

Minutes: Annual General Meeting 2022

Tuesday, 3 May 2022

5:00 - 6:00 PM

via Zoom Meeting

Meeting Started: 5:05 PM

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 In attendance HCNSW General Council: Dr Stephen Gapps (President, Chair, SG), Dr Kiera Lindsey (Vice-President, KL), Dr Isobelle Barrett-Meyering (Treasurer, IBM, left meeting 5:19), Dr Julie McIntyre (Secretary, JM, entered meeting 5:11 PM), Dr Jan Lanicek (JL), Dr Leah Lui-Chivizhe (LLC) and Dr Matthew Allen (MA).

1.2 In attendance HCNSW Staff: Catherine Shirley (CS), Lisa Paton (LP) and Sarah Swift (SS and Minutes).

1.3 In attendance HCNSW Members: Mark Dunn (MD), Sonya Abbey (SA), David Carment (DC), Lisa Murray (LM), Tanya Evans (TE), Shirley Fitzgerald (SF), Laila Ellmoo (LE), Roslyn Burge (RB, entered meeting 5:17 PM) and Michael McDonnell (MM, entered meeting at 5:31 PM).

1.4 Apologies: Laura Anderson (LA) and Richard Neville (RN).

SG welcome, Acknowledgement to Country. Welcomed SS as the new Projects and Administration Officer (replacing Cassandra Rodger) and introduced LP as the First

History Council of New South Wales Inc
Postal Correspondence: PO Box R1737 Royal Exchange NSW 1225
Office: 1 Alvena Ave, St Ives, 2075
P: 0418 811 522
E: admin@historycouncilnsw.org.au
www.historycouncilnsw.org.au
ABN 53 517 817 122



Nations Project Officer, who began in November 2021. Welcome back to KL after a three-month sabbatical.

2. Minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting held on 12 April 2021.

Questions or comments were invited. No replies. Minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting held on 12 April 2021 were moved by KL, and seconded by IBM.

3. President's Report

SG thanked all Councillors, particularly the Executive Committee for their work on the sub-committees in what was a busy and challenging year. Particular mention to IBM for her work on the Budget as Treasurer, Cassandra Rodger for her work as Programs & Administration Officer, and CS for an outstanding job as Executive Officer. President's Report moved by MD and seconded by DC.

4. Treasurer's Report

IBM advised the Financial Report for 2021 includes a surplus of \$7000. This did not include \$20 000 of deferred income not spent due to programs unable to run in 2021, which will move into the 2022 Budget. Success in funding due to the work by Grants Sub-Committee, Cassandra and CS was acknowledged. The Profit and Loss Statement is included to ensure detailed information is available to all and the Audit Report is available upon request. Staff is still the most significant expenditure. SG mentioned the pleasing result of a healthy and expanded budget was due to the various grants received which have enabled more programs to run than in the past. Moved by SG and seconded by JM.

5. Nomination of an Auditor for the 2022 Financial Year

IBM explained that while nominations for an Auditor would normally occur at the AGM, the auditor had recently passed away and the HCNSW EC is seeking to defer the decision until 30 June 2022. IBM advised CS has tried to find a replacement but quotes have been

quite high. Conscious of how members' funds are spent (considering we are not required to do an audit), IBM feels it's still important and more time to compare quotes will be beneficial. CS to follow up on SA's suggestion for an auditor. Motion to defer the decision until 30 June 2022 and to enable the Executive Council to nominate an auditor moved by IBM and seconded by SG.

6. Annual Report

SG invited comments about the Annual Report, and KL replied about how useful it is to see the statistics of engagement across the different platforms we use to inform our events in the future and acknowledged the work of CS and Co. in collecting and interpreting that data. JM also commended CS for her work and stated how gratifying the First Nations initiatives are reflected in the report and are proud of how the report reflects our organisation. Moved by KL and seconded by JM.

7. Looking Forward to 2022

7.1 LP joined staff in November 2021, as First Nations Project Officer, as part of the Strategic Planning and business improvements for the HCNSW. SG commended LP for her strategies regarding First Nations Histories and upcoming programs in 2022. The Jill Roe Regional History Award has been announced. KL reiterated the new initiatives around First Nations Histories.

7.2 MA spoke of the Sydney Writers Festival in May and the events in Orange, Careers in History events, including Careers in First Nations History, and commended LP for her efforts.

7.3 KL confirmed Bruce Pascoe as guest speaker at the Annual History Lecture, his work lends itself to the theme 'Hands On History'. LP advised details on the family history workshops in Sydney and Bathurst in partnership with SLNSW, the History Week Orange tour, and reinforced opportunities for First Nation involvement in the History sector.

7.4 CS recognised Create NSW as the principal funder and the City of Sydney for their support, particularly with the employment of LP and Destination NSW for the Annual History Lecture and tours in Orange. CS also recognised the support of the Orange Council.

7.5 MD, chair of the Awards and Prizes subcommittee, advised that while the number of submissions was low, what was received was gratifying, with four out of five categories awarded. Details of the new Jill Roe Regional Award which is open to all career stages and all media formats.

7.6 CS spoke on behalf of IBM, detailing two new factors regarding HCNSW business improvements, including the Xero bookkeeping system, with permission from the Council to spend funds from the reserves (approx. \$3500), to help track projects more efficiently and a new membership database that is more automated, will add value for our members and enable members to manage their own profiles (at a similar cost of \$3500).

7.7 JM reiterated the importance of this new membership system and the possibility of conducting a survey to ascertain what members want. MA thought a survey would help in regards to how the Speaker Connect program could help members. KL suggested differentiated questions between Corporate and Individual Membership for surveys. CS offered possible future partnerships with other organisations.

8. Members' Responses

SG invited members to speak and LP discussed the potential for First Nations research. LLC asked CS about UTS corporate membership, and LLC to follow up. KL raised the idea of succession planning for the next General Council elections at the AGM in 2023. CS discussed two regional staff members LP and SS. SG and KL commented that the HCNSW has adapted throughout Covid-19 and has become a true state-wide organisation, with new regional staff and events to reflect that.

Meeting ended 5:52 PM