

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CANBERRA BLIND SOCIETY

Date: Thursday 16th November 2023
Time: 6:00pm
Venue: Room 6, Level 1, Griffin Centre
20 Genge Street
Canberra

The following documents are enclosed:

- Agenda for Canberra Blind Society (CBS) Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 16th November 2023
- Nomination Form
- Proxy Form
- Minutes of AGM held on 17th November 2022

Board Positions due for re-election, for a 2-year period, at this years' AGM are:

- President
- Secretary; and
- Three Ordinary Board Members

CBS Members nominating for these positions for the first time, must include a half page CV including any qualifications or competencies they will bring to the Board. **Nominations close at close of business on Thursday 9th November 2023 – email eo@canberrablindsociety.org.au**

Patron
the Hon.
Margaret Reid AO
Roy Daniell

Mission

To maximise the personal resources and ability of people in the ACT and local region whose lives are affected by blindness or low vision, by responding to their needs through care, communication and support

Services

Support services for vision impaired persons
Mentoring programs
Peer support programs
Range of products to support vision impaired persons
Daily living skills training
Excursions and social events
Annual adaptive technology display
Audio Newsletter
Referral to and help in accessing
Community Organisations and facilities

Donations
\$2 and over
TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Social Networking



If you would like to raise any matter of general business at the meeting, please notify the Executive Officer in writing no later than **close of business Thursday 9th November 2023** to email:

eo@canberrablindsociety.org.au

Members are cordially invited to a small dinner after the AGM. Please notify the office if you would like to attend the dinner for catering purposes – admin@canberrablindsociety.org.au or phone 6247 4580.

If you would like to attend the meeting virtually please contact the office for the link – admin@canberrablindsociety.org.au

If you require transport – please call Hayley on 6247 4580.



AGENDA

Annual General Meeting 6.00pm Thursday 16th November 2023 Room 6, Level 1, Griffin Centre, 20 Genge Street, Canberra

1. Welcome, attendees and apologies
 - 1.1. Welcome
 - 1.2. Attendees
 - 1.3. Apologies
 - 1.4. Meeting Open
2. Confirmation of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 17th November 2022
3. Reports
 - 3.1. President's Report
 - 3.2. Treasurer's Report
 - 3.3. Executive Officer Report
4. Election of Office Bearers and Board Members
 - 4.1. President
 - 4.2. Secretary
 - 4.3. Three Ordinary Board Members

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Room G06, Griffin Centre, Genge Street, CANBERRA ACT 2601

GPO Box 1188

Phone: (02) 6247 4580

E-mail: canblind@canberrablindsociety.org.au

www.canberrablindsociety.org.au

Office Hours: Tues - Fri 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

5. Confirmation of Public Officer
6. Confirmation of Auditor
7. Confirmation of Patrons
8. General Business
9. AGM Proposed date of Thursday 20th
November 2024
10. Meeting Close



Canberra Blind Society Inc

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in Room 9, Griffin Centre, Genge Street Canberra at 6pm Thursday, November 17, 2022

Welcome

President Heather Fitzpatrick opened the meeting at 6.10pm and welcomed all in attendance and online.

Present

Heather Fitzpatrick, (President) Graham Downie, (Secretary) Sharron Sobey (Online) Damien Wright (Online) Chris MacDonald (Online) Peter Granleese, Robert Altimore, Harry Simon, Margaret Simon, Claire Manning, Helmut Ackerman, Trevor Watkin, Deborah Quinnell, Robin Peszko, Stephen Paeters, Jim Emerson and Glenn Doney.

Apologies

Brittany Bevan, Lindy Hou, Margaret Reid, Roy Daniell, Bruce White and Dianne White.

Minutes

Moved Peter Granleese, seconded Deb Quinnell: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of November 18, 2021, be accepted as a correct record of that meeting. Carried.

President's Report

Heather Fitzpatrick read her report, of which a copy is filed with the minutes.

She reflected on the impact of COVID-19, noting some groups had continued to meet online as had the CBS board. The CBS Newsletter had continued to be produced and visits to the Australian National Botanic Gardens and Christmas lunch had been possible. A weekend camp at Birrigai had been held in March.

Eyes for Life Canberra had been further developed with contacts with professions such as optometrists. The Canberra Blind Society and Eyes for Life Canberra had participated in two expos and a dinner had been held to thank Peter Granleese and Scott Grimley for their years of service to CBS.

Donations of more than \$15,000 had been received. The role of volunteers had continued to be crucial. Heather Fitzpatrick noted the value of staff and she thanked members of the board for their service.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Dianne White resigned from the board in September. Subsequently, Heather Fitzpatrick had filled the position. She tabled the Treasurer's Report and the Auditor's Report.

Copies of both reports are filed with the minutes.

Executive Officer's Report

A copy of the report is filed with the minutes.

Glenn Doney noted an ACT government grant had provided for new furniture and improvements to kitchen cookware. Other purchases had included a new Braille embosser, updated JAWS software and large computer screens.

Glenn Doney outlined successful grant applications and the range of activities these grants had made possible. He thanked staff, volunteers and the board for their support, encouragement and continued commitment to people with vision impairment.

Election of Office Bearers

Lindy Hou was the only nomination for the vacant treasurer's position and was duly elected.

There were no nominations for the vacant vice-president's position which remains vacant.

Chris MacDonald, Sharon Sobey and Trevor Watkin were nominated for the three vacant board positions. There being no other nominations, they were duly elected.

Confirmation of Public Officer

Peter Granleese was willing to continue as public officer and was duly confirmed.

Appointment of Auditor

Scott Ellis, of Les Ellis and Associates was reappointed as CBS auditor.

Appointment of Patrons

Margaret Reid and Roy Daniell were reappointed as CBS patrons.

Constitution Amendment

Moved Robert Altimore, seconded Heather Fitzpatrick: That the meeting endorse the decision of the CBS General Meeting of July 22, 2021, to amend the objectives of the CBS Constitution to comply with the requirements of a public benevolent institution as required by the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission. Carried.

Presentation

Claire Manning presented a book, Moments We See, which she created as an art project. The book has images with printed and Braille descriptions. Heather Fitzpatrick encouraged people to look at the book in the CBS office.

Date of the 2023 Annual General Meeting

The proposed date for the 2023 Annual General Meeting is Thursday, November 16.

Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 6.45pm.