



SYDNEY GAY & LESBIAN MARDI GRAS LIMITED
ACN 102 451 785

Minutes of the 2021
Annual General Meeting
Held at 81-83 Oxford St Darlinghurst and via zoom
on Saturday 29 January 2022

Chair: Christopher McManamon

Company Secretary: Charmaine Belfanti

Directors: Mel Schwerdt (Co-Chair), Jesse Matheson (Co-Chair), Giovanni Campolo-Arcidiaco, Louis Hudson (zoom), Rob Smith (zoom), Jan Hutton (zoom), Alex Bouchet (zoom), Wei Thai-Haynes, Abs Osseiran (zoom).

Management: Albert Kruger (CEO), Gil (Claire) Beckwith (CFO)

Staff: Soane Tupou, Bianca Blancato, Rafael Contreras, Joel De Sá, PJ Gahan

Auditor: Daniel Cunningham (Partner EY)

Welcome

Jesse Matheson introduced the meeting Chair, Chris McManamon.

The Chair opened the meeting opened at 11.03am commencing with an Acknowledgement of Country.

Apologies were received from Patrick Coward, Jenny Mann, Kathy Sant.

Daniel Cunningham (Partner EY) company's auditor was welcomed to the meeting.

It was noted that procedural irregularities were raised including publication of the Notice on the website 20 days rather than 21 days prior to the meeting and distribution of the 21 day notice to members rather than the whole mailing list which includes members and non-members. Notice of the meeting had been provided to the whole list 6 weeks prior. Following legal advice, the Board was satisfied that the one day delay in publishing the notice on SGLMG's website and the 21 day notice only going to members should not automatically void the AGM. Also advised was that it would be very unlikely that a Court would accept that the procedural irregularity has caused, or may cause 'substantial injustice' such that the meeting should be invalidate.

658 proxies were declared of which 97 were held by the meeting Chair.

Minutes of 2020 Annual General Meeting

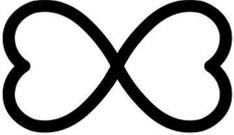
Minutes of the 2020 Annual General were proposed and accepted by members.

CEO Report

Albert Kruger presented the CEO report.

Highlights included:

- 2021 Season - Rise. 2021 was a difficult year with COVID however, achievements were obtained including more than 30,000 in attendance at the Sydney Cricket Ground, 55 events from Mardi Gras and promoters across the nation and more than 6,800 people involved in the 2021 Festival.



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- First Nations: Established First Nations Advisory Group with Sydney WorldPride, welcomed the First Nations and Community Engagement Officer, embarked on our Reconciliation Action Plan, spotlighted First Nations communities throughout the Festival.
- Formalised SGLMG partnership with Equality Australia.
- Launched SGLMG Ethical Charter.
- Projects for 2022: 2022-2024 Strategic Plan, Constitution Review, NSW Police Accord.
- Future projects: Changing our name.

The CEO thanked the SGLMG team recognising the hours, challenges, effort and support each and every individual contributes to the successes.

The CEO's report was received and noted by members.

Co-Chairs report

Jesse Matheson and Mel Schwerdt presented the report from the Board.

Highlights:

- Achievements from the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan including expanding Festival events with Solstice Events in June 2021; commencing the Reconciliation Action Plan, supported rural reach, MOU with Equality Australia, letters to politicians against the Religious Freedom Bill, member Town Halls engaging more than 1000 members, 100% increase in membership growth since 2018, new members and committees, People and Nominations Committee and Audit and Risk Committee, and initiated the Constitution Review.
- Future: new Strategic Plan.

The Co-Chairs thanked the Directors, staff and members.

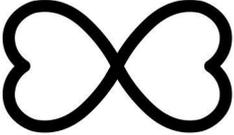
The Co-Chairs' report was received and noted by members.

Audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2021 with the Directors' Report and the Independent Audit Report.

Audited Financial Statements were distributed to members 10 December 2021. Abs Osseiran (Treasurer) and Claire Beckwith (CFO) spoke to the financial statements. Daniel Cunningham the company's auditor was present.

Financial highlights:

- The Board approved a budget for 2021 based on a surplus of \$124,657.
- The final audited result for the year was a surplus of \$92,876 ensuring continuing growth of the organisation during a unique year overshadowed by a pandemic.
- Produced an exciting and successful re-imagined Parade in the SCG.
- Distributed over \$242,000 to support LGBTQI artists, groups, venues and communities throughout Australia.
- Produced 2 successful festival events, Laugh Out Proud and Queer Thinking.
- Received Government COVID financial support to ensure that we could retain staff to produce the festival and then managed to extend their contracts to help produce the June Pride events.
- Budget model was based on the COVID restrictions at the time of budgeting and expectations adjusted accordingly.



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- 30% reduction in income in comparison to 2020.
- 40% reduction in cost of sales in comparison to 2020.
- 6% reduction in overheads in comparison to 2020.

Resolution: The audited financial statements were received and adopted.

Questions from members

Numerous questions were received through the Q&A online platform. The Chair advised members that as many questions time allows would be answered and those questions not answered will be responded to following the meeting.

In response to a question regarding the risk assessment the Board undertook around Festival as a possible super spreader event, members were advised that numerous factors were considered including health of the community, public health orders, revenue lost and expenses incurred. It was also noted that the assessment was reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee.

Life Membership

Louis Hudson explained the Lifetime Achievement Award and 78er Lifetime members award.

Jenny Mann and Kathy Sant were awarded the Lifetime members award from 57 community nominations.

Twenty 78er Life members put forward were:

Jeffrey Stanton, Lindsay-Vovette Simon, Michael Hurley (aka Roger Casement), Bernard Gardiner, Maureen Cook, Rose Vines, Sue Caroline Trayling, Stuart Calvert Round, Elizabeth (Liz) Jean Ross, Peter Page, Hugh Scott, Branco Gaica, Sue Jackson, Robin McLaughli, Peter Mitchell, Peter Redmile, Julia Lynette Stewart, Eric George Petersen, John T. Turner, Donald Allen Baxter.

Proposed by Louis Hudson and seconded by Diane Minnis, members accepted the proposed nominations for Lifetime members.

Procedural motions.

Members asked if the Chair would take procedural motions. The Chair advised that no splitting of motions or amendments would be accepted as members had already voted through proxy.

1. That motions 1-5 in the Members Items of Business not be put to a vote.

Moved: Diane Minnis. Seconded: Ken Davis

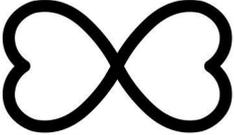
The motion passed with 549 in support and 265 against.

2. That all motions 6 - 14 not be heard.

Moved by Kyle Olsen. Seconded by Troy Murphy

The motion passed with 476 in support and 434 against.

Member questions:

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A member inquired about the process for candidate information for Directors claiming it was unfair and undemocratic. Co-Chair, Jesse Matheson explained that members have previously requested more information about candidates so they can make an informed choice about the candidates they do not know. The assessment is a self-assessment by the candidate and members can make an assessment based on the information candidates provide about themselves.

The Chair thanked the Board, staff and everyone involved who has made 2021 a success. The co-chairs thanked Chris McManamon for chairing the meeting.

The Chair closed the meeting at 1.24pm.

DRAFT