

**2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY 19 APRIL 2016, 4.00pm**



Melbourne NAB, The Arena, 700 Bourke Street, Docklands VIC 3008
Sydney 52 Victoria Street, Paddington NSW 2021
Adelaide Adelaide Limited, Suite 912, Level 9, 147 Pirie Street, Adelaide SA 5000
Brisbane Philanthropy Australia, Level 7/344 Queen Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
Perth Creative Partnerships Australia, Level 32 Exchange Plaza, 2 The Esplanade, Perth WA 6000

1. Attendees

As per the Attendance Register.

2. Apologies received

None.

3. Proxies received

No proxies had been received.

Welcome

The CEO of Philanthropy Australia (PA), Sarah Davies, opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional owners of the waters and the land, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation. She noted the close relationships that many members have with Indigenous peoples and the contribution that they bring to the community.

She then welcomed Members and Council for attending, particularly those in Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth and Sydney.

Ordinary Business

The CEO handed the floor to the President to present the year in review.

4. 2015 AGM Minutes

The President requested a small but important change to the minutes of the last AGM. In the original version of the minutes, the President opened the 2015 AGM with a Welcome to Country and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land. A Welcome to Country is an important ceremony conducted by Indigenous Australians, and it is not the right of non-Indigenous persons to conduct a Welcome to Country.

The President offered apologies and advised the meeting that the minutes had been amended to reflect the acknowledgement of the traditional owners of this land only.

RESOLUTION: That the meeting accept the amended minutes of Philanthropy Australia's 2015 Annual General Meeting, held on 21 April 2015.

Moved: Alan Schwartz, President

Seconded: Genevieve Timmons, Council Member
Motion Carried (verified by Secretary)

5. 2015 Annual Report

The meeting received the Annual Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2015, including:

5.1. President's Report

The President also welcomed all attendees, including Leading Members: The Myer Foundation, Sidney Myer Fund, ANZ and Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, along with Life Member: Jill Reichstein, who were all in attendance.

He noted that it was an honour to be here for his second AGM as President of PA and spoke to his report, highlighting the following key issues:

- 2015 was a busy year for the PA Council and team as PA continued to consult with Members, as well as conduct some preliminary research into what the future of PA might look like. Having spoken to many Members, Associates and other stakeholders, the Council and President felt that they had a much clearer understanding of what our diverse membership wants from the Council.

It was clear to PA that, whilst the philanthropic sector was very broad, it was unified in one important respect: it comprised a community of people and organisations with a shared interest in, and a commitment to, "more and better philanthropy". So, during the year, Council adopted the following Purpose for the organisation:

"PA is the peak body that serves the philanthropic community to achieve more and better philanthropy."

PA's Purpose will be the cornerstone of our 2017-2020 Strategic Plan which will be launched at the Philanthropy Australia National Conference in September this year.

2015 - A year of transition.

- Louise Walsh left in early 2015, having steered Philanthropy Australia through a time of significant change and expansion. In April, PA announced Sarah Davies as the new CEO. However, due to commitments at the Reach Foundation, Sarah commenced her new role with PA in October.
- Chris Wootton shepherded the organisation through the months before Sarah started with PA. Under Chris' stewardship it was a 'business as usual' approach as the team continued to roll out the 2015 business plan. The Council thanked Chris for his leadership.
- There were a number of changes at Council level last year too. The Council said farewell with our sincere thanks to Paul Clitheroe, Tim Fairfax, Janet Hirst, Noel Purcell and David Ward. The Council welcomed Mike Gonski and Joe Skrzynski to the Council in April, and Allan English, Jenny Stephens and Caroline Stewart were appointed to casual council vacancies in November, with elections for new positions held before this AGM.

Highlights

- The President mentioned a number of specific highlights for 2015:
 - The inaugural Philanthropy Meets Parliament Summit in Canberra in September was a key achievement in 2015. 200 delegates attended the Summit, an event that further enhanced awareness of philanthropy in the parliament and government, and identified opportunities for deeper engagement between funders, political leaders and policy makers. During 2016 and beyond PA will pursue these opportunities, including the establishment of a Parliamentary Friends of Philanthropy group.
 - PA developed a strong working relationship with the Prime Minister's Community Business Partnership and the Federal Government more broadly during the year.
 - The inaugural Community and Philanthropy Partnerships Week took place in December and PA is really pleased to be working with FRRR on this important annual event.

**2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY 19 APRIL 2016, 4.00pm**

- When it comes to the effectiveness of the philanthropic sector, one of PA's perennial challenges is a lack of good data. PA was pleased to have taken an important step in 2015 in closing the data gap with the launch of the Benchmarking Operational Processes and Expenses: A Study of Australian and New Zealand Foundations. The study provides a sector-wide overview of the resources and costs incurred by trusts and foundations from Australia and New Zealand.
- Whilst occurring outside of the reporting period, the President mentioned his pride that PA was able to publish the US Foundation Funding For Australia Report earlier this month. But it does highlight the 'data deficit' PA has when it comes to Australian philanthropy. There is no doubt, the time has come to take the next step in Australia and become transparent and accountable in our giving.

Without the support of data PA cannot understand what is working, where it is going and how we can do it better.

Initiatives

- In 2015, the team launched a number of initiatives to bring thought leadership and best-practice learnings to Members.
- The launch of PA's co-funding call outs resource, the online Funder Central hub, the new online weekly bulletin, Philanthropy Weekly and PA's partnership with Generosity Magazine are all aimed at bringing Members access to more information and resources.
- PA's not-for-profit workshop series in May and June and New Gen Study Tour to the UK and Europe in November were a significant part of PA's professional development calendar for 2015.

Thanks

- Finally, the President thanked and acknowledged the PA team for all their hard work and contributions during the year. It is their energy and enthusiasm that keeps the organisation moving forward.
- The Council and President particularly thanked Chris Wootton for leading the team from April to October and also acknowledged and thanked Sarah for joining the team, hitting the ground running and adding immense value to the organisation. Sarah has helped the Council significantly progress the thinking around PA's strategic planning.
- The President also acknowledged the staff who have moved on in 2015, including Louise Walsh, Louise Burton, Fiona Maxwell and Caroline Vu and wished them well.
- The President thanked the Council for sharing their insights, knowledge and time, and for helping to develop the map that will assist PA in the next stage of development as the peak body committed to supporting more and better philanthropy.
- Last but not least, Council thanked the dozens of generous supporters who have partnered with PA in 2015.

Finally, the President acknowledged the Members who were present and interstate noting that without the support of Members PA could not do the work it does, on behalf of Members, to advance more and better philanthropy in Australia.

The President took questions from the floor.

Question 1: Julie Reilly, Australian Women's Donors Network

- Please comment on the data and plans to bring together the gathering of data in the sector.

Q1 Response: Alan Schwartz, President

**2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY 19 APRIL 2016, 4.00pm**

- It is daunting to work out how to collect it, but as there are no mandatory requirements for philanthropic organisations to provide data, the information is of varying quality. Hopefully we can achieve more in the next 12 months, but there are competing interests in gathering relevant data. Sarah may speak more to the issue in her section of the AGM.

Q2 Question: Jeremy Stringer, DFAT

What is the follow on activity from the Philanthropy Meets Parliament Summit?

Q2 Response: Alan Schwartz, President

I would like to see early engagement between more than one philanthropic organisation with the relevant government department, rather than initiatives being developed and implemented first, before approaching government when the funding runs out. Earlier engagement with government will result in greater 'buy in' from all stakeholders. A working pilot program would be very useful to promote the success of these types of initiatives.

Q2 Response: Sarah Davies, CEO

PA will run the Parliament initiative in future years on a biennial basis, and will be trying to implement a State version with interested State Governments.

5.2. CEO's Report – Strategic Planning Process

The CEO took the stage and spoke to the development of the 2016 business plan and priorities, noting that a summary of the Philanthropy Australia 2016 business plan objectives and priorities had been provided to members at the meeting and was also available via the website.

The CEO noted that PA wanted to be open and share its goals and activities. And PA will report progress against this plan next year. It was noted that the summary needs refining and next year PA would have more clarity around KPIs and desired outcomes.

At the same time as delivering the 2016 business plan, PA are working on scoping and preparing the next iteration of PA's strategic direction and plan for 2017 to 2020.

The CEO noted that PA was discussing a number of distinct new developments or accelerated developments of trends in philanthropy both here and overseas. PA is strategizing to ensure that its activities are aligned:

- to these trends;
- to the needs of members and the community; and
- to harnessing the latest technology to be able to provide comprehensive and efficient services.

At the end of last year, following 12 months of analysis, member consultation and review, PA agreed on a revised purpose and set of principles to orient this next strategic phase for PA.

PA's purpose of serving the philanthropic community to achieve more and better philanthropy serves as our foundation in terms of how the strategic themes and priorities will be set for the next 4 years. This is helping PA determine how it can best serve and support the community to achieve 'more' and 'better' philanthropy.

It is an exciting time to be in philanthropy in Australia. We have:

- the best of our heritage – a strong Foundations and legacy, deep expertise, broad and deep experience and an ever-growing track record of significant impact; and
- the best of the present – new players, new models, creative and effective collaborations, increasing diversity of approach and overall growth

PA needs to combine the two in order to make the best of the future. This will be the focus of the Philanthropy Australia Conference in September – *"Evolution or Revolution – is philanthropy future ready"*.

**2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY 19 APRIL 2016, 4.00pm**

Some of the key drivers for change that PA wants to explicitly build into our evolution over the next 4 years are:

- PA wants to take advantage of developments in technology and information sourcing and dissemination to extend reach and value to broader philanthropic community
- PA wants to adopt contemporary networking and peer to peer learning and collaboration approaches to support the broader philanthropic community
- PA needs to respond to national and global changes and developments in giving and philanthropy
- PA needs to adapt to the integration and blurring of approaches and players, and to the increasing diversity and options in philanthropy and social change
- And PA needs to anticipate and respond to the political, economic social, cultural and environmental challenges in achieving the desired outcomes for community more broadly – in terms of our areas of expertise, influence and capability.

PA has identified proposed strategic themes and priorities which PA now wants to test and model, to make sure the right priorities have been identified and that they are achievable and viable – in order to achieve our purpose.

In summary, PA wants to focus on 5 core service propositions for the philanthropic community:

- More = to build a community of interest, across the sector, using technology to engage, share co-create, co-design and co-consume a range of resources, information, networks and support, including partnership with US-based foundations to leverage off their taxonomy and shared experience.
- Better = for funders and social investors: 3 services build around
 - (i) connecting and convening;
 - (ii) professional development and learning; and
 - (iii) information and insight
- More & better = policy development, advocacy and research to build an ecosystem within which philanthropy can thrive and have optimal impact.

Some of this is continuing to improve and build on what PA is already doing. Some of it is new: new approaches and services to make sure PA is anticipating and servicing contemporary models and approaches to philanthropy as well as contemporary and emerging players and agents within philanthropy. PA must continue to demonstrate the vital role it plays as an agent of positive cultural change within Australia.

To do this effectively and viably, PA is going to need to change parts of Philanthropy Australia's business model and structure to one that is more adaptive, flexible and responsive to member and community needs. It also needs to be a model which allows PA to actively engage beyond a relationship determined by constitutional 'Membership'.

The next steps for PA are three-fold:

- continue to model and define the detail behind these 5 core services;
- identify and analyse how to transition, risk management and determine the sort of investment and support needed to build the next evolution of the organisation as well as mapping the transition and implementation of the changes;
- collect concrete feedback and input from the community and membership to help refine and plan the direction for the next few years. To that end, PA will consult in June with the goal to share the next strategic plan at the Conference in September.

5.3. Treasurer's Report – audited financial reports for the financial year ending 31 December 2015

Elizabeth O'Brien presented the 2015 Financial Statements for Philanthropy Australia, noting both her recent appointment during the reporting period and the attendance of the External Auditors before outlining the following key items:

**2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY 19 APRIL 2016, 4.00pm**

- PA reported a \$82,700 surplus for the financial year which was a 38% increase on the previous financial year. A similar surplus is currently forecast for the 2016 year.
- PA had accumulated funds of \$298,000 which was a good result following two years of deficit. The investment in Salesforce in 2014 has been successful, particularly in terms of the productivity savings and the increased ability to communicate better with the Membership.
- In 2016, PA generated \$2,099,000 in revenue, which was lower than last year, but explainable by the lack of conference revenue. Revenue included:
 - Membership fees had increased which had a positive 5% growth in revenue.
 - Sponsorship of \$220,000
 - Events generating \$226,000
- Expenses were contained to \$2,016,000, a reduction from the previous year resulting from a reduction in personnel costs and the lack of expense on the conference. Consultancy spend increased.
- \$1m was being held in cash or in term deposits

The Treasurer thanked the Audit and Risk Committee for their work over the course of the year, as well as thanking David Ward for the degree of preparation that he gave her for the role.

There were no questions from the Members and the President returned to the stage.

RESOLUTION: That the Members received Philanthropy Australia's Annual Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2015

Moved: Alan Schwartz, President

Seconded: Allan English, Council Member

Motion Carried (verified by Secretary)

6. 2016 Auditors

RESOLUTION: That the meeting note that Saward Dawson have been appointed as Philanthropy Australia's 2016 auditors.

Moved: Alan Schwartz, President

Seconded: Caroline Stewart, Council Member

Motion Carried (verified by Secretary)

7. Results of Council Election

The President announced that, in accordance with Rule 11.2(g) of Philanthropy Australia's Rules, the following candidates:

- Genevieve Timmons
- Allan English
- Ann Johnson
- John McLeod
- Jenny Stephens
- Caroline Stewart

were elected to Council following an electronic postal ballot of members. The President welcomed both elected and re-elected members to the PA Council, noting that all were in attendance, either in Melbourne or via teleconference.

The President took questions from the floor.

Question 3: Kirsty Allen, Myer Foundation

- Can you please speak to the growth of membership and the types of members that have been attracted over the past 12 months?

**2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY 19 APRIL 2016, 4.00pm**

Q3 Response: Sarah Davies, CEO

- PA currently has a membership of roughly 800. New growth in Members has mainly come from new philanthropists starting their endeavours. PA's focus for 2016 will be to strengthen the foundations for existing members and through the development of support mechanisms.

Question 4: Tanya Costello, The Jack Brockhoff Foundation

How does PA engage with other similar organisations around the world? Does PA have the confidence to develop ongoing relationships with similar overseas organisations?

Q4 Response: Sarah Davies, CEO

- Much stronger partnership with Philanthropy NZ through building the AUSNZ program in tandem as co-initiators.
- Overseas organisations are sharing information and thoughts around data gathering and analysis.
- Partnership Foundation New York is fantastic to work with and has a lot of exciting ideas.

The President thanked Members for attending the 2016 Annual General Meeting in such numbers, noting that it was a positive sign of gathering momentum and that 2016 was an exciting time for collaboration and philanthropy in Australia.

The President thanked NAB for the venue and declared the event closed at 5.06pm.

.....

Alan Schwartz AM
President

DATE / / 2016