



**FINAL
MINUTES – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of
The Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Association of Ontario
Wednesday, May 2nd, 2018 – 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Held at Anne Johnston Health Station
2398 Yonge Street, 2nd floor, Toronto**

PRESENT:

Quorum was achieved: A total of 27 members participated in the 2018 AGM; 8 in person and 19 proxies.

List of Voting Members:

See attached list of voting members.

1. Call to Order

Denise Magi, President of MEAO extended a welcome to all members and introduced the current board members, MEAO's lawyer Mr. Brian Iler, Mr. Robert Fugere, the parliamentarian and Wafaa Arbaji, MEAO's administrative assistant.

Mr. Robert Fugere will be assisting with rules of order during the voting process and oversee the election process.

Mr. Brian Iler was in attendance to answer any questions or concerns regarding the newly revised By-laws. Mr. Robert Fugere was in attendance to conduct the election of directors.

The meeting was called to order at 1:49 p.m.

1. Agenda:

Motion:

Be it resolved that the Agenda now before this meeting is approved.

Moved by:	Denise Magi
Seconded by:	Adrianna Tetley
Motion Carried.	Unanimous

2. Resolutions:

a) *Confirmation of new by-law*

MEAO Secretary, Adrianna Tetley presented the new by-laws with Mr. Iler taking any questions or concerns from members, if needed.

Revising the old by-laws was a collaborative effort by the board and its members. A copy of the member feedback was included in handout package for reference.

Special thanks to MEAO member Eleanor Johnson for her due diligence and feedback with the by-laws.

Motion:

Be it resolved that the By-law for The Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Association of Ontario (MEAO) approved by the MEAO Board of Directors on March 29th, 2018, be approved as presented, and that this By-law replace all prior versions of MEAO By-laws.

Moved by: Keith Deviney
Seconded by: Adrianna Tetley
Motion Carried. 1 Opposed

b) *MEAO resolution*

MEAO's current objects are outdated and need revisions. This will take time and require members input. In 2018-19, MEAO Board intends to refresh the objects, mandate and mission.

Mr. Brian Iler reassured that by passing resolution, MEAO will not be putting its charitable status at risk and will be in compliance.

Concerns expressed by members:

- not all members approve of MEAO supporting all three of the medical conditions (ME/CFS, FM, ES/MCS);
- a shift from a member based to an advocacy organization with no member input, resulting in fewer members; and
- the need for more communications via newsletters and other supports.

The members were thanked for their comments. Overall, the members were in support of the resolution. Concerns were more focused on changes to object and mandate. Members were assured that this was the work for 2018-19.

Motion:

Be it resolved that the Resolution relating to the scope and work of the MEAO be approved as presented.

Moved by: Adrianna Tetley
Seconded by: Keith Deviney
Motion Carried: 19 in favour, 4 Opposed, 4 Abstentions

3. **Nomination Report:**

MEAO extended a special thanks to Board members Irene Turrin and Therese Dineen for their contributions. Due to other commitments, they will not be standing for elections for another term.

Due to personal circumstances, Jeanne Samonas was not able to participate in the Board in 2017-18.

The members were presented with a written list of nominee biographies and the nominees were introduced;

Denise Magi (returning member)	Keith Deviney (returning member)
Adrianna Tetley (returning member)	John Doherty (new member)

Members were given written ballots and asked to vote for or against each of the four nominees. Mr. Fugere and Mr. Iler tallied the votes and revealed the results.

All four nominees were elected as 2018-2019 Board members.

Motion:

To destroy the ballots after the tally is done and results revealed to members.

Moved by: John Doherty
Seconded by: Irene Turrin
Motion Carried (Unanimous)

Amendment:

This leaves three vacancies on the Board. The Board as the authority to fill these vacancies before the next AGM.

Board members may serve terms up to three years. The Board will decide the length of terms of those elected at the meeting so that changes of Board membership will usually be spread over a three year cycle.

Mr. Brain Iler and Mr. Robert Fugere were thanked for their attendance and support, and left the AGM at 2:30pm.

4. Approval of AGM minutes of February 15th, 2017:

Motion:

Be it resolved that the Minutes of the Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Association of Ontario (MEAO) Annual General Meeting of February 15th, 2017 now before this meeting be approved as amended.

Moved by: Denise Magi
Seconded by: John Doherty
Motion Carried. 1 Opposed

5. Treasurer's Report:

a) Presentation of the financial statements for 2017

Financial Statements were made available at the meeting. As requested by a member at the last AGM, financial reports from chartered accountant, Cowperthwaite Mehta for 2013-14 and 2014-15 were made available for review.

Motion:

Be it resolved that the Financial Statements of the Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Association of Ontario (MEAO) as reviewed by chartered accountants, Cowperthwaite Mehta, as presented for the year ended December 31st, 2017 be approved.

Moved by: Adrianna Tetley
Seconded by: Keith Deviney
Motion Carried 1 Abstention

b) Appointment of auditor and motion to set fee

Motion:

Be it resolved that Cowperthwaite Mehta, chartered accountants, be appointed auditors for financial reviews and financial matters for The Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Association of Ontario (MEAO) for the year 2018 at the appropriate remuneration as determined by the Board of Directors.

Moved by: Adrianna Tetley
Seconded by: John Doherty
Motion Carried. 1 Abstention

6. Annual Report - Presentation of the Directors' Report:

MEAO President Denise Magi, presented the Directors' Report. This report details the major activities from February 15th, 2017 meeting to present. A copy was available to all present.

Motion:

Be it resolved that the Directors' Report of the Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Association of Ontario (MEAO) for 2017 be received.

Moved by: John Doherty
Seconded by: Keith Deviney
Motion Carried. 1 Abstention

- A member raised a concern about not receiving any response from comments submitted to the task force. Denise, who is a member of the Task force said that she will inquire of the secretariat the status of the response and recommend that all letters be responded to as part of their communication strategy.
- Adrianna Tetley added that it is important that individuals know that their concerns and comments are being considered and that the Task force Secretariat should respond.

7. Other Business:

Concern was raised about the timing of the AGM in relation to the conference in Montreal and that MEAO did not attend.

- The MEAO AGM was booked in the fall to guarantee the date and time well before the Montreal Research Conference on ME/CFS had published their dates.
- MEAO was unable to send a representative due to limited funds and capacity of board members to attend both events so close together.

MEAO is looking forward to the final report from the task force and the implementation of the recommendations. This will be a focus of MEAO's work in 2018-19.

Members thanked Denise Magi for all her hard work and long hours on the MEAO Board and the Task Force on Environmental Health.

8. Adjournment:

Motion:

Be it resolved the Annual General Meeting for today, May 2nd , 2018 is adjourned.

Moved by: Adrianna Tetley
Seconded by: Irene Turrin

The AGM adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

VOTERS LIST – 2018

Last Name	First Name	In Person or By Proxy
Al-Awadi	Fadi	By Proxy
Angeloff	Laurel	By Proxy
Ayers	Marie	By Proxy
Crabbe	Benita	In Person
Deviney	Caroline	By Proxy
Deviney	Keith	In Person
Dineen	Therese	By Proxy
Doherty	John	In Person
Groen In't Woud	Suzanne	By Proxy
Groen In't Woud	Wilhelmus	By Proxy
Halapy	Erika	By Proxy
Hemsol	Yvon Helen	In Person
Jiwani	Izzat	By Proxy
Johnston	Eleanor	In Person
King	Denise	By Proxy
Leivo	Tiina	By Proxy
MacQuarrie	Maureen	By Proxy
Magi	Denise	In Person
Meitz	Diane	By Proxy
Meitz	Patricia	By Proxy

Rae	Alison	By Proxy
Rehel	Jason	By Proxy
Rovito	Anthony	By Proxy
Schneiderman	Lisa	By Proxy
Tetley	Adrianna	In Person
Turrin	Irene	In Person
Vandenbroek	Mary - Lou	By Proxy