



2019 AGM Minutes

Australian Society of Travel Writers Inc. Saturday 19 October 2019

Location: Riley – a Crystalbrook Collection Hotel, Cairns, Queensland

Meeting commenced at 3pm.

1. Welcome by President, Appointment of Chairman under Clause 28(2) of the Constitution.

Stuart Innes, appointed Chairman under Clause 28(2) of the Constitution, welcomed everyone present and thanked all for their attendance. He advised the procedures for the AGM.

2. Attendees

A quorum was present, and the meeting declared open.

3. Apologies

Andrew Bain, Angela Cowley, Annie Lyons, Belinda Jackson, Ben Groundwater, Chelsea Hauschka, Christina Butcher, Christina Pfeiffer, Corrie Gardner, Craig Tansley, Donna Kramer, Donna Parkin, Ginni Post, Hayley Lewis, Janaya Birse, Jill Varley, Julie Miller, Kara Murphy, Kate Hennessy, Katrina Lobley, Kerri McConnel, Kerry van der Jagt, Kristy Brown, Laura Speirs, Leah McLennan, Liani Solari, Louise Southerden, Lyndey Milan, Lynn Gail, Maggy Oehlbeck, Malcolm Longstaff, Mark Daffey, Melanie Ball, Mike O'Connor, Mike Smith, Natasha Granath, Philip Engelberts, Philip Game, Rachelle Mackintosh, Rea Francis, Rene Young, Rhonda Bannister, Roderick Eime, Sally Macmillan, Sally Towell, Sarah Reid, Satu Raunola-Spencer, Silke Kerwick, Steve Madgwick, Sue Finn, Brad Crouch, Helen Finlayson, Nicole Lenoir-Jourdan, John Maddocks, Frank Gallego, Ken Morton

4. Introductions

Committee members and new members present introduced themselves. First-time attendees were: Jennifer Morton, Danielle Norton, Matt Leedham, Michelle Hespe, Lauren Blank, Bec Andrews, Carrie Hutchison, Jeremy Drake, Seana Smith, Lauren Grounsell, Kate Symons, Marianne Rogerson, Francesca Baldi, Mel Healey, Anthony Bianco, Carolyn Beasley, Justin Meneguzzi, Emily McCauliffe, Liz Bond, Benita Grima, Susan Elliott, Alexis Buxton Collins, Diane Bortoletto, Carmen Jenner, Angie Cristoffis, Caro Ryan, Michael Turtle, Joanne Motta, Lizzie Doyle, Polly Simmons, Tori Goddard.

5. Noting of the 2018 AGM Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the association known as the Australian Society of Travel Writers Inc. held at Anantara Bangkok Riverside Resort on Saturday 18 August 2018 be accepted. Moved Helen Hayes, seconded Tracey Croke. Approved.

6. Reports

President's Report [Helen Hayes]

Helen Hayes delivered the President's report. Moved David McGonigal, seconded Bev Malzard. Approved.

Vice-Presidents' Report [Aleney de Winter]

Previously submitted and available on the website.

Secretary's Report

Not presented.

Treasurer's Report [Jeremy Bourke]

Jeremy Bourke delivered the Treasurer's report. Moved Pamela Wright, seconded Jac Taylor. Approved.

PR Report [Mandy Dwyer and Saskia Baker]

Saskia Baker delivered the PR report. Moved Briar Jensen, seconded Penny Watson. Approved.

7. Election of Committee Members for 2018-2019

Nominations received, and committee appointed:

Helen Hayes
Aleney de Winter
Jeremy Bourke
Deborah Dickson-Smith*
Catherine Marshall*
Christina Pfeiffer
Natasha Mirosch*
Sue Preston*
Mandy Dwyer
Saskia Baker
*(new)

8. Election of Office Bearers for 2018-2019

1. Nominations were called for the position of President. Helen Hayes was nominated by Lee Mylne, seconded by Lee Atkinson and accepted the nomination. As there were no further nominations, she was declared elected.
2. Nominations were called for the position of Vice-President. Aleney de Winter was nominated by Kerry Heaney, seconded Cathy Wagstaff and accepted the nomination. As there were no further nominations, she was declared elected.
3. Nominations were called for the position of Secretary. Jeremy Bourke was nominated by Helen Hayes, seconded by Flip Byrnes and accepted the nomination. As there were no further nominations, he was declared elected.

4. Nominations were called for the position of Treasurer. Deborah Dickson-Smith was nominated by Jeremy Bourke, seconded Helen Hayes and accepted. As there were no further nominations, she was declared elected.

9. Motion to move the newly elected office bearers to be authorised as the society's Signatories to all financial matters.

Moved David McGonigal seconded John Borthwick. Approved.

10. Other Business

Awarding of 10-, 20-, 30- and 40-year Membership Certificates. Certificates were awarded by the President to members who were in attendance. Special mention of the first certificate for 40 years of membership - speech by David McGonigal (himself awarded a 30-year certificate) - recognising the 40 years of membership of Pamela Wright. Accepted by Pamela.

Vale Jennifer Doherty delivered by Nick Wayland

Vale Roger Allnutt delivered by Christine Salins

Minute's silence

President Honorarium (as per stated in Part 3, section 37 (4) of the constitution) at each AGM, at its discretion the committee may propose a resolution approving the payment to a re-elected or newly-elected President of an honorarium of a specific amount. Moved with amendment by Bev Malzard, seconded John Savage to give authorisation to the committee to approve incidental expenses to an unspecified amount for the incoming president. Approved.

General discussion of "industry" awards, such as the Award for Responsible and Sustainable Travel Practices, and their suitability for inclusion in the ASTW Awards. Raised by Lee Mylne.

Report from the Sustainability Committee was delivered by Justine Costigan and the prize draw for the winners of the carbon offset competition was announced.

Motion from the floor by Bev Malzard, seconded by Lee Atkinson, to raise the amount given to the ASTW's charity of choice from \$1000 to \$1500 in future years. Approved amendment by Shaney Hudson to \$2000. Approved amendment by Kerry Heaney to leave the sum to the discretion of the committee. The motion that the committee can spend an amount of up to \$2000 for the charity donation annually was carried.

11. President relinquishes office to incoming President

Not applicable.

12. Announcement of 2019 Convention Host

President Helen Hayes announced the 2019 Convention would be held in The Whitsundays between September 3-6, 2020

Meeting Closure

There being no further business Stuart Innes, the Chairman, thanked members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.