

**Womonspace Annual General Meeting
Saturday, October 28, 2006
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Bellevue Community Hall**

	Agenda Topic	Discussion and Decisions
1.0	Call to Order	Norma called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.
2.0	Nomination of AGM Chair	Motion to nominate AGM Chair. Lori nominates Julie. Seconded by Colleen. Carried AGM Recorder. Karen
3.0	Adoption of Agenda	Motion to adopt the agenda. Moved by Lori. Seconded by Valda. Carried
4.0	Review and Adoption of Minutes of WS AGM October 15, 2005	Motion to accept the minutes as presented. Moved by Lori. Seconded by Valda. Carried
5.0	Reports a) President's Report	<p>Norma presented the President's Report.</p> <p>Welcome to the 2006 Womonspace Annual General Meeting. I must extend feelings of both appreciation and anticipation: appreciation for the opportunity to have served on the board, and anticipation to see what awaits Womonspace as the organization continues to grow and evolve.</p> <p>At this time, it is my pleasure to introduce the Womonspace board.</p> <p>The past year has focused on good governance practices, with the introduction of policies, procedures and strategic priorities. Procedural guidelines are now in place for processing memberships, hosting dances and managing information, including email accounts.</p> <p>Considerable work was done on introducing a budget process and financial procedures. Board members were accountable for their individual portfolio budgets as well as approving the annual budget for the organization.</p> <p>The 2005-2009 strategic plan has been updated to reflect the priorities for 2006-2007. Attached to this agenda package is the 2006 strategic action plan, which will be discussed later in the agenda. It has become ever more apparent to your board that volunteer support is critical to the success of the organization. Please consider running for a board position or serving on a subcommittee. Sign-up sheets and terms of reference for the subcommittees are posted to help you select and sign up for the committee that most interests you.</p> <p>Before you tonight is a proposed bylaw amendment to change the Womonspace fiscal year. I hope you will see the merit in it and support this change.</p> <p>Social and recreational activities coupled with the Womonspace newsletter continued to be the mainstay of the organization. I wish to extend a personal invitation to each of you to work with us in planning and hosting future events.</p> <p>Community partnerships based on cooperation and collaboration remained a focal point for Womonspace. Joint ventures with Prism, EVM, Pride Centre and the Reel Women Film Festival culminated in a diverse offering of opportunities. I cannot overstate the value of the business community support we have received in the form of newsletter advertising and discounted admissions.</p>

	<p>b) Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>c) Membership’s Report</p>	<p>The Womonspace office is being re-established within the new Pride Centre of Edmonton. Office volunteers are being recruited to provide coverage for one or two evenings a week. Please step forward and seize this unique volunteer opportunity.</p> <p>Womonspace contracted the services of a webmaster over the past year. This individual developed a resource section on our website as a place for information on topical issues pertaining to the GLBT community. Visit the website and enjoy reviewing the materials on topics such as “Alfred Kinsey and the Homosexual Revolution,” “Homosexuality: Gift or Curse,” “Homosexuality and Science” and “Lesbian Health.”</p> <p>A board orientation manual has been introduced to provide governance guidelines. New board members will be invited to attend a workshop to assist them in understanding their roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>In closing, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all those who contributed and made 2005-06 a stellar year for Womonspace. Best wishes to incoming and remaining board members as I transition to the Past President role. Thank you to those who contributed to our vision of being a strong and supportive lesbian presence in the community.</p> <p>Trish presented the Treasurer’s Report General Notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The statements were independently audited. <p>Colleen presented the Membership’s Report.</p> <p>As the most recent Membership Director, I shall do my best to provide you with a report on this important portfolio. The Membership area has gone through a difficult year, which saw the turnover of three Directors and an interim Acting Director, so I am hoping to provide some stability in this area over the upcoming year. Since volunteering for the position two months ago, I have continued to update and organize membership renewals and have successfully distributed the September and October issues of the newsletters to our members.</p> <p>As of this month, we are sitting at 184 members (plus their 77 partners). At the September dance, we obtained 14 <u>new</u> couple memberships, 6 <u>new</u> single memberships and 6 <u>renewals</u>, which I feel was a good start to our fall/winter schedule, when a majority of our events are held.</p> <p>We are hoping to increase membership enrollment during the upcoming year by advertising more frequently the one-time “free admission” perk that is available when you renew your Womonspace membership at a dance. Also, we would like to stress the importance of supporting this dedicated organization by becoming a member or renewing your membership, and by attending some of the planned activities and/or volunteering!</p> <p>As time goes on, other membership-related ideas will be forthcoming, and we welcome any suggestions on how we can increase our numbers (email to wsmembership@hotmail.com).</p> <p>Thank you for joining us this evening!</p>
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	d) Newsletter Report	<p>Presented by Co-editor's Kate and Tara.</p> <p>We have been co-editors of the Womonspace newsletter since March of this year. The decision to have two editors splitting the duties was made after the previous editor was unable to continue due to the amount of time and effort it takes to put together an issue monthly, and so far, it seems to be working well.</p> <p>Kate's duties include seeking contributions to the newsletter from both the membership and the community at large, choosing what content to publish, and writing the monthly editorial. Additionally, Kate oversees the main Womonspace email account (womonspace@gmail.com) and sends out community event notifications and other information that needs to get out to the membership in the period between newsletters.</p> <p>Tara is in charge of compiling and copy editing all the content for the newsletter. She works closely with the newsletter designer during the process of putting everything together and proofreads everything one last time before it gets sent to the printer.</p> <p>Sarah, who also joined the newsletter team early in the year, designs how the newsletter will look each month, chooses most of the photos and other visual elements, and the finalized newsletter off to the printer once it's been proofread.</p> <p>In the coming year, we strive to obtain more submissions for the newsletter from other sources, with the focus still being on submissions from the Womonspace membership, however. Kate will be writing a current-events column, bringing together lesbian and queer news and events from around Canada and the world for future issues of the newsletter. We are consistently striving to improve the content of the newsletter, and we look to the membership for any opinions and ideas on this matter.</p>
	e) Activities Report	<p>Jenn presented the Activities Report.</p> <p>All of our events were well attended except for March because of a booking error by the hall. They gave us a credit for our loss.</p> <p>January 19, 2006 Games night at Prism Bar. An average size crowd came out for fun and snacks.</p> <p>February 25, 2006 Dance at Bellevue Hall</p> <p>March 11, 2006 Dance at Bellevue Hall</p> <p>April 2006 Golf committee started (Rae, Jenn, Irene, Trish and Valda)</p> <p>April 9, 2006 2nd annual Coffee House at Prism Bar . A nice sized crowd enjoyed talent from within our community in the forms of novel/poetry readings, comedy and music.</p> <p>April 28, 2006 Women's Film Fest (Reel Femme Film Fest) One of the film directors and festival director came to Prism for drinks afterwards!! Womonspace had a booth. Hopefully next year more people come out to appreciate these great works of art!</p>

		<p>June 17, 2006 Womospace Pride Dance w/ EVM at Hellenic Hall SOLD OUT Pride Squad performed! Pom Poms!</p> <p>July 14th-15th, 2006 Carol Cattell Golf Tournament Everybody had a fabulous time! Great weather, great golf, great food, great people, great camping, great home-made music and games by the bonfire! We needed 8 more golfers to fill the roster of 72. Next year is expected to sell out.</p> <p>September 16, 2006 Dance at Bellevue Hall (used free credit) Very well attended. Many positive comments for Liquorice Whip from dance-goers!</p> <p>f) Volunteer's Report Monica presented the Volunteer's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A successful Volunteer Appreciation event was hosted. Ongoing focus is to recruit more volunteers to help out at scheduled events. </p> <p>g) Marketing Report Lori presented the Public Relations and Marketing Report.</p> <p>In the last year in my position as Public Relations and Marketing Director, I have gained a positive rapport with our current advertisers.</p> <p>This past year, I have taken on the challenge of organizing the current state of affairs. Thus far, I have created a contact system to recognize the efforts of the past Board and prospects of our future advertising support system. To achieve this, I have created an indexing system that will provide Womospace with appropriate contacts to allow us to obtain revenue in a timely manner.</p> <p>I would like to welcome our new advertising clients to Womospace. To our current advertisers, a big thank you for your support. In addition, we have the privilege of obtaining the services of <i>GayCalgary.com Magazine</i>. They have offered to provide us with more exposure for Womospace events.</p> <p>In the upcoming year, I intend to actively seek new sources of revenue. We will also be continuing with our current sponsorship program. I would like to increase our current number of distribution sites to create more awareness of Womospace. I also plan to work to increase Womospace's positive and supportive presence in the lesbian community in general.</p> <p>I would like to encourage any suggestions that would forward our cause in the next year. Also, please consider volunteering.</p> <p>Thank you for attending the Womospace Annual General Meeting. We appreciate your support.</p> <p>h) Vice President's Report Valda presented the Vice President Report.</p> <p>Well it has been quite a year! It got off to a roaring start with an "all-hands-on-deck" Christmas Dinner & Dance for our membership. What with catering it ourselves, (with the most appreciated help of Candy N. & Mom), the dinner became an exercise in assessing our skills and acted as an insightful team-building exercise. An outstanding success and sense of accomplishment was felt by all involved.</p> <p>Our Valentine's Dance was a "Sweetheart" of an affair. We again as a new board found our strengths and forged working relationships to produce another successful event. A whole year of dance events followed, leaving me satisfied and grateful for</p>
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6.0	Business Arising/Questions	Julie welcomed questions from the membership. None were presented.
7.0.	Nominations/Elections	Julie opened the floor for nominations for the following board positions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activities Director: Jenn nominated by Norma. Filled by acclamation. ▪ Secretary: Karen nominated by Norma. Filled by acclamation. ▪ Vice President: Cindy nominated by Norma. Filled by acclamation. ▪ President: No nominations. Norma has agreed to stay on as Past President. Active recruiting of a President is to be undertaken.
8.0	Sub Committee Sign Up Sheets	Norma reminded everyone of the opportunity to sign up for the following sub committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activities ▪ Marketing ▪ Dances ▪ Golf ▪ Volunteers ▪ Pride Week
9.0	Adjournment	Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:30 p.m. Moved by Lori, Seconded by Valda. Carried.