**Annual General Meeting Minutes**

**December 2, 2022**

**7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

**Venue:** Zoom (Meeting ID 634 9159 9250/ Passcode: Bulgaria)

**Chair**: Chris Popov

**Minutes**: Maya Trencheva

1. **Welcome**
2. **Attendance and Quorum**

Daniela Dobreva reported 149 members.

Chris Popov reported 23 people in attendance (12 physically present and 11 proxies)

1. **Election of Chairman**

Daniela suggested Chris to chair the meeting. All in favor.

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| Motion and vote to appoint Chris to chair as presented. | Carried unanimously |

1. **Approval of Last AGM’s Meeting Minutes**

The 2021 AGM’s Minutes were accepted.

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| Motion and vote to approve the minutes as presented.  | Carried unanimously |

1. **Presentation of the Annual Report from October 2020 to December 2021**

Vladimir Popov - the President of the Society, presented the annual report. He listed multiple events that had been organized during the past year:

* The Bulgarian National Holiday - March 3rd was celebrated with the flag raising ceremony in New Westminster. The City Hall in Vancouver was illuminated in the colоurs of the Bulgarian flag.
* Consular days were organized twice.
* Bulgarian elections were held three times (parliamentary elections in April and July and general elections in November to elect both the President and the National Assembly).

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| Motion and vote to approve the annual report as presented | Carried unanimously |

1. **Financial report 2020/2021**

Vania Alexieva presented last year’s financial report starting from October 1st, 2020.

She pointed out that the Consular Days in Vancouver are the main source of income for the Society.

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| Motion and vote to approve the financial report as presented | Carried unanimously |

1. **Upcoming Events in 2023**
* Chris Popov took the initiative to order magnetic stickers with BCSBC logo on them.
* Chris also committed to submit an application to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Bulgaria with respect to the establishment of Bulgarian Consulate in Vancouver. Chris clarified that the whole process is going to be initialized once the BCSBC receives support for this initiative by the Bulgarian societies in Seattle and Alberta.
* The Bulgarians in British Columbia are looking forward to the Days of Bulgaria which is an initiative taken by the Consulate General of Bulgaria in Toronto. The event has been scheduled for March 25, 2023.
* Daniela Dobreva talked about the upcoming participation of the Bulgarian

dance groups “Kitka” and “Hubavitzi” in the World Folklore Festival that will take place in Italy and France from the 12th to 16th of April.

* Vania Alexieva presented the idea of organizing the First Bulgarian Festival for Dance and Hand Stitched Embroidery “Kanatitza”. The project for this exciting event could be approved for a grant (up to 10,000 leva) by the Bulgarian

Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The application has already been submitted first to the Consul general of the Republic of Bulgaria in Toronto, Velislava Panova. She took the project forward by sending the grant application for approval to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

* 2023 marks 30 years since the foundation of the organized study of the Bulgarian language has been laid and 20 years of organized Bulgarian folklore activity in Vancouver.
1. **Election of New Board of Directors and President.**

The members of the board of directors for 2020-2021 were re-elected for a two-year period. So was the president of the Board – Vladimir Popov.

The board of directors elected 3 new board members - Krassimir Koutzarov, Krasimir Kirov, and Sasha Kayriamova

The BCSBS’s board of directors for 2022 - 2023 will consist of the following members:

Vladimir Popov, Daniela Dobreva-Al-Kuwatli, Vania Zaharieva-Alexieva, Maya Trencheva, Ivan Penev, Snezhana Ignatova, Chris Popov, Sasha Kayriamova, Krassimir Koutzarov and Krasimir Kirov.

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| Motion and vote to re-elect current members and elect new members. | Carried unanimously |

1. **Closing the Meeting and Thank You Remarks.**

The meeting was adjourned at 20:04 pm.