



35th Annual General Meeting

5pm Tuesday 30 May 2023

Ferguson Room, The National Library of Australia
Online via Zoom

MINUTES

1. Notice of convening meeting

The meeting opened at 5.02pm on Tuesday 30 May 2023. In accordance with the Association's constitution, the President, Vicki Edmunds, gave notice of convening the meeting. She acknowledged the traditional owners of the land and welcomed everyone, including long standing Members, past Presidents and Board members.

Members were present which constituted a quorum – see the Attendance Register for details of members present. The President called the meeting to order.

Voting rights for Members voting in person were established. No proxies were received. The voting procedures were outlined by the Company Secretary Kylie Fiddy. Voting for motions was conducted by a show of hands and by use of a poll for Members attending via webinar.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Margy Burn, Carmen Eastman and Gillian Evans.

3. Minutes of the 2022 AGM

The draft minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting were available to members present at the meeting, available via Zoom and had also been posted to the ALIA website.

Motion: That the minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved: Vicki Edmunds

Second: Clare Thorpe

Motion Carried.



4. Reports

a. President's Report

The President presented the following report:

In my previous President's Report, I spoke of the many challenges that 2021 posed to the sector and the community with city lockdowns and state and territory border closures continuing to make business-as-usual a near impossible task.

Whilst 2022 saw some relief with many libraries, organisations and businesses able to re-open to the public and welcome staff back onsite, we found - and still find - ourselves in a period of uncertainty and change.

I am immensely proud of the agility that this sector continues to show in response to the challenges thrown at it. I see the myriad creative solutions that libraries come up with to ensure that the community can continue to access the resources, services and information that they need, and I am reminded of why we do the work that we do. We will need this agility and ingenuity as more changes come knocking, including the ongoing technological evolution and deployment of artificial intelligence.

Change was also in the air at the ALIA National Office during 2022 following the departure of former CEO Sue McKerracher to Libraries Tasmania. Chief Operating Officer Nicole Barnes did a wonderful job at the helm during our recruitment period and in May 2022 we were delighted to welcome Cathie Warburton to ALIA as our new CEO.

Cathie has already made huge strides in the first year of her tenure providing a strong, representative voice on issues such as cuts to librarian and archivist jobs at the ABC, digital e-lending rights, libraries as safe spaces, and funding for Trove. She has also spent much of her first months travelling the country listening to Members and getting firsthand insights into their needs. You can read more details about these consultations in Cathie's report on page 11 of the 2022 Annual Report.

Elections for the ALIA Board ushered in yet another transition with three new Directors - Kathryn Eyre, Hero Macdonald, Janette Wright - on-boarded in May. Our new Directors have proved to be invaluable to the ongoing governance and oversight of our operations and I thank them, and indeed all of our Directors, for the work they do in guiding and supporting our profession.

My Presidential theme came to life in many ways during 2022 with our National Conference organised around 'diversity.' You can read more about the event on pg. 16 of the Annual report, but needless to say it was a memorable, productive and inspiring occasion with a multitude of voices and perspectives on display.



2022 was also the first-time librarians have been part of the Mardi Gras parade, and we launched several new Groups focussed on different voices in our community: ALIA Multicultural, ALIA Rainbow, and ALIA Disability.

In March we established the ALIA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Expert Advisory Group who will advise the Board and share their experience in the library and information sector.

A personal highlight for me in 2022 was attending the IFLA 87th World Library and Information Congress in Dublin, Ireland. I joined over 2000 delegates from over 100 countries to hear about issues facing the sector globally: the climate crisis, the war in Ukraine, and preserving cultural heritage to name some of the most urgent. I was also lucky enough to be in attendance to see Yarra Libraries (VIC) win the International Marketing Award for their highly successful campaign 'We're ready for the next chapter.'

Whilst this is my final report as President of ALIA, I will continue to support the work of the organisation. I would like to thank the ALIA Directors for their ongoing support and the ALIA staff for their continued dedication and incredible work on behalf of ALIA Members and the LIS sector.

5. Presentation of the 2022 annual report and financial statements

The 2022 Annual Report and the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 together with the Directors' report and auditor's report in respect of those financial statements were tabled.

The President noted that the Annual Report records the outstanding achievements of the preceding 12 months.

There were no questions from Members relating to the Annual Report or the financial statements.

The 2022 Annual Report and Financial Statements were duly tabled.

6. Confirmation of newly elected Directors and Vice-President

The meeting considered the confirmation of the election of Directors to the ALIA Board.

Motion: I put the motion that the meeting notes that Jane Cowell was declared elected as the President and Amy Walduck and Nicole Johnston were declared elected as Directors of the Association for the term commencing from the conclusion of the 2023 Annual General meeting.

Moved: Vicki Edmunds

Seconded: Kathryn Eyre



Motion Carried.

Jane Cowell, President-elect was invited to announce the Vice-President. The members of the 2022/23 Board of Directors determined that Clare Thorpe will continue as Vice-President for a further period of one year following the conclusion of the AGM.

7. Appointment of Auditors

Following the retirement of the current Auditor, the ALIA Board recommended the appointment of auditors Hardwickes Chartered Accountants as auditor for 2023.

Motion: I put the motion to confirm Hardwickes Chartered Accountants as auditor for 2023.

Moved: Vicki Edmunds

Seconded: Alissa Sputore

Motion Carried.

8. Fixing of Auditors' Fees

Standard procedure under Corporations Law is that the meeting resolves that the Board of Directors fix the remuneration fee.

Motion: I put the motion that the remuneration of Hardwickes Chartered Accountants, the Association's auditor, be fixed by the ALIA Board of Directors for the ensuing 12 months.

Moved: Vicki Edmunds

Seconded: Janette Wright

Motion Carried.

9. Notices of Motion

The President advised the meeting that there were no motions to put to the meeting.

10. General business

Ceremonial handing over of the message sticks to the incoming President

President Vicki Edmunds presented the message sticks to ALIA President-elect Jane Cowell. The message sticks are a symbol of the passing on of knowledge, experience and goodwill from the current Board to the future Board.



Thanks to outgoing Board members

President-elect Jane Cowell thanked the retiring Board members, President Vicki Edmunds and Directors Alissa Sputore and Mary Carroll for their contribution to the work of the Board and presented the retiring Directors with a small token of appreciation on behalf of ALIA members.

No further items were raised.

Meeting closed

There being no further business, the President thanked members for their attendance in person and online and declared the ALIA 2023 Annual General Meeting closed at 5.27 pm.

Signed by ALIA President Vicki Edmunds

30th May 2023

Date