

Gympie and District Landcare Group Inc
Annual General Meeting, Wednesday 15th May 2019
Venue: Gympie and District Landcare Office

Present: Ernie Rider, Bronwyn Wilson, Louise Watson, Annette Bourke, Rob Farnham, Rahima Farnham, Barry Lambooy, Sandra Lator, Geraldine De Ruwe, Robin Yule, David Rowlands, Yvonne Hennell, Louise Fraser, Karen Jarling, Kevin Jackson, Athol Craig, Nonie Metzler, Maree Gillott, Bev Kapernick, Bruce McCulloch, Meg Walacavage, Ian Mackay, Berry Doak, Marion Rider, Suzanne Lanham, Melanie Marx

Non-members present: Graeme Elphinstone; Darryl Ebenezer

Apologies: Gloria Robertson, Bev Mackay, John Mackay, Janelle Vaughan, Lyn Browne. I thought all the proxies were apologies too

Meeting opened 10.07 am

Ernie Rider, outgoing Chairman opened the meeting and extended welcome to all present. He acknowledged all organisations and individuals that had supported Gympie Landcare throughout his presidency. He then handed over to Graeme Elphinstone, as an independent Chairman for the rest of the proceedings.

The apologies be accepted. Moved: Ernie Rider Seconded: Ian Mackay. Accepted

Proxy Votes: Gloria Robertson, Janet Neale, Antoinette Augustinus, Christa Louw, Douglas Robertson, Pat Hartigan, Anthony James, Peter Hughes, Janelle Vaughan, Robert Hood, Debbie Seal, Peg Burrill, Donald Sinclair, Wendy McPherson, Graham Brennan

1. Previous AGM Minutes.

- As the Minutes of the 2018 AGM had not been circulated, they were read out by Suzanne Lanham. Motion: That the minutes be accepted as a true record of GDLC 2018 AGM. Moved: Ernie Rider Seconded: Yvonne Hennell. Accepted.

2. Constitution:

Motion: that the new constitution previously circulated for members, together with an amendment proposed from the floor to add the positions of Vice-President and Minutes secretary to the Executive of the Management Committee, be accepted.

Maree Gillott spoke to the Motion, explaining the background, and proposing an amendment to the membership of the Executive by adding the positions of Vice-President and Minutes-Secretary to the new Constitution. She explained that the Office of Fair Trading's Model Constitution had been adopted with changes only as necessary, eg to reflect Landcare's charitable status.

Maree moved that the new Constitution be accepted, including the additional positions of Vice President and Minutes-Secretary as additions to the Management Committee.

Against the Motion: Kevin Jackson spoke against the motion, saying that the old Constitution already provided for additional Management Committee members to be decided by the members and that the Executive, eg Honorary Secretary, Minutes-Secretary, Newsletter

Editor were already in the old constitution. He claimed that the choice of Management Committee members was being taken away from members and being left to the Management Committee.

For the Motion: Louise Watson advised the meeting that, having been a member of the Management Committee for 12 months, it was better to have a Vice-President and Minutes-Secretary.

Against: Kevin Jackson cited Rule 12 of the old Constitution; saying that what was being proposed was not a new amendment.

For: Ernie Rider explained that the proposed motion was merely formalising what has been in practice. Maree Gillott recommended, given her experience with numerous Not For Profit organisations she has been involved with, that there needs to be a defined number of Management Committee members, otherwise the general meeting needs to decide that each year. She knew of no other Board with no cap on membership committee numbers, and advised that in her view, the bigger the Management Committee becomes, the more cumbersome. Current MC was happy that current size of MC worked well.

Ian Mackay clarified for the meeting that the proposed new Constitution would be providing for 3 General Members in addition to the nominated positions.

A vote was taken with a majority in favour of the amendment, only 1 against.

3. Ernie Rider presented the Chairman's report

4. Treasurer's Report

David Rowlands presented the Treasurer's Report. The Audited Financial Statements for the Reportable Financial Year ended 31st January 2018 had not been circulated, but were displayed and explained on overhead at the meeting. A copy was available for perusal. David Rowlands reviewed the statement briefly, with clarification from Barry Lambooy, head of the financial sub-committee, as required.

The report was taken as read. As members had not been sent copies of the Report prior to the meeting, Berry Doak suggested that in future, the Treasurer's Report be provided electronically where possible, with hard copies available for perusal.

Moved: The Audited Financial Statements be accepted as a record of GDLG's financial position at the end of the 2018-2019 Financial Year. Moved: Coral Graham Seconded: Louise Watson

5. Election of Office Bearers:

- i. Election of President: Maree Gillott nominated by Melanie Marx, seconded by Barry Lambooy. Maree Gillott was declared President for the coming 12 months.
- ii. Election of Vice President: Antoinette Augustinus nominated by Melanie Marx, seconded by Louise Watson. Appointed as Vice President for the coming 12 months.
- iii. Election of Treasurer: Barry Lambooy nominated by Ernie Rider, seconded by Suzanne Lanham. Appointed as Treasurer for the coming 12 months.
- iv. Election of Secretary: Melanie Marx nominated by Antoinette Augustinus, seconded by Suzanne Lanham. Appointed as Secretary for the coming 12 months
- v. Minutes-Secretary: Suzanne Lanham nominated by Antoinette Augustinus, seconded by Louise Watson. Appointed as Minutes- Secretary for the coming 12 months.
- vi. Appointment of General Members. Nominations received for

Kevin Jackson nominated by Marilyn Harrison, seconded Meg Walacavage

Ernie Rider nominated by Barry Lambooy, seconded by Suzanne Lanham

Karen Jarling nominated by Melanie Marx, seconded by Antoinette Augustinus

Louise Watson nominated by Suzanne Lanham, seconded by Melanie Marx.

There were more nominees than positions available and as some members disagreed with voting by show of hands, Ian Mackay moved that voting be done by Secret Ballot. Louise Fraser seconded.

Ballot forms were distributed with counting done by independent scrutineers Darryl Ebenezer and Lavina Shaw. Numbers were not declared but Ernie Rider, Karen Jarling, and Louise Watson were declared duly elected.

6.Honorary Life Membership.

Motion: that Ernest Rider be appointed an Honorary Life Member. Annette Bourke proposed, Ian Mackay seconded. There was unanimous agreement and Ernie was duly appointed. Annette Bourke spoke in support of all that Ernie had done for Gympie Landcare by stepping into the role as President when it was needed and continuing.

7.Re-appointment of auditors

Barry Lambooy advised the meeting that he was awaiting the receipt of 2 more tenders before being able to make a recommendation about the appointment of Auditors for the 2019-2020 financial year.

Darryl Ebenezer advised the meeting that an Agenda item assuring members that the association holds appropriate insurance should be on the Agenda in future.

The meeting was closed at 11.25, following by a presentation by Graeme Elphinstone showcasing some of the early workshops and field days of Gympie Landcare.