

MINUTES

Australian Marriage Celebrants Inc. Committee Meeting

Date: 18 December 2023

Time: 7pm – 8pm

Location: Zoom



1. WELCOME –, PRESIDENT

Meeting opened at 7.17 pm

Welcome to all AMC by Annemarie McDonell.

2. ATTENDEES

Phil Timbrell, Sally Thomas, Karyn Bridge, Kelly Lawson, Lyn Mickan, Kathy Dodd, Annemarie McDonell, Tanya McDonald, Leanne McKay, Brian Brennan, Kamal Saliby, Marion Way, Svetlana Jovanovic, Lou Szymkow

Apologies:

Michelle Cottell, Tracy Iacovelli, Kate Hingston, Angela Doran, Pamela Noal, Paul Guy, Lyndal Johnston

Chair: Annemarie McDonell - Minutes: Karyn Bridge

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR AGM

Annemarie McDonell requested the approval of minutes of last AGM.

Seconded: Kathy Dodd

4. PRESIDENT REPORT

Annemarie provided an extensive report. Annemarie advised that it had been a busy year for the Executive Committee with a totally new committee, launch of the new professional website and also the 50 years of Celebrants Conference. The Association currently has 528 members. Annemarie also advised that there had been new positions created for specific tasks on the Executive Committee. Annemarie thanked the Executive Committee for their hard work and dedication to the Association during the year.

Kelly also provided an update as the Vice-President that the Executive Committee are moving forward with the new setup of the Executive Committee, with a major review of all operations being undertaken. Position descriptions and constitution are under review or already been reviewed. Education opportunities will now be part of the new website and she continues to look for opportunities for members of the Association.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Presentation of Annual Accounts for financial year ending June 2023 provided by Karyn Bridge. (Please see attached).

Moved: Phil Timbrell

Seconded: Brian Brennan

As part of the ongoing review of operations Kelly advised that the appointment of the auditor is deferred at this time to allow for quotations and consultations with other auditors prior to making a decision.

6. COORDINATORS REPORT

Annemarie advised currently most regions have a Co-ordinator appointed, the exception is NT and Tasmania. She continues to look for opportunities to recruit new Co-ordinators.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Brian provided an update on the recent AG discussions – changes to the Marriage Act are currently before Parliament. He highlighted some issues and concerns that are being raised with the AG and advised that there is an opportunity for submissions to be made prior to the end of January.

Tanya provided an update on the new website and marketing plan for the AMC moving forward. The website has a few minor issues that are being rectified. The new website will include training videos in the members area, a shop linked to the accounting software to reduce administration costs, Awards Program, other wedding services page, and new members can join at any time of the year (not just at June – this is something unique for AMC). The target of the website is for both celebrants as a source of information but also targeting couples looking for celebrants. Also the social media platforms (FB/Insta/Linkedin) are being revamped to be tailored for a target audience (ie celebrants and couples separately). Tanya also reminded members to subscribe to the emails and members forum.

Annemarie discussed that Dally Messenger III had been given the title of "Honorary Member" to the AMC.

Leanne requested that the members consider providing Annemarie with the same title of "Honorary Member" for her dedication and commitment to the AMC.

Moved: Leanne

Seconded: Phil

Meeting closed at 8.27 pm