

Frogs Victoria Society
Annual General Meeting 2022

Minutes

Date: 4th March 2021 7.30pm (AEDT)

Venue: Elgin Inn, Hawthorn

Present:

Members:

Lynette Plenderleith
Nick Clemann
Teisha Sloane-Lay
Stephanie Tomic
Alex Tomic
Maggie Haines
Regan Terry
Laura Brannelly
Andrej Hohmann

Non-members:

Candice Sexton
Alex Wendt
Tiffany Kosch
Samantha Wallace
Danielle Wallace
Mikaeylah Davidson
Sally Gazzard
Toby Briggs
Michael Alexander
Trinity Dean

Apologies: Colin McHenry, David De Angelis, Murray Littlejohn, Matt Clancy

1. Confirmation of members attending, apologies

- Opening remarks
 - Acknowledgement of country
 - Intro to Committee
 - Acknowledgement of Murray Littlejohn's absence and his upcoming 90th birthday

2. Notification of proxies: None

3. Confirmation of 2021 AGM Minutes

- Motion to pass 2021 minutes
 - Moved by Maggie
 - Seconded Teisha

4. President's report (Lynette Plenderleith): Attached below

- Thanks to our speakers from last year
- Thanks to ongoing support from the committee and members during the pandemic

5. **Treasurer's report (David De Angelis):** Attached below
- Discussion of how to meet upcoming costs
 - Very generous offer by Mike Alexander to donate a day of work profits to Frogs Vic (~ \$1000)
 - Membership drive via social media
 - Eliminate gift to speakers but still provide dinner
 - Voted to increase membership fees to \$40 (\$20 concession)
 - Continue to make all events free
 - Lynette welcomes ideas for grants to fund the newsletter
6. **Confirmation of membership fees**
- Motioned to increase to \$40 (\$20 concession): Lynette
 - Seconded: Steph
7. **Declaration of offices empty, nomination of Committee members**
- President (mandatory)
 - Vice President
 - Secretary + Treasurer (1 of these is mandatory)
 - Ordinary members position x 2 (Not required) (room for one more if one in events sub-committee)

**Laura Brannelly chairing meeting

8. **Election of Committee members as necessary**
- Motion for Lynette as President
 - Motioned by Lynette
 - Maggie seconded
 - Carried with acclaim
 - Nick for VP
 - Motioned by Lynette
 - Seconded by Maggie
 - Just carried
 - Colin for Secretary
 - Motioned by Lynette
 - Seconded Maggie
 - David for Treasurer
 - Motioned by Lynette
 - Seconded by Maggie
 - Ordinary members
 - Matt Clancy (in absentia, pending membership renewal) & Maggie Haines
 - Motioned by Lynette
 - Seconded Teisha
 - Events subcommittee
 - Teisha and Steph
 - Motioned by Lynette
 - Seconded Maggie

9. Newsletter:

- Now called Pobblebonk
- Thanks to Dave for work on it
- Dave and Lynette edited
- Thanks to contributors!
- Welcome contributions, photos, news, events, even cartoons!
- Not too worried about length restrictions
- Biannual (January and July)

10. Event locations for 2022

- Elgin Hotel for rest of year?
 - Continue book dining table just outside room (meeting, keeping that area quiet)
 - Continue using lapel mic
- Other suggestions for location welcome, need to be free

11. 2021 activities

- Invitation for anyone to make a presentation
- All kinds of talks, at any levels
- First Thursday of each month until Nov
 - Usually end of year event is Nov
- One speaker per month
- Mini conference in July prior to ASH instead of a speaker
 - Lots of nodding in agreement
 - Offers of mini conference organization welcome
 - Variable talk times
 - Membership not required.
 - Motioned by Maggie
 - Seconded by Teisha
 - Unknown how many speakers will sign up
 - Potential future venue: Lilydale HS
- Frog-a-thon? Wait till post COVID, if there *is* a post COVID
 - Not Colin's place

12. AOB

- Toby: Donations from outside organisations (i.e. Grill'd)
 - Cool to get money but opens the door to donations from dodgy people
 - Decided that it's ok to get donations from the public but not sponsorship (at least not now)
 - Frogs VIC isn't a registered charity. Dave to investigate if it's necessary/how hard it is to become one.

Meeting closed 8:42 pm
Next AGM 2rd March 2023

President's Report

Frogs Victoria Society

Annual General Meeting 2022

Remember when we said that we thought the COVID-19 pandemic would be over by September?

Frogs Victoria had an excellent 2021 despite all the germs and associated restrictions that seemed poised to stymie us!

As always, I'd like to begin with thanks to you all for your ongoing support. To all that have come to the AGM and to all who couldn't make it. To all who have been here since the beginning and to all our more recently arrived supporters, thank you for all that you do to assist, attend and appreciate. I especially note that we have been fortunate enough to retain your support through the pandemic.

Massive thanks also go to our speakers from the last year. Anne Warren, Matt Clancy, Danielle Wallace, Bhagya Herath, Michael Mahony and Renee Catullo presented online or in person depending on the peaks and troughs of COVID. Each was entertaining and informative and I thank them for sharing their time and expertise with us. Without speakers we couldn't have Frogs Vic events and the generosity shown by our continued enthusiastic speakers, we could not operate.

Thanks also to last year's committee, who have worked hard to continue to deliver through the second COVID year. The team are people for whom I hold in extremely high regard, both professionally and personally and I have really enjoyed working with them and appreciated the mix of skills, expertise and roles.

Finally, I would like to thank our paid members, without whom we would not be able to have completed our legal paperwork and fed our speakers! We currently have 18 members and have had three throughout the year.

I am proud to present to you the 2022 AGM President's Report. Frogs Victoria remains one of the best things I have ever done and everything that I do with Frogs Vic reminds me of what a very special community we have.

I look forward to what 2022 and beyond will bring. I hope we are able to safely see more of each other this year and continue to share the things frogs we love.

Lynette Plenderleith

3rd March 2022

Treasurer's Report

Frogs Victoria Society

Annual General Meeting 2021

Frogs Vic had a balance of **\$285.18** at the time of incorporation on the 1st July 2019.

The balance at the start of this year (i.e. 1 January 2022) was **\$307.82**, and has remained at approximately **\$300.00**.

All income between 1st July 2020 – 31st June 2021 came from membership fees, amounting to **\$400.00**.

Expenditure 1st July 2020 – 31st June 2021 amounted to **\$674.08**, being for:

Account fees \$50.00

Zoom subscription\$115.45

Website \$217.23

Meals and tokens of appreciation for guest speakers \$291.40

With Frogs Victoria's business name renewal due in March and expected costs to follow including for subscriptions, account fees and tokens for presenters, expenditure is predicted to approach \$1000 this year. Income is not expected to exceed \$1000 but may come close, potentially leaving nothing in Frogs Victoria's account. The Committee has therefore identified the need to increase income.

Options for increasing funds canvassed by the Committee include:

- a) Put up membership fees (from \$30 to \$35-\$40 for non-concessional membership)
- b) Undertake a membership drive (membership sits at around 20, although the newsletter goes out to ~250 people).
- c) Do without our Premium website (the cost in time, however, would be substantial). It will still cost to renew our domain name, due in 2024.
- d) End buying dinner and/or tokens for speakers
- e) Avoid buying video equipment to film presentations
- f) Make membership a requirement for a mini conference (short talks) night
- g) Make membership a requirement for all events
- h) Apply for grants

The Committee would like input from the membership as to which of the above options might be preferred, with options initially favoured by the Committee being raising the membership fee slightly and/or undertaking a membership drive.

David De Angelis