations. Auditors have no way of independently verifying the money that donors may send to a charity.

Christine thanked Segal LLP for producing the audited Financial Statements.

Motion by Christine Andrews to accept the Audited Financial Statements for 2020-21.

Arthur Kong – seconded. **Motion is carried.**

5. Reappointment of Segal LLP

Motion by Christine Andrews to reappoint Segal LLP as the PCLS Auditors for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

Bryan Daley - seconded. **Motion is carried.**

6. Election of Directors - Allison Wood, Membership Committee Chair

Class A – Community Members

The three new Class A Board members up for election are Katie German, Sarah Robicheau and Samara Sectar.

1. **Katie German** has a decade of experience working in leadership in non-profits in Toronto and currently works as the Advocacy and Programs Director at FoodShare Toronto. Her community organizing work centres on mobilizing people with class privilege to redistribute their wealth, organizing her neighbourhood around issues of affordable housing, displacement, and gentrification, and ending the school to prison pipeline.
2. **Sarah Robicheau** is a former PCLS student case worker and current public servant raising her young family in Parkdale. Her commitment to community involvement has led Sarah to volunteer and participate in a number of Toronto and Parkdale community organizations and initiatives over the years and she is excited for the opportunity to serve her community through the PCLS board.
3. **Samara Sectar** is an associate at Addario Law Group with a broad criminal, constitutional and administrative law practice. She developed her interest in criminal and administrative law while clerking for Justice Louis LeBel at the Supreme Court of Canada. Samara earned her law degree from Osgoode Hall Law School, where she graduated with the Silver Medal. While at Osgoode, she worked at Parkdale Community Legal Services – Immigration Division. She has a B.A. in History from the University of British Columbia, where she was the valedictorian.

Motion by Nadia Rajaram that the members approve the slate of candidates.

Christine Andrews - seconded. **Motion is carried.**

Class B – Student enrolled in the Intensive Program in Poverty Law

The student elected is **Newsha Zargaran**

Class C – Osgoode Hall Law School Dean

PCLS' Membership Class 'C' is made up solely of the Dean of Osgoode Law School who elects four Board members. One member must be a full-time faculty at Osgoode Hall Law School. I invite the Dean to introduce the two new Class C Directors.

Dean Condon introduces Danielle Bisnar and Adrian Smith, the selected faculty from Osgoode Hall.

Janet Mosher thanked all the outgoing board members: Christine Andrews, Dave Shellnut, Bryan Daley, Tsering Lhundup, Pri Sharma, Jessica Chandrashekar, and Bruce Ryder.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ann Lapenna to Adjourn the Annual General Meeting

Bryan Daley - seconded. **Motion is carried.**