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## MINUTES: Annual General Meeting 2021

Monday 12 April 2021

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

via Zoom Meeting

**Meeting started: 5:30 PM**

### 1. Welcome and Apologies -

**1.1. In attendance HCNSW General Council:** Dr Stephen Gapps (President, Chair, SG), A/Professor Nancy Cushing (Vice-President, NC), Dr Kiera Lindsey (Secretary, KL), Dr Isobelle Barrett-Meyering (Treasurer, IBM), Matthew Allen (MA), Richard Neville (RN), Michael McDonnell (MMcD), Dr Lisa Murray (LM)

**1.2. In attendance HCNSW Staff:** Catherine Shirley (CS), Cassandra Rodger (CR and Minutes)

**1.3. In attendance - HCNSW members:** Laila Ellmoo (LE), Jan Lanicek (JL), Julie McIntyre (JM), Leah Lui-Chivizhe (LLC), Mark Dunn (MD), Sonya Abbey (SA), David Carment (DC)

**1.4. Apologies:** Catie Gilchrist (CG), Megan Martin (MM), Martyn Killion (MK), Laura Anderson (LA), Jodi Frawley (JF)

### 2. Minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting held 19 May 2020 -

**2.1.** Brief discussion ensued concerning the Minutes and actions from the previous Annual General Meeting. SG called for comments and suggestions.





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- 2.2. NC made suggestions on clarity in the minutes and for them to be accepted. NC and KL discuss how the minutes reflected a window into the Council during a time of international crisis.
- 2.3. SG agreed and called for the minutes to be accepted with NC amendments. Moved by DC and seconded KL.
3. **President's Report** - SG presented the President's Report in the Annual Report and sought feedback from the members.
4. **Treasurer's Report** - IBM updated the Council and members on the Financial Report for 2020. IBM highlighted aspects of the report, reflecting upon the surplus of \$25,000 dollars in the 2020 Financial Year. IBM stated that the additional funding last year will enable the Council to develop new projects in the 2021 year whilst keeping a reserve in place for unexpected expenses/unforeseen events that could potentially impact the HCNSW ability to operate. SG congratulated IBM on her efforts and work in the last financial year and agreed that the HCNSW has come into 2021 in a stronger position. SG called for the Treasurer Report to be moved and a financial statement as per LM suggestions to include a more descriptive narrative with breakdown of high expenditure and grant funding i.e., be attached to the website once HCNSW considers governance obligations. Moved by SG and seconded NC.
5. **Nomination of an auditor for the 2021 Financial Year** - IBM updated the Council and members concerning the auditor for the 2021 Financial Year and whether the HCNSW will need to rotate auditors on varying years. IBM stated that changing an auditor is not required as it is not a listed corporate organisation and that the HCNSW has been advised to retain the same auditor due to appropriate services. IBM commented that the



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recommendation would be to continue using Stirling Williams for the 2021 Financial Year as auditor. Moved by IBM and seconded by SG.

**6. Ballot for the election of the General Council** - the following members of the General Council resigned at the meeting (as per the requirements of the Constitution):

Dr Stephen Gapps	President
A/Prof Nancy Cushing	Vice President
Dr Isobelle Barrett Meyering	Treasurer
Dr Kiera Lindsey	Secretary
Richard Neville	Councillor
Megan Martin	Councillor
Dr Lisa Murray	Councillor
Dr Matthew Allen	Councillor
Prof Michael McDonnell	Councillor
Martyn Killion	Councillor

The following members were elected to the General Council, with Executive Committee elections to follow on 3 May 2021:

Dr Stephen Gapps  
Dr Kiera Lindsey  
Dr Isobelle Barrett Meyering  
Dr Julie McIntyre  
Richard Neville  
Dr Addie Leah Lui Chivizhe  
Laila Ellmoos  
Dr Matthew Allen  
Prof Michael McDonnell  
Dr Jan Láníček

**7. 2020 Annual Report** - Moved by SG and seconded by MA.

**8. Looking forward to 2021** - SG outlined plans for the Annual History Lecture to be held in person this year, if possible. He also outlined plans for upcoming events which would see an increase in HCNSW event output for the year, with the support of the Events Subcommittee. Plans for the employment of a Project Officer, First Nations Histories



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were also discussed, and gratitude expressed to Create NSW for their continuing support of the HCNSW through provision of an Annual Arts & Cultural Development Program grant, as well as to the City of Sydney for awarding the organisation a Cultural Sector Innovation Grant which would support the employment of a Project Officer, First Nations Histories.

- 9. COVID-19 -Effects and responses** - SG outlined how the HCNSW had continued to play on its strengths of presenting many of its events online in 2020-21. Office accommodation had been maintained in the CBD in the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, in a co-working space.
- 10. Strategic Planning and new directions for the HCNSW** - SG briefed the meeting about the outcomes of the Strategic Planning Day held in February, 2021 and was very pleased that a major strategic objective would be met in 2021 - the employment of a Project Officer, First Nations Histories, with recruitment to commence shortly.
- 11. Members' response - an opportunity for members to speak at the AGM** - LM requested that the HCNSW include the Profit and Loss page from the previous year's Audit Financial Report into the Annual Report for 2020, which was agreed as an action.
- 12. Any other business** - SG thanked the General Council, Executive Committee and HCNSW staff for their sterling efforts during 2020. In particular, he thanked retiring Councillors, Nancy Cushing, Megan Martin, Martyn Killion and Lisa Murray, for their dedication and contribution to the HCNSW over several decades.

**Meeting ended: 6:29 pm**