



Suzuki Association of Ontario
Full Board Meeting
Minutes
Saturday, June 11, 2023 at 1:30pm on Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84358804592?pwd=S2FEMkh4QUdHb1NYVkt4UVZaUFo0QT09>

Meeting ID: 843 5880 4592

Passcode: 535414

1. Welcome!

- Meeting Called to Order at 1:33pm (via Zoom
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/94374870761?pwd=Y2FhS2dLcSt0Rlc1UHZic1VUMGg2UT09>)
- Attending:
 - Debbie Hammond, Chair
 - Genevieve Schirm-Joyce, Treasurer
 - Lauren Taylor, Secretary
 - Daniela Cruz
 - Emma
 - George Cleland
 - Janice Mah
 - Jennifer Martyn
 - Susan Wooltorton
 - Rebecca Ashworth, Administrator
- Regrets:
 - Matthew Gould

2. Land Acknowledgement

- *The Suzuki Association of Ontario would like to acknowledge that Ontario is located on the traditional territory of Indigenous peoples dating back countless generations. We want to show our respect for their contributions and recognize the role of treaty making in what is now Ontario. Hundreds of years after the first treaties were signed, they are still relevant today.*
- Presented Genevieve Schirm-Joyce

3. SAO Mission Statement

- *The mission of the Suzuki Association of Ontario is to promote and support the Suzuki Method of learning by nurturing excellence in education.*

4. Approval of the Minutes- March 2023 (vote)

- **Motion to approve the March 2023 minutes as presented:**
 - **Motioned by: Susan W.**
 - **Seconded: Daniela C.**
 - **All in Favour**



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- **Carried**
- 5. Approval of the Agenda (vote)
 - **Motion to approve the June 2023 minutes as presented:**
 - **Motioned by: Susan W.**
 - **Seconded: Jennifer M.**
 - **All in Favour**
 - **Carried**
- 6. Financial Update
 - Current financial status
 - Presented by Genevieve Schirm-Joyce
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1haBy66VM1I7vQnfNT_f8iKDX_cKbNWkGKI2Q2GrrjNY/edit?usp=sharing
 - Membership fees, education program, and investments are our main income
 - Administrator fees are down, accounting and bookkeeping fees are down
 - Conference expense was almost doubled - next year's will be reworked
 - Membee is a big expense, however other fees are down (paypal, administration, eventbrite)
 - Urd Grander scholarship bumps up the overall revenue of the year - however, we will in fact be about 500 over budget for the year
 - Preparation of 2023-24 budget (vote)
 - Presented by Genevieve
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1s0rIkbphFDMucOobJr8RM-5m1tpIn-Y07HfOBQje_3g/edit?usp=sharing
 - Revenue:
 - Our projected membership, conference, education program, and TEA income is conservative but similar to this year's actuals
 - Expenses:
 - Administrator fees are similar to last year (Rebecca is
 - Education Teacher budget is for TEAs and Planting the Seed program



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- Conference fees - we are hoping to have more in person attendance - we have a catering fee for in person as well as travel bursaries
- We will need to allocate some money to Board Training
- **Motion to raise the Administrative Stipend from \$20/hour to \$21/hour for the 2023/2024 year**
 - **Motioned by: Genevieve**
 - **Seconded: Daniela**
 - **All in Favour**
 - **Carried**
- **Motion to present the 2023-24 Budget to the AGM**
 - **Motioned by: Genevieve**
 - **Seconded: Debbie**
 - **All in Favour**
 - **Carried**

7. SAO Programs Review

- SAO TEA: Sunday, June 4 at 2pm with Edmund Sprunger
- Planting the Seed 2023-24: Starting in September 2023
 - This past year's series was very successful - however, we have had some feedback that some families didn't hear about the series until it had started
 - We are still thinking about a 4th session for the 2023/2024 season - please submit your suggestions!
- SAO Conference: Waterloo, November 11 & 12 in Waterloo
 - The board is thinking that a centralized conference that is run by the board will be more predictable and reflect better on the organization

8. Membership Renewals

- Renewal rates (vote)
 - Membership rates have not increased since 2020
 - The outline of rates is posted here: 2023-24 Membership Fees - SAO - Full Board
 - Executive proposes an increase of \$1 for Active Membership and Group Teacher Membership



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- **Motion to approve the Membership Fees changes as presented**
 - **Motioned by: Debbie**
 - **Seconded: Susan**
 - **All in Favour**
 - **Carried**
 - Membership benefits list
 - Our list is posted here: 2023-24 Membership Benefits - SAO - Full Board
 - Conference early bird pricing could include discounted membership to encourage attendees to join?
9. Website Update: <https://suzukiontario.org/> Website Review Assignments - SAO - Full Board
- Review of current content
 - Pages will be assigned - board members will rewrite the content, submit the copy to Basecamp, and Rebecca will post it as is
 - Assignment of page revisions (our deadline aim for these revisions is July/August)
 - Heading: Events (Executive)
 - Calendar
 - Community Calendar: Auto
 - SAO Conference: Conference Team
 - Heading: Why Join?
 - Membership Benefits: Lauren Taylor
 - Join Now
 - Scholarships & Bursaries: Janice Mah
 - Heading: News
 - Board Updates: Exec
 - Community News
 - Newsletter Archive
 - Heading: About
 - Leadership
 - The Suzuki Method: Susan (Debbie)
 - SAO History: Jennifer Martyn
 - Contact Us



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- Heading: Members Only
 - Update Your Profile
 - My Account
 - Member Resources: Membership R&R Committee (Lauren, George, Daniela, Emma)
 - Board of Directors-->Committee Meetings: Populated as needed
- Please feel free to develop or create any content you'd like - Exec and Admin is very happy to support with any information needed
- Members area resources development
- 10. Strategic Planning Discussions-
 - Organizational Management
 - Newsletter Plan- in response to conversation in February
 - Discussion
 - Newsletter format, come September, will be 8 smaller editions, with blog area on the website for Area Reports
 - Newsletter Advertising (vote)
 - The advertising format and proposed revisions are outlined here: 2023-24 Proposed Advertising Concept - SAO - Full Board
 - Our plan is to switch over to a sponsorship model, seeking sponsors for events rather than sticking to newsletter advertising
 - Debbie and Rebecca would be contacting existing advertisers now, to ensure they line up with our September to September year
 - **Motion to update newsletter advertising to become an event sponsorship program based on number and size of event:**
 - **Motioned by: Debbie**
 - **Seconded: Jennifer**
 - **All in favour**
 - **Carried**
 - Remaining pillar discussions deferred to November meeting
- 11. Review of Existing SAO procedure and information documents - Breakout Rooms
 - SAO Board Roles
 - Board Nomination Application



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- SAO Board Member Agreement
- Membership Contact Letters
- 12. Scholarship Approvals
 - Review submissions (vote)
 - Scholarship Applications received are not eligible
- 13. Nomination Committee (vote)
 - Bylaw mandates: Chair, Past-Chair, Vice-Chair
 - A few of our members are resigning; we need volunteers to join a nomination committee to recruit new Board members
 - 519 Area Representative, 1 or 2 Members-At-Large, Interim Member-At-Large
 - Emma may take the 613 Member Representative spot
 - Volunteers are needed - these can be non-board members
 - Board Member Perk: all families that register for Planting the Seed (regardless of numbers) will get \$15 pricing
 - Nomination Committee: Debbie, Daniela, Lauren
- 14. Thanks everyone!
 - Adjourned