



Newtown Residents' Association Annual General Meeting - 15th October 2018, 7.30pm at Newtown Hall, 71 Daniell St, Newtown.

Present: Rhona Carson (Chair), Steve Cosgrove (Minutes), Jane Patterson (Treasurer), Mark Johnston, Sam Somers, Kevin Lethbridge, Carol Comber, Don McDonald, Keith Powell, Anna Kemble Welch, Martin Hanley, Effie Rankin, Stephen Pritchard, Cr Fleur Fitzsimons, Ray Tuffin, Warwick Taylor, Steve Dunn, Cheryl Robilliard, Rick Sahar, MP Paul Eagle, Clara Choi.

Apologies Peter Frater, Adaire Hannah, Daphne Pilaar, Humphrey Hanley, Jared Corston

Minutes of the 2017 AGM

The minutes had been circulated. The meeting agreed to take them as read.

Moved Sam/Keith That the minutes from the 2017 AGM and SGM, previously circulated, are a true and accurate record. Carried.

President's Annual Report

This was previously circulated. Points highlighted by Rhona included:

- Creation of the Newtown Festival Trust.
- Meet the candidates meeting for Wellington City Council by-election. Congratulations to Fleur for her success in the election.
- Support for the campaign against the Newtown Post Shop closure - sadly eventually the Post Shop and Kiwi Bank closed anyway.
- Newtown Neighbours Night in March - a successful event, thanks to all who helped organise it, in particular Ray Tuffin in his previous role as WCC Community Liaison Officer.
- Submissions to WCC on the 10 year plan, Bus Stop Changes at Wellington Hospital, Residential electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, and the Alcohol Control By-Law. Also submissions to the District Licensing Committee objecting to the proposed hours for a license renewal at the Zoo Bar and against the granting of an off-license for premises in Riddiford St.
- Our Town Newtown Project & Community Facilities upgrade - a continuing process.
- Support for Bloom Collective temporary space.
- Continuing appreciation for Kia Ora Newtown, the base for WCC Community Liaison. We were sorry to see Ray Tuffin move jobs, but have welcomed Jared Corston as the new Community Liaison Officer.
- Acknowledgement of Wellington City Council support. The operating grant from WCC has been reduced, but applications for grants for particular purposes have been successful.

Noted that some elements of Rhona's report relate to the current financial year. This was explained as the President reporting from AGM to AGM, while the financial year ended in June.

Warwick expressed regret at the loss of services in Newtown over the past year, with the Post Shop and Westpac Bank closing.

Warwick also moved a vote of thanks for the content and style of Rhona's presidency, and noted that this was in addition to her work as Secretary. Carried by acclamation.

Moved Rhona/Steve C - that the President's report be accepted. Carried.

Treasurer's Report

Copies of the audited Annual Accounts for the year 1/7/17 to 30/6/18 were available.

Noted and discussed:

- Income has decreased because there was no Council Operating Grant for the period covered, and we have not been benefiting from sausage sizzles as we had been in the previous year.
- Interest on our term deposit brings in a useful amount.
- Mt Cook Mobilised and other organisations contribute minor, neutral, items to cashflow.
- Proposed expenditure for the next year could be: Hall Rental for monthly meetings, and costs of a Meet the Candidates Meeting. These costs are hall hire, PA hire, and catering.
- Sam offered to sell coffee at the Meet the Candidates to help support the cost.
- The reserves include very few dedicated funds now. Only the Newtown History, and Community Gardens are outstanding. Martin outlined the process of the History project, which will be worked on again over the next year.
- Public Liability Insurance - which is required by WCC for holding a community garden lease (ref previous minutes): Martin explained Council would like the lease to stay with the Association. It has been agreed that the cost of insurance will be spread over several gardens (including Te Aro Park and Brooklyn). It is envisaged that the \$555 will be largely repaid. This is part of an on-going discussion with Council. Fleur will look into this at Council.

Moved Jane/Rhona That the accounts be received. Carried.

Changes to the Association Rules

Jane explained the background to changes to the constitution necessitated by the formation of the Festival Trust, thereby removing Newtown Residents' Association responsibility for the Festival. Jane read all all the relevant clauses.

Martin outlined some history of the need for audited accounts.

Jane referred to the Charities Commission advice, which makes clear we do not need an audit in their opinion.

In future the accounts will be presented to the AGM, then signed for by the President.

Moved Jane/Warwick The following changes to the constitution:

- That the first sub-committee referred to in Clause 9 (e) referring to 'the Newtown Festival' be deleted.
- That the words 'duly audited' and the words following 'General Meeting' be deleted from Clause 14.
- That Clause 16 (b) and (c) be deleted, and the remaining clauses renumbered.

Election of Officers

Martin took the chair as Vice President

President: Rhona Carson nominated by Jane/Warwick

Rhona was duly nominated, and elected unopposed, and resumed the chair.

Treasurer: Jane Patterson nominated by Rhona/Steve

Secretary - no nominations.

Vice President(s) (we can have up to three)- Martin Hanley, nominated by Rhona/Warwick

Nominations for Executive: Peter Frater, Sam Somers, Steve Cosgrove, Carol Comber, Stephen Pritchard, Kevin Lethbridge.

As there were fewer nominations than positions available, all were declared elected unopposed. Kevin expressed willingness to continue as membership secretary.

Rhona thanked those who had served on the previous Executive, and who had decided to retire from the role.

AGM closed at 8:26

October meeting business for Newtown Residents' Association started at 8:27

Alcohol management

- We submitted in support of the Alcohol Control By-Law, and asked to speak. Hearings are next Thursday 25th Oct. Rhona will go, others are welcome.
- Fleur suggested we mention issues such as the adequacy of signage about the alcohol ban.

We are invited to a **Council meeting of Progressive and Residents' Associations** on November 17th. Carol (representing Mt Cook Mobilised), Warwick, Steve C, expressed an interest in going.

Other notices -

- Polish Christmas Market is also on November 17th, .
- There is a Better Together event run by St Vincent De Paul's also on November 17th, an international event about combating poverty.
- Newtown Connections are resuming community consultation on November 13th, will be at our next Association meeting (November 19th) and having a series of public meetings at the pop-up shop.
- We will be given a month's notice when we need to vacate the pop-up Shop
- Don McD raised a number of concerns with Fleur. She will follow up.
- Sam noted that Penny Bright passed away recently. Anyone who would like a copy of a video of her funeral should contact Sam. It was noted that she was very supportive of campaigns to stop the Wellington Super City, and Wellington water metres.
- Ray proposed that the combined Newtown Community support agencies, who often cooperate in supporting each other's events and causes, could join under a collective identity and logo. The meeting agreed that Newtown has a good sense of unity and cohesion throughout the suburb.

Presentation

Clara Choi outlined the proposals that have come from her Master in Landscape Architecture thesis on "Creating an inclusive space for multicultural society, through urban agriculture in Wellington". She has developed options for redesigning the layout for Carrara Park and for the Urban Farm in Hospital Road. She described her ideas, and then after the meeting officially closed there was the opportunity for attendees to examine the plans more closely, to discuss them with Clara and to give feedback on 'post-it' notes.

Meeting closed at 8:54