



CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF WA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Sunday 21 November 2021
2.00 pm

Venue: Hellenic Community Hall
20 Parker Street
Northbridge

PRESENT: 64 names noted on attendance sheet

APOLOGIES: Emanuel Petrelis
Allan & Jean Cresswell
Marcelle & Gerry Saratsis
John Metaxas
Yvette and Nick Manifis
Faye Katris
Tina Kyros
Tony and Phyllis Samiotis
John Pitsikas
Crystal Psaltis
Mary and Nick Nicholas

- 1. WELCOME AND OPENING OF MEETING:** President, Jim Manifis (JM) opened the 2021 AGM at 2.07pm welcomed attendees and acknowledged Marilyn Tsolakis and family and George Karageorge and family in respect to the recent passing of their fathers Michael Tsolakis and Con Karageorge.

Dr. John Yiannakis was introduced to give the Acknowledgement of Country.

Jim Manifis thanked the Hellenic Community of WA for the use of the hall.

- 2. APOLOGIES:** Secretary, Margaret-Anne Manifis, read the names of those that sent their apologies.
- 3. RECOGNITION OF ABSENT MEMBERS:** Jim Manifis acknowledged the recent passing of a number of prominent members during the year. A minutes silence for absent members was held by all those in attendance.
- 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM:** Minutes of the previous AGM held on 18 October 2020 were available to be viewed on line during the year and hardcopies were handed out at the AGM for members to review. The minutes were approved unanimously by attendees.

4.1 Moved: Eva Magriplis
Seconded: John Kotzas

4.2 MATTERS ARISING: No pressing matters were declared



- 5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT OF THE OUTGOING COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT:** Jim Manifis presented his 2021 report. JM briefed members on the years activities. JM stated the national KCA conference to be held in Perth WA, was again postponed due to COVID 19 till 2023. JM informed members the Association was extremely fortunate to have received the maximum grant amount of \$225,000 + GST, noting we were the only Association to have received this amount and the highest amount of funds received in the Associations history. The much needed funds have allowed the committee to start major renovations on the 160 Anzac Road premises. "Thanks to Stephanie Meagher and the Renovation Committee for their commitment to apply for the grant and the intense amount of red tape that was endured". JM advised members the renovations works have finally commenced after an initial long delay. Further works have also been delayed due to weather, supplies and trade delays which has resulted in running us well behind schedule. Works are in progress to building a community room, replacing the entire roof, installing a solar system, disable ramp and various other items. JM continues to inform members that the Renovations and Maintenance Committee are also in the process of planning the memorial garden.

JM continued and thanked Anita for her efforts throughout the year and her dedication to the Megisti Messenger. The Kouvenda is still continuing once a month and members were encouraged to attend. JM thanked Helen Anastasas for her time and effort she put into running the cooking classes and the newly formed youth and children's classes which are proving to be successful. JM stated our 'From our Greek Kitchen to yours' book sales are still selling both overseas, eastern states and in a couple of book stores. 2021 Perth Glendi held in February was a great success and the Association profited approximately \$7,000. Volunteers were acknowledged and thanked.

JM thanked his committee for their outstanding work for our Association which is recognised as one of the leading community Associations in Western Australia. "Every member of the committee have put their heart and soul behind the Association and I am very grateful for such a dedicated committee". JM expressed sadness in the recent passing of prominent members Michael Tsolakis and Con Karageorge and reminded members that an afternoon tea in their honor will follow after the AGM.

JM thanked the Hellenic Community for allowing us the use of their hall and finished off with wishing all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

- 6. TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer, Steve Filmer outlined his report to attendees, and noted the financial restraints of the last year with regards to COVID. SF stated the committee must be prudent with expenditure as the rise of costs, less revenue and additional costs involving the renovations which are not covered by the OMI grant. The bank account balance for June 2020 was \$54,719 as compared with June 2021 at \$312,311 which includes the OMI grant of \$247,500. SF stressed that these extra funds will be depleted with the extra renovation costs over and above the grant funds.

SF noted that the audit has been a time consuming and rigorous project and thanked the auditor Richard Bosward for his thorough approach and his generous time provided pro bono. Following the audit, the auditor recommended that an annual valuation completed for all CAWA properties. SF noted the original copies of the house titles are in the Commonwealth Bank and believes they should remain there for security purposes however the mortgage must be removed. SF advised the audit report is available for any members to view. No questions were raised from the floor. SF thanked the Tsolakis and Karageorge families for attending today.

The Treasurer report was approved unanimously by members.

Moved: Con Magriplis

Seconded: Peter Kanganas



7. **ELECTION OF AUDITORS:** Not required

8. **KASTELLORIZIAN COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA REPORT:** Jim Manifis reported that the KCA is an Australian wide committee. With the conference set to be held in Western Australia in 2021, which has been postponed due to WA border restrictions, Jim thanked the KCA Committee and informed members that WA is ready to proceed with the conference. Jim encouraged members to book tickets for this prestigious conference event, planned for 2023 pending borders opening. Jim also reported that NSW Kastellorizian Association opened their new premises which was attended distinguished guests and members.

9. **NOTICE OF MOTIONS RECEIVED:**

Secretary, Margaret-Anne Manifis-Quinn addressed the audience and explained to members the reasons involved for this proposed constitutional change as noted below. As time goes on it has become increasingly difficult for the Association to engage Treasurer and Secretary roles as being *Regular* members and that the motion be amended for the Treasurer and Secretary roles to be open to *Ordinary* members. The President and Vice President will remain *Regular* members at all times.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES: That effective from 28 November 2021, clauses 5.2, 5.5 and 16.2.3 of the Constitution of the Castellorizian Association of Western Australia (Inc) 2018 be replaced by the new clauses 5.2, 5.5 and 16.2.3 listed below.

Clause 5 relates to Members' Voting Rights and Eligibility for Committee of Management. Word changes noted as underlined.

5.2 Ordinary members have the right to vote and be elected as ordinary members of the Committee of Management subject to Subsection 5.5.

NEW: *Ordinary members have the right to vote and be elected as secretary, treasurer or an ordinary member of the Committee of Management subject to Subsection 5.5.*

5.5 The number of elected or co-opted members of the Committee of Management from ordinary and associate members shall not jointly exceed one third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the total number of members of the Committee of Management and at all times the executive being regular members of the Association.

NEW: The number of elected or co-opted members of the Committee of Management from ordinary and associate members shall not jointly exceed one third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the total number of members of the Committee of Management and at all times the president and vice president being regular members of the Association.

Note: Clause 16 relates to the Role of the Treasurer should the above motions be passed.

16.2.3 Together with the president and secretary, the treasurer shall sign all deeds and other negotiable instruments and, together with either the secretary or the president, shall sign all authorised transactions.

NEW: Together with the president and vice-president, the treasurer shall sign all deeds and other negotiable instruments and, together with either the vice-president, or the president, shall sign all authorised transactions.



OUTCOME: Subject to Clause 5.6 stating 100 members must be present to pass the motion in relation to 5.5. Due less than 100 attendees, not all necessarily members, to move the above constitutional changes this motion has again been deferred. Discussion was held on ways that this motion may be constitutionally changed. Stathis Efstathis explained the challenges the Queensland Greek Community faced with a similar constitution change in the late 1990's and how they overcame that change by forming a constitutional review committee which included a barrister and drastically limiting financial members within a year to pass as per their constitution rules and build on members again in the following year/s. Another suggestion by Dr. John Yiannakis was to hold a special meeting, and if there is no quorum then reconvene the meeting with the possibility of not needing a quorum for this meeting. These options will be looked into by the committee in 2022, with possible legal advice on alternative ways to achieve this motion being passed in the future.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS:

Megisti Messenger – via Email: AV addressed members and explained the expense involved with posting the Megisti Messenger magazine or sending via email.

Options presented were:

- a. Via email to all members unless hardcopy requested.
- b. Continue with hard copies to all members

Outcome: 50% of members preferred the emailed version whilst 50% of members preference was a posted hardcopy.

Arthur Mistilis suggested that he was prepared to pay a levy to receive a hardcopy of the Megisti Messenger. Eva Magriplis suggested fees are increased to cover the costs involved with printing and postage. Dr. John Yiannakis stated that the Hellenic Community of WA reverted back to hard copies after trialing their newsletter via email. Stan Kailis noted that the hard copy is tangible and enjoyable to read. This matter was still not resolved. The 2022 Committee will discuss further keeping in mind the preference of members.

Castellorizian Ladies Association *Megisti* of WA: Rose Kalaf presented on behalf of the Association a donation cheque for \$500. Jim Manifis thanked the Megisiti Ladies for their continued support.

Late Arrival: Jim Manifis announced the arrival of valued members Jessie Zempilas, her sister Ann Mitchel and Perth Lord Mayor Basil Zempilas Jim invited Basil Zempilas to address members and thanked him for taking the time out of his very busy schedule to attend our AGM.

11. NOMINATION OF LIFE MEMBER: Jim Manifis announced the committee has nominated Dr. John Yiannakis be inducted as a Life Member of the Association. Jim reminded members of the outstanding contribution Dr. John Yiannakis had contributed over the years for the Association and the valuable assistance he provides the committee. All agreed this nomination was well deserved.

Moved: Jim Manifis

Seconded: Several members from the audience

Dr. John Yianankis addressed the members and thanked everyone on the honor bestowed to him which had taken him by complete surprise.



12. PRESIDENTS AWARD: Jim Manifis presented the 2021 Presidents Award to Stephanie Meagher for her contribution, dedication and outstanding work put in for the grant via OMI in which the Association received the maximum amount of \$225,000. Fund proceeds will go towards much needed renovations on 160 Anzac Road. Jim stated it was Stephanie's initiative, dedication and persistence that this grant was approved. Stephanie nearly single handedly followed through with the difficult task of completing and providing all the criteria for the grant process. Jim explained that no other association had achieved this.

Stephanie thanked the members and stressed that the grant process was also contributed heavily by Anita Verne and John Kannis.

13. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT: Jim Manifis announced sitting committee to stand down and called on Trustees Dr. John Yiannakis and Kevin Kannis to accept nominations for up to 11 positions for 2021 Committee.

Nominees

Jim Manifis
Helen Anastasas
Steve Filmer
Margaret-Anne Manifis
Anita Verne-Filmer
Voula Terzoudi
John Kotzas
Con Magriplis
Tony Kostaralis
Michael Kakulas

Nominated by:

Margaret-Anne Manifis
John Kotzas
John Kotzas
Jim Manifis
Michael Kakulas
Tony Kostarelas
Steve Filmer
Steve Filmer
Michael Kakulas
Anita Verne-Filmer

Seconded:

Helen Anastasas
Steve Filmer
Con Magriplis
Helen Anastasas
Tony Kostarelas
Steve Filmer
Con Magriplis
John Kotzas
Anita Verne-Filmer
Tony Kostarelas

14. CLOSE:

The meeting closed at 3.17pm. Members were invited to stay for afternoon tea and a special presentation in honor of the late Michael Tsolakis and Con Karageorge with special tributes read from each of the families. Jim Manifis closed with a brief speech for Michael Tsolakis and remembered Michael's contribution and dedication when he served on the HCWA and CAWA communities with him.

Jim continued with a brief speech on the assistance that Con Karageorge gave to the community and himself personally. Con supported the CAWA passionately and as a Past President re served on the committee. Jim asked that we show our appreciation for these two gentlemen.

The meeting continued with presentations by Marilyn Tsolakis and George Karageorge in memory of their fathers which was well received by the audience.