

Atheist Foundation of Australia (AFA) Annual General Meeting Minutes 2015

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Mantra on Russell Street, Melbourne Victoria

8pm Friday 20th March 2015.

Present

Christian Bell; Rod Bower; Michael Boyd; Tracy Burgess; Ken Clements; Janine Gebert; Danny Jarman; Julian Jordan; Karen Joyce; Joel Kilgour; Ian Madsen; Chris Marshall; Ian Michaels; Michelle Newton-Greene; John Perkins; Elida Radig; Ian Rutherford; Andrew Skegg; Kylie Sturgess.

Apologies

Sarah Bluett; Andrew Rawlings; Ian Robinson.

A facility was set up at the meeting for those who wished to attend by teleconference. No calls were received on the teleconference phone. Joel's phone number was given to them in case there were problems dialling in. Joel reported that he received no calls.

Chair

Michael Boyd, AFA President

Minute Taker

Karen Joyce, AFA Secretary

Item	Description	Moved	Seconded	Outcome
Minutes of AGM 2014	Minutes of AFA AGM 2014 provided to attendees. <i>Motion:</i> That the minutes of then Annual General Meeting held on	Tracy Burgess	Michelle Newton-Greene	Carried



	21/03/2014 be accepted.			
Treasurer's Report Julian JORDAN	Report provided to attendees, including the Financial Report for the year ended 31/01/2015 from Accountant, Anthony Pickham. <i>Motion:</i> That the Treasurer's Report and Financial Report be accepted.	Tracy Burgess.	Danny Jarman	Carried
Website Report Jullian JORDAN	Report provided to attendees. <i>Motion:</i> That the Website Report be accepted.	Michael Boyd	Ian Michaels.	Carried
Social Media and Forum Report Danny JARMAN and Ian MICHAELS	Reports provided to attendees. <i>Motion:</i> That the Social Media and Forums Report be accepted.	Julian Jordan	Michael Boyd	Carried
Membership Report Michelle NEWTON- GREENE	Report provided to attendees. <i>Motion:</i> That the Membership Report be accepted.	Karen Joyce	Tracy Burgess	Carried
Magazine Report Tracy BURGESS	Report provided to attendees. <i>Motion:</i> That the Magazine Report be accepted.	Michael Boyd	Karen Joyce	Carried
President's Report Michael BOYD	Report provided to attendees. <i>Motion:</i> That the President's Report be accepted.	Karen Joyce	Tracy Burgess	Carried
Secretary's Report Karen JOYCE	Report provided to attendees. <i>Motion:</i> That the Secretary's Report be accepted.	Michelle Newton-Greene	Ian Michaels	
Election of Committee	Michael explained to those present that in accordance with 6.2 i and j of the constitution, one half of the Committee have retired. They were:			



Michael Boyd, Tracy Burgess, Victor Franco, Dave Fregon, Janine Gebert, Mark Gilroy and Danny Jarman.

The other half who retain membership on the Committee under these provisions are Julian Jordan, Karen Joyce, Joel Kilgour, Ian Michaels, Michelle Newton-Greene, Andrew Skegg and Kylie Sturgess.

Of the retiring Committee members, all except Victor Franco have indicated that they are standing for re-election.

In addition, a nomination has been received. Sarah Bluett has accepted nomination to the Committee.

Because the number of candidates is less than the number of vacancies, no member at the AGM voting against any candidate, the Committee now has the following members: Sarah Bluett, Michael Boyd, Tracy Burgess, Dave Fregon, Janine Gebert, Mark Gilroy, Danny Jarman, Julian Jordan, Karen Joyce, Joel Kilgour, Ian Michaels, Michelle Newton-Greene, Andrew Skegg and Kylie Sturgess.

Because we received no indication either way from Victor Franco, and there are still some vacancies on the Committee, the secretary will contact him and find out if he is interested in continuing on the Committee.

Special Resolutions

Prior to moving the special resolutions there was discussion of the reasons for proposals to alter AFA's constitution and the improvements in procedure for arranging AGMs which we were aiming at. These special resolutions were duly circulated to the members of AFA prior to the AGM and a detailed response was received from Ian Robinson. It was read to members at the AGM and it points out some potential problems with the

Ken Clements.

Andrew Skegg

Carried



proposals. In view of these concerns, the secretary expressed a willingness to re-formulate the proposals.

Motion: That the submission from Ian Robinson has been received and the matter of the constitutional amendments shall be referred to the relevant committee for consideration before the next annual General Meeting.

Special Resolution 1.	That 6.2 j of the Constitution be altered so that it reads: <i>j. A retiring Committee member shall be eligible to stand for re-election without nomination. No other person shall be eligible to stand for election unless a member of the Foundation has nominated that person at least 35 days before the meeting by delivering the nomination of that person to the secretary of the Foundation. The nomination shall be signed by the proposer and by the nominee, who must each be members of the Foundation for no less than twelve months prior to signing the nomination. Nominations for the Committee will open on the first of January of each year.</i>	Michael Boyd	Tracy Burgess	Motion Lost
Special Resolution 2.	That 8.3 (a) of the Constitution shall be altered so that it reads: <i>a. Subject to 8.3 b, at least 28 days' notice of any general meeting shall be given to members. The notice shall set out where and when the meeting will be held, and particulars of the nature and order of business to be transacted at the meeting.</i>	Michael Boyd	Tracy Burgess	Motion Lost
Questions From Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ian Madsen suggested a global call for volunteers to help with the next GAC. We might also use smaller events in ways that build up membership. Ian Rutherford asked about the age profile of AFA			



members. Various Committee members contributed to this discussion, referring to our efforts to understand the demographics of AFA and to statistics provided on social media.

- Elida Radig asked about languages spoken by AFA members and again, information available indicates numerous languages spoken across our membership, some being multi-lingual.
- Ken Clements suggested that AFA might provide resource and activity guides for regional groups within AFA.

Meeting Closed at 21.14 Eastern Standard Time.

Chairperson

X

Date

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