



AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATION LTD

24th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 15 May 2012

Ferguson Room

National Library of Australia

MINUTES

1. Notice of Convening Meeting

The meeting opened at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 15 May 2012. The President, Margaret Allen, in accordance with the Association's constitution, gave notice of convening the meeting. She welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Vice-president/President-elect, Vanessa Little, the Acting Executive Director, Rob Miller, and Averill Edwards who had been appointed as Parliamentarian for the Annual General Meeting. 23 members were present which constituted a quorum. The President called the meeting to order.

Voting rights for members voting in person were established. Proxies received were read to the meeting by the Acting Executive Director. The Parliamentarian advised on voting procedure should a vote be necessary.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Margaret Burn, Kym Holden, Catherine Harboe-Ree, Anne Horn, Anita Crotty, Helen Roberts, Janet Fletcher, Caroline Tunstall, Karna O'Dea, Catherine Bunker, Ghaik Khong.

Moved: That the apologies be accepted.

Moved: Margaret Allen

Seconded: Kathryn Cass

Carried

3. Minutes of the 2011 AGM, Tuesday 18 May 2011

Moved: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 18 May 2011 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting. Subject to the following corrections.

Two amendments to the 2011 AGM minutes were requested and agreed

1. Presidents Report seconded should be Sherrey Quinn not Sherrie Quinn
2. Item 5 Election of Directors should be 2011 not 2010

Moved: Margaret Allen

Seconded: Graham Black

Carried

4. Presentation of the Annual Report 2011 and financial statements

Moved: That the Annual Report 2011 and financial statements as tabled be received.

Ian McCallum thanked the Board on the results of the financial year and a job well done in returning the Association to surplus.

Margaret Allen thanked the national office staff for their efforts in achieving this result.

Moved: Margaret Allen

Seconded: Ian McCallum

Carried

5. Election of Directors

The President noted that Julie Rae was unopposed for the position of Vice-President (President-elect) and has been elected Vice-President (President-elect) with her term as President to start at the ALIA AGM 2013. The President further noted the election of Aileen Weir, Elke Dawson and Edmund Balnaves as directors of the Association unopposed for the term commencing from the AGM on Tuesday 15 May 2012 and they consent to act as Directors of the Association until the 2014 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: That the meeting notes that Julie Rae was declared elected as Vice-president (President-elect) and Aileen Weir, Elke Dawson and Edmund Balnaves were declared elected as directors of the Association for the term commencing from the 2012 Annual General meeting to the 2014 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Margaret Allen

Seconded: John Bayliss

Carried

6. Appointment of Auditors

Moved: That Price Waterhouse Coopers be appointed the Association's auditors for 2012.

Moved: Margaret Allen

Seconded: Joseph Cullen

Carried

7. Fixing of Auditors' Fees

Moved: That the remuneration of Price Waterhouse Coopers, the Association's auditors, be fixed by the Directors for the ensuing 12 months.

Moved: Margaret Allen

Seconded: Joseph Cullen

Carried

8. Reports

i. President's Report

Good Evening members and staff of the ALIA National Office.

The last two years as an ALIA Board member and in particular the last 12 months as President has been a rewarding, challenging and busy experience.

I have learned a great deal from the many members that I have met and the greatest pleasure and satisfaction has come from meeting passionate and energetic library professional across Australia. I've also gained an appreciation and understanding of issues facing the profession outside of my own daily work focus.

During my time as President, I have attempted to consider both the short term imperatives of the Association as well as longer term aspirations for the Association and the profession to 2015 and beyond.

In the short term there has been a focus on the financial sustainability of the Association. Declining membership and other financial pressure have required the Board to concentrate on financial matters as a priority. Our situation today is that the income the Association receives from membership fees is insufficient to cover the operating costs required to deliver the services expected by members and the broader profession. There has been some disquiet expressed to me by some members at the focus on the financial position of the Association but as President I make no apology for our emphasis on achieving a sustainable financial position for the Association. Not only is this a legal requirement of being a Director of ALIA but its critical for the long term sustainability of our Association.

In 2011, this focus delivered positive benefits. The National Office staff working with the support of the Board, delivered a financial surplus for the first time in many years and importantly our Auditors did not express any concerns about our financial position.

Our lobbying and advocacy efforts continued in 2011 and we prepared a number of submissions to government reflecting the broad interests of our profession and its members.

ALIA was chosen to deliver the \$1 million Increasing Accessibility initiative funded by The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and this was perhaps the largest single project undertaken by the Association during 2011.

The goal was to provide 800 digital audio devices through a minimum of 50 public library services. By the end of the project more that 1200 devices were provided through 175 service points and importantly increasing the number of Australians who have access to print material in digital format.

This is an example where ALIA's visibility and reputation within the Australian government allowed Australian public libraries and their clients to benefit from significant project funding.

Also during 2011 our lobbying for the 2012 National Year of Reading came to fruition with \$1.4million in funding provided through the Australian Government. There has been significant engagement with NYR by libraries across a broad sector

with the initiative as well as new partnership formed which we hope will provide lasting benefit for libraries. ALIA continues to work with the Founder Partners to deliver the major initiatives and events during 2012.

ALIA relies heavily on its members who volunteer to support the work of the Association and I've had the privilege to meet many of them over the last 12 months. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many ALIA members who give so generously and significantly of their time to support the work of the Association.

The Board and of course the members rely on the National Office staff who work on behalf of the members. I would like to thank the staff for their ongoing commitment to the Association.

One of the most important tasks I have had during my Presidency is the recruitment of a new Executive Director for the Association. This is a vital role and the Board are keen to ensure an appropriate appointment is made. I would like to advise members that this process is still currently underway at this time and as soon as I can share progress with members then I will do so.

I would like to thank outgoing Board members Graham Black – who agreed to stay on the Board for a further 12 months after his Presidency when a vacancy arose and also to John Bayliss.

Finally I'd like to acknowledge incoming President Vanessa Little, President Elect Julie Rae and new Board members Elka Dawson, Aileen Weir and Edmund Balnaves and to congratulate them on their appointment and thank them for their willingness to lead and guide ALIA over the coming years. Together with ongoing Board members, Joseph Cullen and Kathryn Cass I believe the Association is in good hands into the future.

I am pleased to submit the 2011/12 President's Report.

Moved: That the report of the President be received.

Moved: Margaret Allen

Seconded: Julie Rae

Carried

ii. Acting Executive Director's Report

Acting Executive Directors Report – Rob Miller. AGM May 2012

Thank you Margaret for your report on 2011 activities.

I have been acting as Executive Director of the Association since the beginning of January 2012 and wish to thank Margaret, the Board and the National Office staff for the support they have provided me during this time.

I wish to particularly thank the Advisory Committees with which I have become much more involved for the open attitude they display and their undoubted commitment to the Association.

From a National Office perspective 2011 was a year of both consolidation and achievement.

The consolidation occurred particularly in the Financial affairs of the Association. It is very pleasing to have been able to deliver an operating surplus in 2011. The greatest acknowledgement of the success of the implementation of new financial processes came in the form of a very successful audit process in which the Auditors reported finding “no uncorrected or material misstatements and no matters to be brought to the attention of the Board.”

This provides the Board and our members with a high degree of confidence that the financial affairs of the Association are being appropriately managed.

While 2012 is the National Year of Reading 2011 was undoubtedly the year of planning. I know that Margaret has discussed this wonderful Advocacy campaign but I just want to reiterate my thanks to each of the Founder Partners and the team from The Library Agency for the massive amount of work that went into committing to and planning this year.

While we have many partners and in kind sponsors of the National Year of Reading it is important to acknowledge the financial support of the Australian Government. The Australian Government committed \$1.4 million to the National Year of Reading through support from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (The Office for the Arts) and the then Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Professional development is often cited by members as a significant value of membership. It was very pleasing to be able to report that attendance at ALIA Training events increased by 15% during 2011 and over 200 new participants entered the PD scheme.

A significant amount of work was involved in our participation in the review of the National Training Scheme. It was important that the review ensured that the new qualifications reflected the requirements of the Industry

Members have responded positively to the new eBooks available online and members continue to access ProQuest LIS journals at a significant rate.

Again I wish to express my thanks to the staff at National Office. I thank them not only for the effort involved in delivering the financial result achieved in 2011 while continuing to deliver high quality service to our members and partners but for the support they have provided directly to me in my role as acting Executive Director.

Moved: That the report of the Acting Executive Director be received.

Moved: Margaret Allen
Seconded: Aileen Weir
Carried

9. Motions Received

The president advised the meeting that 8 notices of motions had been put to the meeting. The president then gave the meeting time to read all the motions.

The President advised the meeting that, as is the Chairs right, that Motion 4 and Motion 8 were out of order and proceeded to strike them out. She advised the meeting of her reasons. Motion 4 requires the Association to make decisions on behalf of other organisations which it cannot do and Motion 8 requires the Association to make value judgements on the performance of other organisations which it is neither entitled nor qualified to do. Both motions go beyond the Objects of the Association and its Constitutional powers and is within the authority as Chair to rule them out of order.

The meeting was advised that the remaining Motions required seconders before proceeding to a vote.

- a. **Motion 1**
The motion was read to the meeting. No seconder was received and the motion was not put.
- b. **Motion 2**
The motion was read to the meeting. No seconder was received and the motion was not put.
- c. **Motion 3**
The motion was read to the meeting. No seconder was received and the motion was not put.
- d. **Motion 5**
The motion was read to the meeting. No seconder was received and the motion was not put.
- e. **Motion 6**
The motion was read to the meeting. No seconder was received and the motion was not put.
- f. **Motion 7**
- g. The motion was read to the meeting. No seconder was received and the motion was not put.

Roxanne Missingham requested advice be given to the Motion “mover” on how best to use ALIA processes to assist in achieving any operational changes sought.

The Acting Executive Director was requested to contact the Motion “mover” to discuss why the motions were not successful.

10. General business

Vanessa Little thanked Margaret Allen for her outstanding leadership as President. Julie Rae also thanked Sue Hutley the past executive Director for her work for the Association and in particular her work in advocacy.

10. Conclusion of the meeting

There being no further business the President declared the 23rd Annual General Meeting of ALIA closed at 6.38 pm.

President

Date

DRAFT