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MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 2021

Sunday 20th March 2022

Sydney Estonian House, Surry Hills, Sydney

Note: this meeting, from 2021, **had been** postponed, **as authorised by the NSW Department of Fair Trading**, due to Covid restrictions.

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was opened at 11.15am.

The Chairman, Dr Juho Looveer, opened the meeting by welcoming the Members.

ECFA currently had 55 current financial ECFA Members at the time of the meeting;

Six (6) Members were in attendance; 6 Board Members were present ;

20 Members sent their apologies and 19 of those Members nominated a Proxy.

One Proxy Form was unable to be included due to **being received too late.**

A minutes silence was observed as a sign of respect for members who had passed during the year.

2 ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

12 Members: Chairman: Juho Looveer; Deputy Chairman: Peeter Muttik;

Director & Secretary: Ingrid Galloway (née Tartu); Director & Treasurer: Allan Mülle;

Directors: Hillar Ranniko; Maie Barrow; Kristi Barrow;

Members: Ivo Kauniste; Taimi Nurm; Tonu Moll; Hedda Moll; Kai Panov.

APOLOGY: Member: Lembit Marder sent an apology and did not nominate a Proxy.

Nineteen (19) PROXIES:

Directed Proxies Thirteen (13), to Chairman Juho Looever:

Sulev Kalamäe; Krista Hawkins; Russel and Karin Littlefair; Kai Kaasik; Krista and Trevor Ford; Tiiu Ford; Kaili Ford; Auli Palo; Aino Loit; Mart and Pamela Rampe.

Directed Proxy One (1) to Chairmen Juho Looever:

Kate Rampe = not received before commencement of AGM.

Directed Proxy One (1), to Director Secretary Ingrid Galloway (née Tartu):

Aarne Neeme.

Undirected Proxies Three (3), to Chairman Juho Looever:

Lembit Suur, Jeffrey ja Reet Wheeldon.

Undirected Proxy One (1), to Taimi Nurm

Mai Bell.

Undirected Proxy One (1), to Director Maie Barrow

Eili Annuk.

3 MEETING BUSINESS

Item 1 Minutes

To confirm the minutes of the ECFA AGM held on Sunday 14th February 2021.

The minutes were circulated by email and reviewed by the Members.

MOTION: Moved Peeter Muttik; seconded Ivo Kauniste.

Unanimous Agreement

Item 2 To adopt Annual Accounts and Records

To adopt the Financial Report of the Company and the reports of the Directors and the Auditors in respect on the financial year ended 30th June 2020.

MOTION: Moved Kai Panov; seconded Taimi Nurm.

Unanimous Agreement

Item 3 Election of Auditors

Fitzpatrick and Associates offer themselves for re-election.

MOTION: Moved Maie Barrow; seconded Tõnu Moll.

Unanimous Agreement

Item 4 Special Resolution

Resolve to replace the current Estonian Relief Committee (ERC) Constitution with the new proposed ECFA Constitution February 2022.

MOTION: Moved Ingrid Galloway (née Tartu); seconded Maie Barrow. **Unanimous Agreement**

Item 5 Election of Directors

Juho Looveer explained that Mart Rampe was standing down as a Director at this AGM. Two vacancies exist, to bring Board to **nine** (9) Members

Lembit Suur and Kristi Barrow were both nominated and **elected** by the Members.

Allan Mülle was nominated as a Director as he has completed the required one year Company Membership, and was elected.

MOTION: Moved Kai Panov; seconded Tõnu Moll. **Unanimous Agreement**

Item 6 General Business

6.1 Chairman's Annual Report

The report was circulated with the AGM Meeting papers.

- Following the change of name from the Estonian Relief Committee (ERC) to the new name the Estonian Cultural Foundation in Australia (ECFA), a new Constitution has been established which has been circulated to the Members for their approval.
- The Company's investment strategies have been reassessed by a Financial Planner in order to increase ECFA's annual income and deliver returns in the range of 4% to 12% per annum.
- These funds are used to every year to support various groups or projects which aim to further Estonia n culture and language across Australia and bring people together with Estonian heritage and interests.
- A total of \$16,550 was awarded to the following groups: XXVIII Eesti Päevad, Melbourne; Sõrve Children's Camp; Adelaide Eesti Selts – Estonian Choir – Hapu Koor; Virmalised Folk Dancing Group.
- Stage One renovation of the Sydney Estonian House Co-operative Society Limited is **underway, and the ECFA has agreed to support this to a total of \$100,000.**
- It was agreed to change the Annual ECFA Membership fee to a flat \$5.00.
- All ECFA Board meetings have been held remotely since the Covid crisis.

6.2 Member's Feedback and Comments

- Ivo Kauniste proposed a vote of thanks the Directors of the Board.
- Kai Panov discussed the small number of Members which total fifty five at present. It was agreed that general memberships of organisations has declined.
- Recruitment was discussed.
- The \$5.00 ECFA Membership fee was noted as reasonable and an inducement for potential new Members.
- It was noted that the Annual Membership fee is now due by 31st July each year.
- Taimi Nurm discussed the cost of administration fees, for each investment, that are charged by the financial investors.
- Taimi Nurm commented on the investments related to property.
- Taimi Nurm advised on two corrections to the Constitution which were noted.
- The portable ECFA Banner which has been created was displayed for the Members. The Banner will be taken to and displayed at the Eesti Päevad **to be held in Melbourne over Easter**, which has received funding from ECFA.

The Members sang the **Estonian Anthem**.

Meeting Closed at 12.15.