

The Committee for Sydney Minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting



Wednesday, 3 November 2022 at 3.30 pm
Online

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

The Chairman, Michael Rose, welcomed Members to the 2022 Annual General Meeting and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the lands from which members and others were joining the meeting.

The Chairman addressed the recent resignation of Gabriel Metcalf after 4 years at the Committee. He commented that Gabriel had played a significant role in the Committee's growth, increased reach, and impact, and extend his best wishes to Gabriel and his family.

Michael noted that with member support, the Committee's team had grown, building depth and knowledge, and he thanked the members.

2. 2022 Highlights

Gabriel Metcalf commented that it had been another big year for the Committee and summarised several highlights for 2022:

- Major publications including *Better Parking for Better Places*, *Decarbonising Sydney*, *A Reimagined Sydney CBD*, and *Rethinking Precinct Stations*.
- Our diverse range of policy work throughout the year.
- The Committee's advocacy focuses throughout the year, including Covid reopening, CBD revitalization, Housing affordability, Sydney Metro, Active transport, and High streets revitalisation.

Gabriel thanked the Committee's eight Innovation Fund Partners, noting that these organisations have enabled the expansion of the Committee's work. He also thanked the Committee's other partners and event sponsors who have supported work across the year.

Gabriel noted that membership is still growing with significant diversity in our membership mix.

Gabriel thanked the team and members for their contributions for the success of the Committee in 2022. And noted that building the team is the most important thing he had done as CEO. He emphasised that following his departure, the work will go on at a very high level, and the transition will be seamless.

3. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the Committee for Sydney Annual General Meeting held on 3 November 2021 were tabled.

Resolved:

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 3 November 2021 were approved.

4. Membership highlights

Lyn Lewis-Smith, as a member of the Membership Sub-Committee, outlined a number of Membership highlights for 2022. She noted that:

- Our total member base is 158, welcoming 23 new organisations last year. This is an increase in our net membership of 12. Compared to a net increase of 4 in the previous year.
- Support for the Committee is strong, and our membership is growing. Our members are essential to our work – supporting our research, advocacy, and events.
- In addition to a growing membership base, we also had several organisations that deepened their engagement with the Committee.
- We have 8 Innovation Fund Partners who support the Committee's research program.
- BESydney is proud to be a Global Pathways Partner. Lyn that BESydney renewed its Global Pathways Partnership program this year and remains committed to working with the Committee to ensure Sydney remains a leading global city.
- Lyn also acknowledged the Committee's many Event Sponsors.
- Lyn thanked Andrew Price, Tony Johnson, and the team at EY for their ongoing support and generosity, giving the Committee a home at no cost.
- Lyn also presented the results of our membership survey, noting that the majority of our members rated our work in research, advocacy, and convening as very strong. Each of these categories was rated higher than the previous year. This is a testament to the team's focus and their commitment to excellent outcomes for Sydney.

Lyn thanked Gabriel for four years of outstanding leadership and Hannah for her work engaging with and delivering new members.

5. Finance update

Doug Ferguson, Chair of the Finance, Audit & Risk Sub-Committee (FARC), provided members with an update on the Committee's financial performance and financial position.

Doug noted that the 2021/22 finances for the Committee remain in a healthy position. Total income for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 was \$2.87m, compared with \$2.54m in FY21. In the same period, expenditure was \$3m, compared to \$2.5m the year prior.

The final result for the year was a deficit of \$148,846 compared with a surplus of \$35,449 in FY21. However, this was in line with the budget the Executive Committee approved. The organisation ran a deficit budget for FY22 in order to invest in building team capacity.

Doug noted that the Committee's balance sheet is strong, with assets less liabilities of \$1.15m.

Doug commented that given the circumstances of the last 12 months and the impact of Covid 19 on all businesses (in particular, we were unable to hold our 2021 Sydney Awards gala which impacted ticket sales and some sponsorships), The FARC is pleased with the financial performance of the Committee.

Doug noted the excellent work of the team led by Gabriel Metcalf and our accountants, Accounting for Good, and thanked FARC members for their contributions.

Approval of the Financial Statements

Doug Ferguson referred to the Financial Statements audited by ESV Group. He noted that the audited results reflected excellent work by the management team and accountants.

Doug thanked the team and Tim from ESV for pulling the audit and financial statements together and noted that they had been audited with a true and fair view as per the ACNC standards.

Doug asked if there were any questions concerning 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 2021 to 30 June 2022 be adopted.

Resolved:

That the Audited Financial Statements of the Committee for Sydney for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 were adopted.

Tabling of Certificate of Insurance and Form A12

Michael Rose 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 as tabled in the meeting.

6. Election of the Executive Committee

Sue Horlin 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, with 15 Executive positions vacant. It was noted that the Chair and Deputy Chair, Michael Rose and Sue Horlin were re-elected at the October Executive Committee meeting for a further two-year term.

Sue confirmed that we received no more nominations than positions available by the required date, and nominations are in order. As such, there was no need for a ballot in relation to these positions.

She declared the following Executive Committee members re-elected:

1. Attila Brungs, UNSW
 2. Lisa Chung, Warren and Mahoney
 3. Doug Ferguson, KPMG
 4. Susan Ferrier, NAB
 5. Kevin George, DEXUS
 6. Nicholas Gray, News Corp
 7. Lyn Lewis-Smith, BESydney
 8. Tom Mackellar, Lendlease
 9. Larry McGrath, McDonnell Dowell
 10. James Rosenwax, AECOM
 11. David Thodey, Tyro
 12. Gabrielle Trainor AO, Gadens
 13. Brian Tyson, SEC Newgate Australia
 14. Christine Covington, Corrs Chambers Westgarth
 15. Seckin Ungur, McKinsey and Company
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Congratulations were extended to all Executive Committee Members.

7. Amendments to the Constitution

Michael Rose announced that the next agenda item which was the proposed amendments to our Constitution would be postponed.

The item was withdrawn from this meeting.

8. Any other business

Michael Rose asked if any member wished to raise any other business.

No further business was raised.

9. Closure

Michael Rose thanked the team for the work in the preparation of the Annual General Meeting and the outstanding results for the past year for the Committee.

The Executive Committee was also thanked for their contribution during the year.

Michael declared the meeting closed at 3.58 pm.
