

U3A WELLINGTON CITY INC

MINIUTES OF U3A WELLINGTON 24th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 10.00 AM 15 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT PARAMOUNT THEATRE, COURTENAY PLACE, WELLINGTON

PRESENT

The President, Peter Hatfield, welcomed 131 members who had scanned their attendance and 2 visitors.

APOLOGIES

Received from Bryan Butcher, Richard Byrne, Val Fergusson, Christine Gibbs, Ann James, Bill King, Gwen Levick, Sue Macdonald, Mary and Michael Munro and Sheila Williams.

Moved Peter Hatfield, seconded Colin Sarten that the apologies be accepted.

Carried

MINUTES

Peter moved, seconded Jim Thomson, that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 14 October 2016 and posted on the website be received and approved as a true record.

Carried

Matters Arising There were no matters arising.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

Peter noted his report was on the U3A website and highlighted the following points. Currently there are over 1,000 members and numbers are increasing. The slight reduction in membership which was budgeted for had not occurred. The new online renewal system had worked well with 82% of members re-enrolling electronically. He thanked Chris Winstanley for working her wizardry with the new electronic enrolment system and the improved functionality that allows attendance to be scanned. This has almost reduced queuing for the lectures. Aidan had run training sessions for volunteers who operate the new scanning system.

Roger Chapman and Bruce Medcalf were congratulated for the hugely successful Tuesday and Friday lecture programme. Speakers for the coming year are identified in November and members are welcome to attend the 6th November programme planning meeting. Although Roger Chapman is retiring from the committee he has kindly offered to continue sending the email reminders of upcoming lectures.

Alan Wright, Ian Goodwin and Colin Sarten who dealt with the technical aspects including the Abundant Life Church equipment which needed constant fine tuning also received thanks. Both Alan and Colin are retiring this year.

Peter acknowledged and thanked Jim Thomson for organising the reception volunteer roster. He encouraged members to volunteer for next year to welcome members, scan cards and collect the \$5 visitor's fee. Volunteer sign-up forms were available. Special Interest Groups coordinators, Margaret and Ian Garrett who had kept contact with the 18 groups were thanked. The U3A committee had agreed to meet the following Interest Groups costs.

1. Venue hire costs, including ancillary charges such as internet access but subject to prior approval by the committee.
2. Operating expenses up to a maximum of \$100 per annum per interest group.
3. No remuneration for any costs/charges for food or drink.

Aidan was thanked for organising a very successful mid-winter lunch where Dave Armstrong spoke. He had re-booked the venue for next year. The end-of-year cocktail party at the Victoria Bridge Club was as always, a well-attended and happy occasion. Aidan arranged a marvellous holiday programme which included Walk Wellington and Art Walks. Interesting activities for the October holidays were planned.

Heather Nelson was thanked for her three excellent newsletters this year.

The U3A Victoria University award was won by Christine Bogle who presented her PhD study, "Democratisation in Asia-Pacific monarchies" on Tuesday 5th September.

The re-vamped website has been a great success and Peter thanked Rodger Sparks for his work in this area. Rodger would like someone to work with him and take over administration of the site. Please see Rodger or a committee member if you can volunteer.

Tony Thompson had maintained our finances in a very healthy state. In spite of having to buy two new computers, a scanner, cards and increased rentals for Special Interest Groups, we have nearly broken even this year which will please Charity Services who do not like us to make a large profit. Peter thanked Tony for his stewardship and Debbie Mickell for her review of our accounts which had been sent to Charities Services.

Peter moved on behalf of Tony Thomson, seconded Roger Chapman, that the Statement of Accounts be accepted. Carried

REVIEW OF CHANGE TO SUBSCRIPTIONS

Last year we indicated that the changes to subscriptions would be reviewed in 2017 which the committee had done. The committee recommends that the fees remain unchanged, that is, \$35 annual subscription and visitor fee of \$5.

Peter asked the meeting to accept the recommendation. Carried

MOVE TO EMBASSY THEATRE

The Embassy contract has been signed for the final lectures of the year, commencing 29 September. The last lecture at the Paramount will be 26 September. Peter considered the three years at the Paramount to have been good years and believed the Paramount to be very important to Wellington. He was very sorry the Paramount is going to end and said we have worked hard with the Film Society, the Film Festival and the Abundant Life Church (users of the Paramount) to save the theatre. He thanked Steven Ferguson, Manager, for his help over the years. Peter said if the Embassy hire fees are reasonable we hope to stay there for 2018. We need to accommodate the French Film Festival in March 2018 and for that reason we plan to begin lectures in February. Ian Goodwin, our technical expert, reported that the **Embassy** technical facilities are unbelievably good.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The present committee had agreed to be re-elected with the exception of Roger Chapman, Chris Winstanley and Alan Wright. All three have made outstanding contributions and been very good committee members. Like all good committee members they have found volunteers to replace them, namely Gwen Levick, Robin Halliday and Doug Helps.

Peter moved, seconded Michael Gibson, that the nominations be accepted. Carried

The 2017/2018 Committee is:

President	Peter Hatfield
Secretary	Barbara Crump
Treasurer	Tony Thomson
Membership Secretary	Gwen Levick
Newsletter Editor	Heather Nelson
Programme Coordinators	Robin Halliday and Bruce Medcalf
Volunteer coordinator	Jim Thomson
Special interest Groups	Margaret and Ian Garrett
Events Coordinator	Aidan Kay
	Doug Helps

Peter thanked the hard working committee members.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Peter said it had been suggested that people asking questions at lectures should identify themselves, stand up when asking questions and that committee members also identify themselves. Various views were discussed with the general consensus that there be no formal requirement for these procedures. Rodger Sparks commented that over the time he attended numerous conferences there was no specification for identification and such a requirement could not be enforced. Another suggestion was that all members wear their name tags. Aidan has a box of plastic holders which he'll make available at the next few meetings.

Peter said that as Alan and Colin were retiring, two fit trampers are required to take the microphones around the steep Embassy steps to those asking questions at lectures. Please see a committee member if you can help.

Members were thanked for attending and the meeting declared closed at 10.27 am. Peter Hatfield then introduced Nigel Isaacs who presented his talk *on* insulation of buildings.

That this be a true and correct record of the meeting of the AGM 2017

Confirmed

Date