

Minutes of the 29th A.G.M. of the Takapuna U3A Inc held at the Northcote Citizens Hall on Wednesday 5 August 2020

Welcome- President Ron Wilson welcomed about 146 members

Apology: was received from Norman Lodge

Minutes of 2019 A.G.M. were accepted as a true and accurate report. Moved: Ron Wilson
Seconded Tony Lewis

Annual Report

President Ron Wilson indicated that U3A Takapuna was in good shape with a membership of about 300 and about 130 regularly attending the monthly meetings despite the interruption of the Covid19 Lockdown. There are currently 35 study and interest groups including several new ones.

Items by our own people at the end of year function were appreciated as was the newsletter quiz put together by Jan Judson. Speakers' talks are reproduced on the website.

There are many who help behind the scenes and they were acknowledged (Phil and Pauline Silver for setting up and tidying the hall; Boyd Miller and Chris Dentith for organising the visuals ;Barry Hartley for sound; Murray Pearson for newsletter production, including the development of the email version and Rosemary Larsen for study group contacting; John and Judy Hanna for the newsletter distribution) It was noted that Barry could use a back-up person on sound.

The committee and especially Vice- President, Stephen Warnes, were thanked for their work during Ron's extra year.

The report was adopted by acclamation

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, David Gibbs told the meeting that the annual accounts for the year ended 30 June 2020 had been audited and approved by Martin Lee, our honorary auditor and he thanked Martin for that and for his willingness to be available to audit the accounts again for the 2020-2021 year.

A summary of the main points in the accounts was displayed on the screen:-

Operating surplus \$4,425 due to cost savings

Newsletter mailing and printing now 40% of our expenditure, down from 52% last year

Subscriptions reduced to \$20 per member

Printed newsletter now charged separately

Cash reserves in excess of 1 year's expenditure

The Treasurer indicated that income was less than expected due to a small decrease in membership (307-299) but cost savings had been achieved through hall, speakers and catering savings due to Covid19, and the reduction in newsletter printing and mailing costs as the number of people receiving an email version grew. The advantages of the emailed newsletter and the savings involved prompted a reduction of the membership fees to \$20 per member plus an additional \$20.00 for a mailed newsletter if required. As of the date of writing the report and based on Subscriptions received for the new year, only 6% members have opted for a printed newsletter.

At the close of the financial year on 30 June 2020, the chequing account balance was \$6,936.64 and the term deposit balance was \$13,683.19. The committee feels that owing to the uncertainty of this hall being available and the possible requirement to replace audio/visual gear it is wise to retain \$10,000 in cash reserves. However, appropriate uses for surplus funds should be examined.

Moved David Gibbs, Seconded Erica Brash that the report be adopted and that Martin Lee be appointed Honorary Auditor for the new year. Agreed

Following the Treasurer's report the auditor, Martin Lee, told us that several of the charitable groups that he audits have an arrangement to collect money (over and above membership fees) to donate to a cause relevant to their purpose.

There was general discussion on this topic including a suggestion that there should be a ring fenced amount available to any interest group (to pay for trips for example). Another view expressed was that groups ran themselves and paid their own expenses. A suggestion which was met with acclamation was that U3A Takapuna could increase the amount given to speakers (who are often from groups seeking donations). The matter was referred to the committee. Ideas could be explored through the newsletter.

Life Memberships were awarded to Graeme Alcock and Gary Dimmock for outstanding service to U3A Takapuna and Certificates presented by Ron Wilson to applause

Election of Officers (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary)

Nominations Received

President – Stephen Warnes

Vice President – Jan Judson

Treasurer – David Gibbs (current)

Secretary – Erica Brash (current)

Elected unopposed by acclamation

Election of Committee

Christine Ball – Speaker Convenor (current role since 2018)

Sue Pearson – Reception

Rosemary Larsen – Group Coordinator

Elected unopposed by acclamation

General Business Ron was asked for information about the rebuilding of the hall but was not in receipt of any further or detailed information. The Mary Thomas building behind the Takapuna library was suggested as an alternative but parking could be a problem.

The new President, Stephen Warnes presented a gift voucher to Ron Wilson (for his work as outgoing President) and Elizabeth Hall (for her support of him). Their work over the past 3 years was appreciated.

Meeting closed at about 10.30 am

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President

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Secretary