



Minutes of Asthma Australia Limited 4th Annual General Meeting

Held 12th November 2021, by videoconference

Present:

Members

Michele Goldman, David Simmonds, Ian Buddery, Sundaram Sivamalai, Robert Stobbe, Trish Crossin, Emil Dan, Debbie Rigby, Adam Jaffe, Victoria Adams, Ian Grant

Board Members

James Wright, Paul Sinclair, Simone Carton, Louise Schaper, Rosemary Calder, Sam Clark, Chris Pearce, Kristen Raison

Asthma Australia staff

Jo Williams, Anthony Flynn, Kevin Swift, Brett Taylor, Agnes Matherson, Kirk Zhao, Sammy Kalayeh, David McLean, Rose Bell, Dinidu Illangakoon, Diane Percy, Catherine Wheelan, Anita Stewart, Clara Tait, Megan Salmon, Angela Cartwright, Kym Barlin, Kairavi Somaiya, Teresa Vella, Kathy Packenas, Janine Philips, Sarah Du Plessis, Danielle Edgeworth, Anna Judge, Lisa Konig, Mai Vo, Anna Hutchings, Nicola Knackstredt, Nick Cardwell, Richard Karthigesu, Victoria Watson, Kirsty Porteous,

Guests

Vanessa Murphy, Sandra Anderson

1. Welcome

10.05am. Chairman of the Board, James Wright recognises traditional owners of the lands in which we respectively meet and welcomed the Board, Staff and Members to the 4th Annual General Meeting of Asthma Australia Ltd. He paid his respects to Beverly Adcock a life Governor and thanked her for attending as well as members of the Professional Advisory Council, the Consumer Advisory Council, the Research Advisory Council, and a former Board member Rob Stobbie.

2. Apologies

James Wright stated that apologies were received from Jo Taylor, John Blakey, Mariolina Botto and Rosemary Thompson. A proxy vote was received from Elizabeth Harre.

3. Minutes of the 3rd Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 3rd Annual General Meeting of Asthma Australia held on 13th November 2020 were tabled. It was moved that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Motion: The minutes of the AGM of 13th November 2020 be adopted.

Moved: Simone Carton

Seconded: Paul Sinclair

All members in favour of motion. No opposition. Motion carried

4. Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Chairman's Report

The Chair spoke to his report. Acknowledged and thanked all staff for their resilience and Jo Williams for her contributions to the organisation. David Simmons recognised and thanked for the legacy he has left. Terry Evans thanked, and respect given for what he has done for the organisation over many years.

The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has dominated our lives this year and has carried added anxiety for those that suffer from underlying respiratory issues. Like many in the community, our organisation has had to adapt and find new ways to work, connect, support, and drive effective change in a health care system that has been put under enormous strain due to the pandemic.

As an organisation, Asthma Australia has adapted to an environment where our fund raising has been more challenging while the demand for our services has significantly increased. We have spent the year finalising our new strategy and continue to work on our customer experience program to improve the way we interact and service those effected by asthma.

To affect change in such a complex health system as we have in Australia, it is important that our organisation is creative and partners with others to scale our impact. We continue to work effectively with state-based Foundations in Western Australia and the Northern Territory to ensure national programs are delivered on a consistent basis.

Board renewal is an incredibly important process in the continuing evolution of any organisation. This year the board farewelled David Simmons OAM, the first Chair of the combined national organisation and Terry Evans AM, one of the architects and driving forces behind the original integration of the state-based foundations. Consolidation and mergers in the for-purpose sector are incredibly difficult to negotiate and execute and the role of Terry and David in the creation of a cohesive and impactful national organisation cannot be overstated. All asthmatics owe them an enormous debt of gratitude.

With incredibly big shoes to fill, our Appointments Committee embarked on a process to find new directors that satisfied our rigorous board skills matrix requirements. After a comprehensive search and vetting process, we have been fortunate to welcome two new highly talented directors, South Australian Kirsten Raison and Jo Taylor from NSW. In their relatively short time as directors, they have

brought great insight and contributed to the strengthening of our corporate governance. I also take this opportunity to personally thank the generous contribution of all our wonderful directors this year. A not-for-profit directorship is not a passive governance role, and our directors have again rolled up their sleeves and worked extremely hard for the organisation on a range of challenging and demanding issues.

While it is critical to have an engaged and aligned board, the real work of the organisation is done by our incredible staff. We are fortunate to have a dedicated and professional Chief Executive Officer in Michele Goldman. Along with our highly talented leadership team and staff, the organisation has been incredibly well supported by our passionate Consumer, Professional and Research advisory councils. These important groups bring a range of expertise, insight and credibility to the organisation and are fundamental in helping to shape the strategy, programs, and policy advocacy agenda. I want to thank them for all for their amazing contribution during this particularly tough year.

While the vaccine rollout brings optimism that life might return to something a little closer to normal, it will be important that our organisation remains agile and responsive to the shifting landscape. As we continue to refine our high-performance culture, I am extremely confident that Asthma Australia stands ready and able to have an ever-increasing impact on the national health ecosystem to improve the lives for those that suffer with asthma.

Motion: That the Chairman's report be received.

Moved: Ameal

Seconded: Sundaram Sivamalai

All members in favour of motion. No opposition. Motion carried

6. Treasurer's Report and receipt of the Statutory Accounts

The Treasurer gave his report and acknowledged and thanked Michael Jones for his commitment to the organisation, and also acknowledged Kym Barlin's contribution and support since Michael left.

FY 21 saw the full impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, both in how we do business and how we defend existing income streams and service delivery models. With most staff working remotely away from traditional workplace infrastructure, it is a credit to the entire Asthma Australia team that we finish the financial year in a very strong and robust position.

Of note during FY21:

- Despite the difficult conditions which prevailed we increased fundraising revenues by 7.5% over FY20. This reflects very positively on the implementation of our new fundraising strategy and



the commitment of our fundraising team. Again, Asthma Australia was the beneficiary of a number of very generous bequests during the year.

- Total grant revenues dropped year on year, reflecting the completion of a number of funded initiatives and programs.
- Total investment income fell in line with continued reductions in official interest rates. This was buoyed somewhat by a strong recovery in the equities market which saw significant growth in the value of our managed investment portfolio.
- Again, in FY21 we were beneficiaries of support from the Federal Government's Job keeper program. We acknowledge this support in allowing Asthma Australia to maintain service levels to all our constituents living with asthma.

Challenges

Year on year we saw a significant reduction in revenues from provision of training products. In a Covid-19 environment, this sector of the market has become increasingly difficult and will be reviewed going forward.

Looking forward, with the support of a strong balance sheet and a team committed to excellence in service delivery, we will continue to explore opportunities which will support our mission of helping those people living with asthma.

Question from Trish: Do the accounts disclose how much funding is given to WA and NT?

Answer by Kym: The accounts are not split by who is supported by our subcontracts, so no separate listing for support to WA or NT in the accounts.

Question from Trish: Are bequests set aside in a separate account and distributed according to the wishes of those who have donated?

Answer by Paul and Michele: The directions of a bequest are always acknowledged and followed, and the intent of the donor is always supported. Bequests are part of consolidated revenue, but board has a guiding principle of maintaining minimum levels of support for research, but the intent of the donor is always followed. The different reserves are published in the accounts.

Resolution: That the Asthma Australia Ltd financial accounts for the year ended 30 June 2021, together with Director's Report and Auditor's Report be adopted.

Moved: Simone Carton

Seconded: Sundaram Sivamalai

All members in favour of motion. No opposition. Motion carried



7. Voting for Resolutions

Clause 22 Consumer Advisory Council, 23 Professional Advisory Council, 24 Councilors and 27 Vacation of office:

Resolution: That the marked-up amendment to the constitution on Clauses 22,23,24 and 27 be approved.

Moved: Paul Sinclair

Seconded: Debbie Rigby

All members in favour of motion. No opposition. Motion carried

8. Appointment of Directors

There is no election of directors. The Appointments Committee have reappointed the following directors to an additional term: Simone Carton, Paul Sinclair, and James Wright. Two new appointments during the year: Jo Taylor (NSW) and Kristen Raison (SA).

9. General Business: Staff Presentation

Ameal acknowledged the hands-on role of Pharmacists in assisting patients in the bushfires.

Michele acknowledged the role of Kingsley Coulthard on the Professional Advisory Council and bringing the perspective of community Pharmacists to the fore. Highlighted initiative that was co-designed and involved multicultural awareness training with pharmacists to improve cultural competency and also leveraging these pharmacists to deliver asthma education in their local communities.

Staff Presentations: Anthony Flynn introduced Vanessa Murphy who presented on Vitamin D in asthma outcomes in pregnancy. Adam Jaffe presented on the National Asthma Research Program

10. Date of next Annual General Meeting

The 5th Annual General Meeting of Asthma Australia will be held on 11 November 2022.

11. Close of the meeting

The meeting closed at 11.07am

AGREED AS TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

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Chair

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Date