

West Coast Cooperative of Sex Industry Professionals

Annual General Meeting- Wednesday May 28,2008

Minutes

16 people in attendance

Call to order

Housekeeping – honoraria, bathroom location, time of breaks

Round of introductions.

Introduction of Melanie Conn- BCCA

- Some potential new members were introduced to Melanie as the cooperative development consultant and the background of the first 2 projects and the strategic plan were discussed.
- A 2 tiered strategy involving regional or national stabilization of the sex industry and the safety of the people within it through the development of an industry association and localized stabilization through the development of cooperatives.
- How to become a member- The membership application process was explained including the \$20 shares and the timeline members had to pay for their share- 2 years. It was also explained that this was to make membership accessible to even the poorest of people.
- CDI Application- for 2 months the coop development coordinator worked on the CDI application and built the necessary community partnerships to meet the application guidelines. The proposal was based on the supper club style play, restaurant and history project museum exhibit.
- The development coordinator explained that the safe work site or coop brothel was on hold due to high political attention and resistance to the idea. The other aspects of the coop were extremely fundable and so it was decided to ensure incomes for sex workers through those avenues. It was agreed that the safe work site was extremely necessary and needed to be done as quick as possible, but that the other projects were also important and could be underway before attempting the far more difficult brothel project.

Board Make up and Elections

- The board composition and election procedure was explained and the cooperative development consultant explained the actions necessary to maintain our cooperative corporation. Melanie explained that currently the cooperative had 7 first directors and that since the coop was not currently actively doing business that we could vote to differ election of the board and hold a special general meeting for that purpose once the project was underway.

- The group agreed that that would be acceptable and voted to carry forward with the 7 first directors and elect the board at a later date.

Meeting Wrap-up

- The meeting wrapped up with everyone crossing their fingers and hoping for the CDI funding to come through.
- The cooperative development coordinator took new applications for membership and promised to let everyone know the outcome of the application as soon as they were in.