

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Gippsland Writers Network

2:00pm – 3:00pm, Saturday 30 April 2022

Attendees: Vicky Daddo – President; Natasha Agafonoff – Treasurer; Tyson Pink – Secretary

Apologies: Jemimah Brewster; Sally-Anne Watson Kane

Proxies: None

1. Welcome by chairperson

Vicky Daddo, President of the Gippsland Writers Network (GWN), opened the meeting with thanks and appreciation of attendees.

The meeting was conducted via Zoom, with invites sent to members prior to the meeting time. Meeting information was also posted on the GWN website.

2. Apologies

Jemimah Brewster and Sally-Anne Watson Kane are apologies for this meeting.

3. Confirmation of minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes for the previous AGM conducted on 17-Apr-2021 were confirmed.

4. Business arising from the minutes

No previous business arose from the previous AGM.

5. Chairperson's report

The Chairperson's report has been tabled (Appendix 1) and discussed. Covid-19 continues to have a significant impact on events for the financial year. Membership was steady, as the committee sought to simplify member payments. That 'Eventbrite' system went live in July 2020 and has been well-received.

6. Treasurer's report and presentation of audited financial statement

The 2020/2021 Treasurer's report and audited financial statement have been tabled and discussed (Appendix 2).

In summary, as at 30 June 2021, the GWN held \$ 2708.86 in cash.

The opening balance at the beginning of the financial year was \$ 2574.20.

2020/2021 Revenue was as follows:

Membership dues	280.00
Workshops & ticket sales	380.00
Fundraising & Donations	188.35
Grants & Other income	880.00
Total revenue	<u>\$ 1,728.35</u>

Impacts of Covid-19 meant that limited workshops were held, though three online webinars were run successfully. A grant of \$ 880 from Writers Victoria was used to finance two of the workshops and to subsidise ticket sales for the workshops to GWN members.

7. Election of Office Bearers

The President thanked outgoing committee members Tyson Pink and Jemimah Brewster for their time and support over the course of their tenures.

GWN Committee was dissolved by the President and all positions were declared vacant.

7.1 President

Vicky Daddo re-nominated for President, and, with no additional nominations, was elected by unanimous vote.

7.2 Treasurer

Natasha Agafonoff re-nominated for Treasurer, and, with no additional nominations, was elected by unanimous vote.

With no nominations, the positions of Vice-President, Secretary, and Marketing remain vacant at this time.

8. General business

8.1 Program of events

The program of events was discussed and will be finalised in the coming time. GWN will continue to provide online writing workshops every second month that allow members to explore writing exercises designed to build skills and creativity. A survey was conducted to gather member feedback so that workshops and online sessions can be tailored to their preferences and goals.

There is also interest in quarterly workshops to discuss and review works in progress. This would help members develop an eye for critique and constructive positive criticism.

Now that Covid-19 restrictions are easing, the committee will discuss new face-to-face sessions soon and have tentatively booked Lee Koffman to present the first workshop in July 2022.

8.2 Membership

The Eventbrite link will be updated for 2022-2023 memberships, and will be provided to members closer to this time.

8.3 Grants and funding applications

No specific outstanding applications were discussed, however the committee is aware a number of forthcoming grants from Writers Victoria may soon be announced.

9. Date of next meeting (if known)

To be confirmed.

10. Close

The GWN AGM was adjourned at 2:30pm with thanks to all participants.