

# Essendon Bushwalking Club Inc. A0005559B

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023, 7.30pm Moonee Ponds Bowls Club

**1. Declaration of opening:**

The meeting was declared open by the President Leanne Cleary at 7:30pm.

**2. Apologies:**

Greg Passlow, Janine Passlow, Darren McClelland, Georgie Johnson, Judith Willetts, David Willetts, Therese Ryan, Gary Beattie, Anna Denham, Rex Trow, Chris Jarvis, Karen Armitage, Margo Johnson, Peter Anderson, Gail Greenwood, Linda Good

**3. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2022 AGM:**

Minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June have been circulated and were accepted on motion.

Proposed: Mary Moskal

Seconded: Michael Howes

Carried.

**4. Business arising from the Minutes of the 2022 AGM:**

Nil

**5. Correspondence pertaining to the AGM:**

Nil

**6. President's Report:**

Leanne Cleary gave a verbal review of the highlights of the year:

Welcome to you all and thank you for attending the Annual General Meeting of Essendon Bushwalking Club. It has been a busy and vibrant year with weekday and weekend walks, base camps, pack walks, bike rides and social events. A recent innovation is of short walks which encourages Members who may not be able to complete the longer walks to participate. Each of us has to be grateful for the work of the many before us who established our Club, as well as the current Leaders, the Committee and the Club walkers and members.

Leaders put in a lot of their own time before an event to plan an activity, sometimes driving a long distance to complete a recce / pre-walk and fine tune the event before putting it on the Club calendar. This is very appreciated by Club Members who register and enjoy a seamless and enjoyable activity.

Base camps and bike rides are back and again, for which many hours of planning are put in by Leaders before an event. Organising car shuffles has to be a logistical nightmare, however Leaders calmly and expertly organise drivers and passengers, ferrying from start to finish or the reverse.

We welcomed several new Leaders who recently completed the Bushwalking Victoria

# **Essendon Bushwalking Club Inc. A0005559B**

Leader Training Day and already new walks are appearing on the program. Congratulations and thank you to those new Leaders.

A more formalised approach to mentoring for new Leaders has been introduced where a new Leader has been matched with an experienced Leader who can assist the new Leader on their initial walks and can be a support during the initial phase of leading activities.

There have been several social events over the past year. The annual Christmas quiz was well organised by Peter Jones and thoroughly enjoyed at the December meeting. The Christmas Scavenger Hunt was very well planned and despite some inclement weather, the members who attended had a great time and were able to team up in groups and meet other members they may not have known before.

The Barefoot Bowls event in April was another highlight this year. Not only did members enjoy learning some new skills, they enjoyed a delicious supper and had a relaxing evening together. Howmans Gap over the Christmas/ New Year period was attended and enjoyed by several of our members. Dinners at hotels and restaurants have re-started again and thank you to the organisers of these social events.

The Suitcase Sale was well received by members with several requests for a similar event to be held in the future. Some members were able to sell unwanted clothing and equipment and some members were the lucky recipients of free give aways too.

Guest speakers have begun again at Club meetings and talks by Peter Somerville from Friends of the Maribyrnong Valley and David Micallef from Physiohealth have been of great interest by those attending.

The review and completion of amending the Rules of Association and the Guidelines and Protocols were huge tasks completed over the past year. Thank you to all Members and the Committee who were involved in this task during the past year and in previous years.

Since the last Annual General Meeting, Old Man Emu has had several different Editors who have all revealed their skill and expertise in putting together a top-class magazine. Thank you all.

Thank you to Gina Casalbuono, who with the help of Joanna Aldenhoven, has been providing lovely suppers after the monthly Club meetings. Sabina Anderson has also assisted in the past year. Thank you.

Col Purchase must be mentioned and thanked for his work as Walks Co-Ordinator and "behind the scenes" website and computer assistance. Thank you, Chris Jarvis for liaising with Bush Search and Rescue. If I have omitted anyone who has assisted over the past year I apologise and thank you too. All tasks be they large or small, contribute to the Club and are appreciated.

Finally, the Committee over the past year has worked tirelessly, some of which was behind the scenes tasks, to ensure the smooth running of the Club.

# **Essendon Bushwalking Club Inc. A0005559B**

Thank you to Darren McClelland for his time as President. Louise Williams is stepping down from the Committee and I thank Louise for her role as Vice President. Kathy Andison has been efficient and effective as Secretary and has always got the correct information at her fingertips. Glenda Bradley will be stepping down as Treasurer after 2 years in the role. Glenda has been a reliable and diligent record keeper and all tasks required in her role. Thank you, Glenda.

Jim Stewart has taken on the role as Membership Secretary and has taken to the role like "a duck to water". Jim joined the Committee just prior to the busiest period of member renewals and is proving well able to complete the task.

Although other Committee members are officially called Ordinary Members, they certainly have proved themselves the opposite and have been loyal and hard working for our Club.

These members, Carmel Kozolup, Mary Moskal and Rose Perich and have decided not to seek re – election and I wish to thank each of them for the support and hard work and to congratulate each of them for their achievements over the past year. Dianne Whitmore has also been a valuable member of the Committee.

Visitors and new members often remark on the efficiency of our Club and the friendliness experienced on walks and at Club meetings. You too, the entire club membership, should share in the congratulations for this. The friendly, warm atmosphere of our Club and the ongoing hard work by members will serve us well into the next year and the future. I thank you all for all the support during my short term as President.

## **7. Treasurer's Report:**

Statements in accordance with section 30 (3) of Associations Incorporations Act 1981 were distributed, and discussed by Glenda Bradley, Treasurer.

We have a \$1,480.58 surplus for the financial year. The bank balance as at 27 May 2023 was \$10,669.76, with \$50 in petty cash.

The Treasurer's report was accepted.

Proposed: Glenda Bradley

Seconded: Col Purchase

Carried

## **8. Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members:**

The President, Leanne Cleary called for nominations for the position of the President;

### **President:**

**Laurie Charleson**

Nominated: Helen Coleman

Seconded: Ian McLean

There being no other nominations, Laurie was declared elected and took over the chair. Laurie called for nominations for the following positions:

# **Essendon Bushwalking Club Inc. A0005559B**

## **Vice President:**

### **Leanne Cleary**

Nominated: Gina Casalbuono

Seconded: Rose Perich

There being no other nominations, Leanne was declared elected.

## **Secretary:**

### **Kathy Andison**

Nominated: Col Purchase

Seconded: Jim Stewart

There being no other nominations Kathy was declared elected.

## **Treasurer:**

### **Gail Greenwood**

Nominated: Gina Casalbuono

Seconded: Leanne Cleary

There being no other nominations Gail was elected.

## **5 Ordinary Committee Members:**

### **Dianne Whitmore**

Nominated: Carmel Kozolup

Seconded: Donna Palmer-Conti

Elected

### **Jim Stewart**

Nominated: Didimo Tonelli

Seconded: Tony Conti

Elected

### **John Widmer**

Nominated: Leanne Cleary

Seconded: Rose Perich

Elected

### **Tess Murton**

Nominated: Leanne Cleary

Seconded: Frank Kinnersley

Elected

### **Neil Campbell**

Nominated: Gina Casalbuono

Seconded: Carmel Kozolup

Elected

# **Essendon Bushwalking Club Inc. A0005559B**

## **9. Proposal for Life Membership:**

There were no proposals for Life Membership

## **10. Meeting declared Closed.**

There being no other business the meeting was declared closed at 7.50 ipm.