

Agenda/ Minutes

2019/20 Annual General Meeting

The Wilderness Society Newcastle Inc would like to invite all members to the AGM

Date

Tuesday 17 November 2020

Start time

18:30pm

Place

Online over zoom

1. Welcome, attendance and apologies
2. Acknowledgement of country
3. Approval of the [minutes of 2019 AGM](#)
4. Annual report All
5. Presentation of Financial Statements for the year to 30 June 2019
6. Appointment of auditors
7. Appointment of Board members and office bearers
8. Any other business
9. Close of meeting

Minutes

Present: Michael, Kath, Steve, Duhita, Kat, Tracy

Apologies: None

Meeting start time: 6:49pm

Meeting end time: 7:09pm

Item	Minutes
1	Welcome, attendance and apologies
2	Acknowledgement of country
3	Approval of the minutes of 2019 AGM : Approved by Kat and Michael
4	<p>Annual summary 2019-20</p> <p>It's been a big year again! This year...</p> <p>Our centre was lead by the amiable and affable Elle - Charlotte and Naomi moved on during the year and in May this year we welcomed Bronwyn to the team</p> <p>Thank you Elle and Bronwyn and Charlotte and Naomi for all your good work throughout the financial year.</p> <p>Inside the national organisation there was change as well with Lyndon leaving, Matt stepping up, Meels becoming Campaigns Director and another year of financial uncertainty - though there are now good signs with a new Organisation Campaign Plan being delivered this year and some work towards more stable finances.</p> <p>There have been a number of Convenors Committee meetings throughout the year (this committee is a committee of TWS Ltd), though only by zoom in the last 9 months. And also meetings of the Finance Audit Risk & Compliance Committee of TWS Ltd which Tracy and I have been attending when we can. And over the year there have been literally more than 500 internal emails this financial year</p>

Of course Covid-19 meant that we had to campaign differently, but because we're part of a national organisation, we've been setup for digital meetings at least for a while now - And, under our constitution, we can hold our Board meetings digitally - so in some sense we were prepared...

Our governance Board has done a sterling job. We've had regular meetings and constructive, collaborative, governance-focused discussions.

Just recently, two of our Board members have had to step away for personal reasons and I'd like to personally thank Steve, Jai and Duhita as well as Tracy, Kat and Kath for your ongoing positive and good work you do for TWS Newcastle.

Our centre's finances are well-maintained and we have a healthy balance sheet, which has allowed us to continue to campaign, maintain our staffing levels and plan for the future. Admittedly the JobKeeper payments helped our position in the last 3 months of last financial year.

On the campaign front, we've been up against a fossil fuel multinational giant, with a Federal Govt that thinks a gas powered recovery is the way to go and a State Govt who are complicit in the lie.

And even though there's been approval of the Narrabri project the writing is on the wall for that project - the world has moved on.

People know we need to address climate change, and we need to protect precious areas like the Pilliga forest and even the Australian Energy Market Operator has said we don't need gas in our energy network.

There is still much work to be done.

As an organisation we will continue to work towards protecting, promoting and restoring wilderness and natural processes across Australia for the survival and ongoing evolution of life on Earth.

Thank you everyone for your contributions.

5	Presentation of Financial Statements: Surplus last financial year of almost \$32k. Accounts have been to the auditors
6	Appoint Neil Hocquard as auditor
7	All Resigning - Steve, Duhita and Jai are not continuing after this meeting - Thank you so much for your work over the years Michael, Tracy, Kath and Kat are re-nominating for the Board next year.
8	Positions: Michael as Convenor; Tracy as Treasurer; Public Officer: Kat; Secretary: Kath regular member
9	Other Business: TWS Dinner and Drinks at the Croation Club for Staff, Board, and volunteers Friday 27th November from 6:00pm
Action Items:	