



MINUTES OF 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Women in Tourism & Hospitality Tasmania Inc.

5.30pm, Wednesday 27th September 2023

Haig Room, Ball & Chain, Salamanca Place, Hobart

- 1. OPEN MEETING & WELCOME.** President, Jill Bannon, opened the meeting at 5.45pm with acknowledgement of country and welcomed everyone to the 2023 AGM and WITH 14th birthday celebration.
- 2. APOLOGIES:** Marcel Kerrison, Dept of Education, Children and Young People; Damian Mather, Destination Southern Tasmania; Sally Deane, WITH Founder; Heidi Weitjens, King Island Distillery.
- 3. CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM:** Minutes of the previous AGM held 29 September 2022 were moved as correct by Margaret Sutherland, seconded by Jenifa Dwyer. *Carried.*
- 4. MOTIONS ON NOTICE:** President, Jill Bannon handed over to Kerry Scambler, WITH Treasurer, to present three motions for changes to the WITH Tas Constitution. The motions, together with background information were circulated to WITH members on 16 September 2023. Further context was provided for Motions 2 & 3, including stability to the organisation.

There being no queries, the motions were then moved as follows:

Motion 1: *That the WITH Tas Constitution is updated as follows to ensure the Committee is comprised of people with the essential skills, knowledge and experience to meet the Association's objects and purposes (Rule 4) by:*

- a) Enabling Associate Members to better participate and contribute to WITH by giving the Committee the option to invite those with identified required skills, experience, capacity and interest to fill casual vacancies as ordinary Committee Members, providing they join/upgrade to Full Membership.*
- b) Enabling the Committee to appoint an Ex Officio Committee Member with particular expertise to hold the position until the closure of the next AGM following their appointment.*

Motion 2: *That the WITH Tas Constitution be amended to set two-year terms for the Management Committee with the President and Treasurer alternating with the Vice President and Secretary and two of the four ordinary Committee Members alternating each year. The Student Committee Member to remain at a one-year term.*

Motion 3: *That the following changes are made to clarify, add and amend rules as follows:*

- *Rule 5.4.5 Additional rule to clarify Student Committee voting rights and committee nomination.*
- *Rule 25.2 Removal of rule to appoint Membership Co-ordinator.*
- *Rule 25.3 Removal of this rule as it is not used and can be covered by the Ex Officio position.*

Moved by Kerry Scambler, seconded by Mary Brownell. *Carried.*

- 5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** President, Jill Bannon, referred members and guests to the detailed report circulated, which provided a clear account of WITH's activities over the past year. Jill highlighted several achievements including:
 - The annual Industry Leaders Breakfast held on 13 October 2022 featured three inspiring women from our industry: Bernadette Woods of Glen Albyn Estate and other pioneering ventures; Kylie Bell, co-founder of Compass Huts tiny houses; and Melinda Anderson of Pennicott Wilderness Journeys and former CEO of Destination Southern Tasmania. The event sold out and again received very positive feedback.
 - Strengthening of relationships with industry bodies such as Destination Southern Tasmania and the TICT, reflecting a growing recognition of the role of WITH.
 - The annual WITH Student Scholarship, in its eleventh year and again supported by Tourism Tasmania, was awarded to Upuli Prabhashini Pathirana, studying the Certificate III in Hospitality and progressing to the Advanced Diploma of Hospitality Management at Drysdale TasTAFE in second semester.
 - Another successful collaboration with Karen Phillips for the North/South weekend trip away to the Bicheno Beams light show, also showcasing various east coast venues including East Coast Natureworld, the Lobster Shack, Waubs Harbour Distillery and a town history walk.

Jill closed her Report by thanking the Management Committee for their work and support throughout the year.

There being no questions, Jill moved that the report be accepted; seconded by Jenifa Dwyer. *Carried.*

6. FINANCIAL REPORT: Treasurer, Kerry Scambler, presented the financial report as circulated and noted:

- The commitment to transparency and good governance, and ensuring preparedness for possible funding opportunities again resulted in a professional audit.
- The accounts are relatively straightforward mainly covering events, administration and marketing costs as no training/professional development opportunities arose. The WITH Tas and Northern Branch accounts are presented both separately and then consolidated for a whole of Association representation.
- In March WITH Tas contributed a further \$500 to funds raised in the 2022 raffle which enabled a donation of \$3,000 to Small Steps which was greatly appreciated.

There being no questions, Kerry moved the Report to be accepted, seconded by Aletta MacDonald. *Carried.*

7. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

WITH Treasurer, Kerry Scambler, advised that whilst WITH Tas is able to claim an exemption from external audit under the Associations Act due to the small scale of operations, for transparency and potential grant funding, the accounts have been professionally audited. In the interest of transparency and governance, Kerry moved that WITH reappoint Gillian Waldie as auditor, who has provided her professional services on a voluntary basis.

Kerry moved that Gillian Waldie be reappointed as auditor for 2023-24, seconded by Alice van der Woude. *Carried.*

8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The President handed over to Margaret Sutherland, who reported that nominations had been called for positions on the WITH Management Committee for 2023-24. With the number of nominations received not exceeding the number of positions available, no vote was required. The Committee was announced as:

President: Rita Warrener (Tourism Tasmania)

Vice President: Daniela Ruiz (ERC Australia)

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Kerry Scambler (The KS Principle)

General Committee (4):

Tania Thompson (Frontier Education)

Alice van der Woude (On Board Expeditions)

Two positions vacant

Student Member: Vacant

Unfilled positions are considered casual vacancies and, along with any that occur through the next year, the Management Committee may appoint a replacement to serve until the next AGM.

Margaret Sutherland welcomed the new Committee members and recorded thanks to Jenifa Dwyer and Aletta Macdonald who had not re-nominated due to work and other commitments. A special mention was highlighted to thank Jill Bannon for her work as she stepped down after 14 years of commitment to the organisation.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Jill Bannon farewell presentations.

Kerry Scambler presented messages for Jill from Sally Deane, WITH's Founder, Alex Heroys, CEO of Destination Southern Tasmania and added a personal thank you for Jill's leadership and passion for WITH's ethos.

Robyn Moore's words on Jill's achievements and commitment to the organisation since WITH's inception were delivered with feeling and humour which were endorsed by all those present.

A gift from the WITH Committee on behalf of members was presented to Jill.

Jill recognised the hard work that is put behind the scenes by the committee and strongly believes WITH has a place in this industry to support each other – the reason she remained on the Committee for so long and dedicated so many hours into the cause.

10. MEETING CLOSED: 6.26pm