

The Committee for Sydney

Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting



Wednesday, 28 October 2020 at 4.30 pm
ICC Sydney, 14 Darling Drive, Sydney

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

The Chairman, Michael Rose, welcomed Members to the 2020 Annual General Meeting and acknowledged the Gadigal people, as traditional owners of the land on which the meeting was taking place.

Michael thanked Geoff Donaghy and ICC Sydney for hosting the event and acknowledged their generous support for the Committee.

Michael acknowledged what a difficult year 2020 has been due to the pandemic, and he thanked members for their ongoing commitment to, and support of, the Committee.

2. 2020 Highlights

Gabriel Metcalf summarised a number of highlights for 2020, including:

- Policy focus on climate change framed as a response to the bushfires.
- A shift in the Committee's agenda following the pandemic to a strong focus on post COVID social and economic recovery.
- The success of the Committee's online events program.
- The release of two major reports on high streets and innovation economy.
- The success of the Government's response to the pandemic.

Gabriel thanked the team and Members for their contributions to the success of the Committee in 2020.

3. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the Committee for Sydney Annual General Meeting held on 16 October 2019 were tabled.

Resolved:

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 16 October 2019 were approved.

4. Membership highlights

Kevin George, as Chair of the Membership Sub-Committee, outlined a number of Membership highlights for 2020. He noted that:

- The Committee welcomed 14 new Members with total Membership now 145 Members.
- Despite the pandemic and recession, the Committee's net membership was reduced by just five members.
- The Committee welcomed six Innovation Fund Partners, three event sponsors, and one report sponsor.
- The Committee has recently moved its offices to EY. Kevin thanked Andrew Price and his team at EY for their generosity.
- Results for the recent Membership survey were encouraging with the majority of respondents being highly satisfied with the Committee's research, advocacy and events.

Kevin thanked Members for their enthusiastic support and participation during 2020.

5. Amendments to the Constitution

Michael Rose referred to the draft Resolution and Explanatory Memorandum in the papers provided to Members. He explained the background to the proposed amendments to the Committee's Constitution and summarised the form and purpose of those amendments, as set out in more detail in the Explanatory Memorandum. He noted that the proposed amendments had been drafted by Rod Halstead at Clayton Utz and thanked Clayton Utz for providing their support and advice on a pro bono basis.

Michael noted the form of the proposed resolution and also noted that the proposed resolution was a special resolution requiring a majority of 75% of votes cast.

In the absence of any questions, the motion was put to the meeting.

Resolved:

That the proposed amendments to the Committee's Constitution as set out in the Explanatory Notes to the Notice of Meeting, namely, to the Objects, which forms part of the Committee's Constitution, and to the definition amendments of "Executive Committee Member" and "Life Member", be approved and adopted with immediate effect.

Michael thanked Members for their support of the Resolution and noted that the new Constitution, reflecting the amendments, would be lodged with the Regulator for approval, as required by Associations Incorporation Act.

6. Finance update

Martin Blake, as Chair of the Finance, Audit & Risk Sub-Committee, provided Members with an update on the Committee's financial performance and financial position.

Martin noted the Committee remained in a healthy position.

Martin noted that the Committee's balance sheet is strong with assets less liabilities of \$1.26m.

Approval of the Financial Statements

Martin Blake referred to the Financial Statements audited by ESV Group. He noted that the audited results reflected excellent work done by the management team. He also noted the great contribution made by the Committee's Accountants, Accounting for Good.

Martin asked if there were any questions in relation to the financial accounts and, there being no questions, he moved that the Audited Financial Statements for the Committee for Sydney for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 be adopted.

Resolved:

That the Audited Financial Statements of the Committee for Sydney for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 were adopted.

Tabling of Certificate of Insurance and Form A12

Martin Blake tabled the Certificate of Currency of the Committee's Public Liability Policy and the Committee's Annual Summary of Financial Affairs to be lodged with the NSW Department of Fair Trading. These were noted by the meeting.

7. Election of the Executive Committee

Michael Rose noted that, pursuant to the Committee's Rules, the terms of Members of the EC expired at this meeting and that new appointments were required. It was noted that the Chair and Deputy Chair roles were elected for a two-year term in 2018 so are also required to be reappointed this year.

Michael thanked Kate Jordan of Origin Energy for her contribution as Deputy Chair, noting that she has recently stood down from the role and been replaced by Sue Horlin of PwC.

Michael noted that there have been a number of EC resignations in the last year largely due to EC Members moving on from their Member organisations:

- Sally Loane, Financial Services Council
- Sally Fielke, Coles
- Charlie Taylor, McKinsey
- Michael Wilkins, New Corp
- Dorte Ekelund, SMEC

Michael formally thanked these former EC Members for their contributions.

Michael invited Geoff Donaghy, CEO of the ICC Sydney to act as returning Officer for the election of the EC.

Geoff Donaghy noted that, as 17 nominations had been received for 17 positions, a ballot was not required. In the circumstances, he noted that the following EC Members had been reappointed:

- Martin Blake, KPMG
- Virginia Briggs, MinterEllison
- Kevin George, DEXUS
- Siobhan Toohill, Westpac
- Brian Tyson, Newgate Communications
- Larry McGrath, John Holland Group
- David Rolls, Lendlease
- Lyn Lewis-Smith, BESydney
- Attila Brungs, UTS
- James Rosenwax, AECOM
- Simon Kennedy, McKinsey & Company
- Nicholas Gray, News Corp
- Gabrielle Trainor AO, Western Sydney University
- Susan Ferrier, NAB
- Kate Jordan, Origin Energy
- Sue Horlin, PwC – Deputy Chair
- Michael Rose AM – Chair

Geoff congratulated each of the EC Members on their appointment.

8. Closure

Michael Rose thanked the management team, Members of the EC and Taskforce Chairs for their contributions to the success of the Committee in 2020 despite a difficult year. He also thanked the Members and Innovation Fund Partners for their ongoing support for the Committee and their enthusiasm for its work. He noted that the success of the Committee rests on the engagement of Members and he thanked them for their continued support.

There being no further business, Michael Rose declared the meeting closed at 5.15 pm.