



AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATION LTD

25th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 14 May 2013

Ferguson Room

National Library of Australia

MINUTES

1. Notice of Convening Meeting

The meeting opened at 6.04 pm on Tuesday 14 May 2013. The President, Vanessa Little, 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, Julie Rae, the Executive Director, Sue McKerracher, and Averill Edwards who had been appointed as Parliamentarian for the Annual General Meeting. Twenty four members were present which constituted a quorum. The President called the meeting to order.

Voting rights for members voting in person were established. No proxies were received. The Parliamentarian advised on the voting procedure should a vote be necessary.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Sherrey Quinn, Ian McCallum, Jean Truebridge, Sonja Barfoed, Margy Burn, Anita Crotty, Gaik Khong and Kym Holden.

Moved: That the apologies be accepted.

Moved: Vanessa Little
Seconded: Aileen Weir

Carried

3. Minutes of the 2012 AGM, Tuesday 15 May 2012

Moved: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 15 May 2012 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting. Subject to the following correction:

Correction of spelling of Cathrine Harboe-Ree

Moved: Vanessa Little
Seconded: Elke Dawson

Carried

4. Presentation of the 2012 financial statements

Moved: That the 2012 financial statements as tabled be received.



Moved: Vanessa Little
Seconded: Edmund Balnaves
Carried

5. Presentation of the Annual Report 2012

Moved: That the Annual Report 2012 as tabled be received.

Moved: Vanessa Little
Seconded: Kathryn Cass
Carried

6. Election of Directors

The President noted that Susan Coker was elected to the position of Vice-President (President-elect) with her term as President to start at the ALIA AGM 2014. The President further noted the election of Alyson Dalby and Damian Lodge as directors of the Association for the term commencing from the AGM on Tuesday 14 May 2013 and they consent to act as Directors of the Association until the 2015 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: That the meeting notes that Susan Coker was declared elected as Vice-president (President-elect) and Alyson Dalby and Damian Lodge were declared elected as directors of the Association for the term commencing from the 2013 Annual General meeting to the conclusion of the 2015 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Vanessa Little
Seconded: Edmund Balnaves
Carried

7. Appointment of Auditors

Moved: That Price Waterhouse Coopers be confirmed as the Association's auditors for 2013.

Moved: Vanessa Little
Seconded: Edmund Balnaves
Carried

8. 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: Vanessa Little
Seconded: Alyson Dalby
Carried



9. Reports

i. President's report

Welcome to the 2013 ALIA AGM and thank you for your interest in the governance of our Association. It is my pleasure to present an overview of the activities of ALIA for the past year.

Firstly, I must start by saying that the financial return for 2012 was outstanding. Acting Executive Director Rob Miller and Director of Corporate Services Harry Carroll, working with the ALIA board, achieved an outcome that will help to offset earlier losses.

While the surplus of \$495 000 appears exceptional on paper, it has to be remembered that \$189 000 of that is purely a number on paper, connected with the closure of the inter library loan voucher scheme, and in addition there were savings from staff vacancies. The Board remained committed to keeping the Association on an even financial footing through the year.

The Biennial Conference in Sydney was an outstanding success. The Board is indebted to the organising committee and to the ALIA staff, including Events Manager Christina Granata, for delivering such a successful conference. We have received very positive feedback from participants and vendors.

In positions of leadership it is often the case that you must make difficult and sometimes controversial decisions. Such a decision by the Board was to move *Australian Library Journal (ALJ)* and *Australian Academic and Research Libraries (AARL)* to the Taylor & Francis Routledge imprint. The cost of publishing the journals ourselves had become a significant burden for the Association and we were faced with the option of ceasing publication or finding a more financially viable alternative. The agreement secured the future of the journals and as everything in life, this arrangement is not set in stone forever.

The National Year of Reading campaign was launched on 14 February – Library Lovers Day – and provided a positive boost for libraries across Australia. ALIA acted not only as the auspicing body, but as a Founder Partner of the NYR. ALIA has gained much traction with governments, business and the not for profit sector from its role in NYR.

We were less fortunate with government libraries in Queensland and TAFE libraries in Victoria. Both came in for a pounding as a result of state government funding cuts. The Association became actively involved in state-based advocacy initiatives and it was clear that, when times are tough, Association membership is even more important. Together we are stronger.

The Australian Law Reform Commission's investigation into copyright began in 2012 and continued into 2013, again requiring ALIA and its partners to advocate strongly for the sector and our clients. Thank you to Ellen Broad and the Australian Libraries Copyright Council for the work done to date on this issue.

Throughout 2012, ALIA was active in its engagement with federal government and its agencies. Meetings, letters and submissions have made the aims of the Association clear to politicians and their advisors.

ALIA staff and Board members have regularly met with our colleagues in other library and related associations to ensure that the messages we were giving to policy makers were complementary and designed to achieve the best outcomes for the sector and for our members.

I would like to acknowledge the many ALIA volunteers who give their time for the advancement of the Association and our profession. To the many members on Advisory Committees, special interest groups, local committees, and those who have provided their expertise into government enquiries, training and development programs, and the like, please accept the thanks of the Board on behalf of all



members. It is difficult in busy lives to find the time to contribute to the profession, but you all find the time and ALIA is the better for it.

I would like to make special mention of the National Year of Reading Founding Partners. This initiative has been a significant milestone for the profession, supported by ALIA, and it has raised the profile of libraries with governments, the media and the community.

ALIA would not operate without the commitment and expertise of its Board. Board membership of ALIA comes with many rewards, but it is also a commitment of time and energy and I would like to thank my fellow Board members, Julie Rae, Kathryn Cass, Joseph Cullen, Elke Dawson, Edmund Balnaves and Aileen Weir for their contribution throughout the year – wise counsellors and wonderful experts, each of them.

I would like to especially acknowledge the outgoing Board members, Joseph Cullen and Kathryn Cass. They have been dedicated and enthusiastic members of our team and have made a significant contribution to the new directions of ALIA. To the ALIA staff who, for this year, had a President so close in proximity to be breathing down their necks – thank you most sincerely for the work that you do, on a shoestring budget and with many demands. Our Association is greatly enhanced by the quality of the ALIA staff team.

Overall, 2012 has been a year of transition for ALIA. I hope that ALIA members have seen the Board and staff as being active and consultative this year and as I leave my role as President, I want to congratulate the newly elected Board members and wish the new Board well in 2013-14.

Finally, I wish Julie Rae, incoming President, the same experiences that I have had as President of our Association – challenge, reward, learning and inspiration.

Moved: That the report of the President be received.

Moved: Vanessa Little

Seconded: Roxanne Missingham

Carried

ii. Executive Director's report

During the interim period of nine months between Sue Hutley's departure at the end of 2011 and my arrival on 20 August 2012, ALIA Director: Member Services Rob Miller ably performed the interim role of acting Executive Director. Under the direction of the ALIA Board, his primary focus was on attracting and retaining new members, and further securing the financial sustainability of the Association.

Rob left us in September, with the Association's membership and finances in good shape, and the management team of four became three, comprising the Executive Director, Director: Professional Services Janice Taylor (from 31 July 2012), and Director: Corporate Services Harry Carroll.

Our focus on membership and sustainability remained strong and we introduced four guiding themes to help shape our activities going forward. These themes were 'open, inclusive, collaborative, and member-focused'. They reflected the ALIA Board's commitment to a new way of thinking and helped us carry out the groundwork for ALIA's year of renewal in 2013.

The ALIA House team and our State and Territory Managers welcomed the opportunity to review what we do and how we do it, to ensure that the services we provide for members continue to be in line with what is required. In an ever-



changing landscape, we all recognised that the Association couldn't afford to stand still.

The energy and enthusiasm of the ALIA staff for initiating new projects and adopting an alternative approach to achieving our strategic goals resulted in a number of improvements in membership, publishing, communications, conferences, and events. A successful trial project for our health library members, for example, carried out by our PD Manager Judy Brooker, with the assistance of Cecily Gilbert, will result in a new certified professional status being introduced in 2013.

I was impressed by how much the ALIA team managed to achieve in a short space of time. From a distance, ALIA House appears to be very well resourced, but this can be deceptive. Many of our team, including our State and Territory Managers, are part-time.

I would like to acknowledge the sincere commitment of the ALIA team and to thank the ALIA Board members for their support while I was settling into my new role, which has proved to be challenging, stimulating, and rewarding.

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

Moved: Vanessa Little
Seconded: Karna O'Dea

Carried

Roxanne Missingham expressed appreciation for the work of Rob Miller as Acting Director. Sue McKerracher was congratulated on her appointment as Executive Director.

10. Motions received

The President advised the meeting that no motions were received.

11. General business

Roxanne Missingham urged ALIA to continue the work begun during the National Year of Reading, an initiative promoted by ALIA in 2012 that brought literacy issues to the attention of government and the general community.

Averill Edwards was thanked for her efforts as the parliamentarian over the past 13 years. Averill will retire from the role this year.

Thanks were also expressed to our retiring President, Vanessa Little, for her leadership of the board and her advocacy efforts on behalf of the profession.

12. Conclusion of the meeting

There being no further business the President declared the 25th Annual General Meeting of ALIA closed at 6.28pm.



President

Date

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