



Multicultural Communities Council of Illawarra Ltd.

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 6 December 2022
SALCO- Wollongong Senior Citizens Centre

DRAFT MINUTES

Opening & Chairperson's Welcome: Mr Ken Habak OAM

Mr Habak opened the Annual General Meeting at 5.45pm.

Mr Habak asked Jordan Mlotkowski to Acknowledge Country

Mr Habak explained housekeeping items.

Mr Habak acknowledged distinguished guests, members, stakeholders, and religious leaders and thanked them for their continuing support to MCCI. Mr Habak acknowledged and welcomed Paul Scully MP, Alison Byrnes MP, Mr Gordon Bradbery AM the Lord Mayor of Wollongong, Jordan Mlotkowski, Mr Simon Shepherd, and Ms Zoe De Ruyter of NSW Police.

Mr Habak welcomed everyone to MCCI AGM and provided a brief summary of MCCI's purpose, services, and achievements this year. He noted the importance of community partnerships working with our members.

Mr Habak thanked everyone for attending and for the community's support during the past year.

Apologies

Mr Habak noted the following apologies were received:

- Sherryl Reddy
- Kelly Andrews – Healthy Cities Illawarra
- Thidarat Thongdong – Thai community
- Rosalind Havea – Tongan community
- Kylie Flament
- Duncan Brown
- Franca Facci
- Anthony Body – Director Regional NSW
- Chris Lacey
- Demetra Stylianaou
- Stav Ioammou

Motion to accept the apologies

Moved by: Angela Ljubic
Seconded by: George Bartolo
Carried

Guest Speakers

Mr Jordan Mlotkowski, a Yuin Man from the South Coast of NSW and a representative of the Uluru Youth Network. Mr Mlotkowski spoke about the Uluru Statement from the Heart and the 'invitations' to the Australian people, asking for three sequential key reforms: Voice, Treaty and Truth. Mr Mlotkowski spoke of the importance of multicultural communities walking beside First Nations communities as allies, with respect and unity.

Paul Scully MP acknowledge the traditional owners and thanked MCCI and its members for all their contributions. He noted MCCI's opening of the wellbeing centre and the further \$152,000 funding committed to expanding this. Mr Scully also noted the significant contribution of the MCCI board and their work supporting local community organisations and celebrations. He wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Mr Paul Scully presented Teresa Tran with a NSW Community Achievement Award

Lord Mayor Gordon Bradbery AM acknowledged the traditional owners and noted that the strength and cohesion of the Wollongong multicultural communities as demonstrated within the room. He thanked all MCCI's members for their work this year and wished everyone.

Confirmation of 2021 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Motion to confirm the minutes of the 2021 MCCI Annual General Meeting.
Nil corrections.

Moved by: Tom Begic
Seconded by: Leissa Pitts
Carried

Mr Habak noted there were no matters arising from the 2021 AGM.

Confirmation of 2022 General Meeting Minutes

Motion to confirm the minutes of the 2022 MCCI General Meeting.
Nil corrections.

Moved by: Teresa Tran
Seconded by: Angela Ljubic
Carried

Ken Habak noted the matter arising for Directors to conduct individual meetings with members to have a conversation about how their communities are going and what they valued most from MCCI as a peak body organisation. This work will help with our next strategic planning cycle. To date over 50% of

members have been contacted. Mr Habak summarised the key feedback to date. Further meetings will be held in 2023

Chairperson's Report: Mr Ken Habak OAM

Mr Habak referred to his report for the financial year 20-21 as presented in the printed Annual Report and wished all MCCI members a happy 47th anniversary. Key points highlighted were the continued impact of the COVID19 pandemic, the merger between MCCI and SCARF Refugee Support, MCCI's youth scholarship program, the continued growth and expansion of services.

Mr Habak concluded by wishing present a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Motion that the Chairperson's report be received.

Moved by: Lazo Georgiev
Seconded by: Dr Husayn Ali
Carried

CEO's Report: Sarah Wilson on behalf of Chris Lace

Ms Wilson referred to the CEO report in the FY21-22 annual report and gave a presentation on the organisation's work in the last 12 months and the current focus areas for the organisation. She thanked the chairman, board, members, and staff & volunteers for their ongoing commitment and passion for supporting the Illawarra community.

Motion that the CEO's report be received.

Moved by: Lyn Cuell
Seconded by: George Bartolo
Carried

Financial Report: Mr Simon Shepherd

The MCCI Auditor, Mr Simon Shepherd, presented the Audited Financial Statements for FY21-22. Mr Shepherd noted that his audit was an unqualified report and presented a summary of the balance sheet and operating results (P&L), cash flow and noted employee entitlements were well catered for. He noted that the organisation continues to be in a strong financial position. Mr Shepherd thanked MCCI's Finance Manager, David Morgan and the finance team for their diligent work throughout the year.

Motion to accept the audited financial statement.

Moved by: Mustafa Chaudry
Seconded by: Kath McCollim
Carried

Appointment of Auditor for 2021-22

Mr Habak noted that the board of directors recommends the members of MCCI appoint Mr Simon Shepherd from Shepherd Miller Chartered Accountants as the MCCI auditor for FY22-23.

Motion that the members accept the board's recommendation to appoint Simon Shepherd to be MCCI's auditor for 2022-23

Moved by: Lazo Georgiev
Seconded by: Tom Begic
Carried

Member Resolutions

Mr Habak noted that no member resolutions had been received.

Director Nominations

Mr Habak noted the current Directors and explained that as the term for the Board is 2 years there are no director appointments to be made this year

Board Award for Outstanding Achievement

Mr Habak noted that each year the board recognises outstanding achievement by an MCCI staff member, team or volunteer. The award this year was presented to:

- Dr Pia Solberg- Marketing and Communications Officer

Life Membership

Mr Chris Lacey recommend Ms Sonia Ryes for Life Membership. The board endorsed the recommendation and Mr George Bartolo nominated Sonia Ryes for life membership

Mr George Bartolo spoke for the motion. Mr Bartolo outlined that Sonia is MCCI's longest-serving volunteer, having devoted around 45 years' voluntary service to the then Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council and now MCCI.

Moved by George Bartolo
Seconded by Lyn Cuell
Carried

Meeting Close

Mr Habak thanked all members and other present for their involvement at the AGM and invited everyone to stay for light refreshments.

He wished everyone a safe and happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

There being no other business the Chairperson closed the meeting at 7.00pm.