

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BILO BAR

HELD 02/11/2022, AT SHANGRI-LA FIJIAN RESORT - OPENED 10.37 00AM BY CHAIRMAN Graeme Harvey

Attending members and apologies as per attached list, quorum noted as present.

Committee members present; R Bendle, D Neaves, B Mulcahy,

Chairperson called for a minutes silence for all the member who have passed away since our last meeting.

Approval of Minutes - Minutes of the 2019 AGM with last page that was missing read out to the meeting, confirmed as true record proposed L Bendle 2nd C Neaves, carried. Matters arising – Nil.

Chair noted that Greg Needham had passed away, he was a member of well over 30 years, we never know who has passed on and we need to be kept informed of those that have passed.

Report from Trustee/s

Mike Mulcahy on Scholarships, end of 2022 is the 7th year with 56 students passing through in this 7 year period, most going into uni, at the start of 2022 31 regd for uni enrolment with our scholarship programme, one recipient has worked at the Shangri-la as part of his studies

Report from D Neaves on activities during Covid, constant contact with hotel, non permanent staff were given \$74,150 by the Bilobar as cash hand out as only full time staff were receiving assistance, also kindly reports of repairs, quotes being approved etc. G Harvey queried lowana if works had been complete – not yet, to be chased up after meeting.

Financial Statement as presented, D Neaves reported that Lyn Bendle has been acting as Treasurer since Sue's resignation in March, not much activity in last twelve months, scholarships continuing, membership naturally down but back to \$3000 per month now, healthy reserve in hand for any future event. Report on The Fiji Government deregister 990 odd charities re non lodgement of returns, Covid restrictions didn't seem to have been considered by them, but we spent a week in May doing all the paperwork, legally notarised and lodged in Suva by lowana, now a registered charity again.

Query on the coconut collection from P Swift that put \$200 into it during March with only \$629 shown on the report. D Neaves reported that the counting of the coconut and the key security is extremely well supervised and controlled by the hotel, the deposit of \$629 did occur on 30/6/22 and seeing that not many guests had attended that would appear correct. G Harvey reported that \$1758.25 was counted from the Coconut yesterday, a great effort.

Financial report was proposed to accept by S. Brett, seconded C. Marshall, carried.

Membership fee, Has been \$50 for a few years now Proposed D Neaves that we leave as is, Seconded M Mulcahy, carried but with later clarification that \$50 paid via the web site is \$50 in your local currency.

No notice of motions received.

Election, 3 nominations received – D Neaves, M Mulcahy, R Bendle with Imperial Bilo nomination for G Harvey, chair declared positions filled. Two year term of trustees was noted, Covid 19 restriction meant no elections could take place so we deferred the elections and now have two casual vacancies and they are for the two positions that come up for re-election next year, the need to get some more youthful bodies on the committee will require a change to our rules as Andrew Neaves would like to take on the challenge but the current rules preclude two or more persons from the same family being on the committee. D Neaves clarified that a change over period of one year could occur with a maximum of two persons from the same family at any time. Discussions ensued on the merits of filling the casual vacancies now or wait until the rule change to permit the younger candidates to enter next year, extremely strict administrative requirements of being appointed under the Fijian regulations mean that any casual vacancy filled may not be legal for another 6 months as they need a week here just to complete the required paperwork.

Question from the floor on the setup of a Bank account in Australia, D Neaves reported that the bilobar.com site has a payment facility that goes into a Bendigo Bank account setup in Australia, we set up a separate charity/entity with the same rules as the Bilobar but without the restriction on a Fijian bank account. Funds are included in the Bilobar reports, it is like a sub branch of the trust and will require a change to our rules to allow the bank account held in Fiji, Australia or New Zealand, Covid 19 and the requirements of the shop front in the web page have necessities this change.

General business

S Brett reported that \$16,745 was raised from the Melbourne cup events this year and thanked all those that had helped.

G Harvey, two items in the constitution that we would like to change, first one is the change to the rule that says we can only open a bank account in Fiji, given Covid events and the collection of funds through the internet, we need to allow one account in Either Australia Or New Zealand. The second one is to allow two family members to sit on the committee To facilitate person like Andre Neaves or Matt Harvey. discussion from the floor clarified a change over period being the remaining term of the incumbent relative and a maximum of two at any time from the same family.

Notice will be given next year of the changes and the special resolution required to have the changes approved. Noted that the wording of the change will be such that it applies retrospective for the 2023 election. Also noted that only financial members can vote.

Query the Bendigo Bank account and how it sits with the fund, D Neaves clarified that it is a separate entity in Australia with an ABN, envisaged only membership fees would go into it, offer from Chris Marshall to help set up the DGR status in Australia gratefully accepted.

G Harvey talked on the position of non financial members demanding benefits without paying, we would like members to pay the current and previous year only in order to be entitled to benefits, agreed to by members.

Kidney Building, report on recent meeting with Assistant Minister for Health, he is very interested in making it work, meeting with local land council to take place to confirm rents, dialysis equipment from Ministry confirmed, also told us of a mobile van clinic being setup, 9 hours trip for anyone needing dialysis, will liaise further with Asst minister and it looking very promising. We need to clarify position of local chiefs as agreement made by the late Barry are known

Report on reunion events, noted that Kindy kids couldn't attend due to Covid restrictions that were in place when the programme was being planned, also

Arte concert the week before compressed what was available to us and the long timeframe to have it all approved by the hotels various departments.

R Bendle reported on Colgate kids dental health kits being arranged for local kindergartens.

Query on the go fund me for

Allen McCuddon spoke on the Sand dune museum fence, it is in a very bad way rusted out, is BB responsible, are we repairing it, what is the costing, has it been allowed for in the budget, G Harvey responded that we are going to pay for repairs, not use metal but concrete blocks as metal used was poor quality, D Neaves also responded with details of a meeting on site in May22 with sand-dune manager and local builder, waiting on the Architect from the National Trust for design approval.

Allen talked further on our focus that it should be on education and health in the community, that shonky jobs like this senseless fence project that we have to maintain forever, G Harvey responded on the original concept and benefits and we are responsible as the job wasn't done right in the first place.

Allen talked about his point of keeping away from these projects and focus on health etc, G Harvey responded that this is a significant cultural site for local children and the community, we look at items individually on their own merit.

Allen queried if recipients of the scholarship can attend and talk through what they are doing, M Mulcahy responded that Covid had stopped that this year but it is planned for next year. Allen queried merit of the scholarships re 5 out of 10 going through, M Mulcahy responded that that was 3 years ago and it is now close to 100% going through, Allen reiterated the need to focus and get results.

David Neaves called for any projects of merit to be given to the trustees.

Judy Steele queried why Hotel management aren't present, F Lee is on leave and the trustees haven't heard from new resident manager, will ask them after meeting probably a changeover issue.

C Marshall talked on succession planning and what we have in place or planned, G Harvey responded with the lack of nominations and our positioning being planned for with the rules changes to allow this, C Marshall reiterated the need

to have the knowledge of the incumbent's transferred. D Neaves talked on the many administrative requirements of new trustees that impede new entrants.

Pauline Swift queried where the correspondence is, she had no knowledge of the AGM and events, D Neaves responded with the info is available on the Bilobar.com site it has the newsletters and the link to add your email etc, the written newsletter is the responsibility of the hotel. Pauline stated that her email was given but no response, D Neaves to follow up on.

G Harvey reiterated the need to have the nominations in before July 31st.

Casual vacancy talked about again and the feeling of the members present on filling those positions now, after much discussion it was felt by the members present that leaving them open until next years election is the best path to follow.

Query from the floor as to accepting corporate donation, no issue from the trustees.

Go Fund Me query raised, to be looked into (since meeting held it was received in 2020 year after investigation)

Benefits to us of paying through the web site given the information it provides us with compared to the hotel system was noted. Using local currency for your subscription was also ratified if paid through the site.

Meeting closed 11.30am

Apologies

G MCEVOY, S THOMAS, T HOLLAND, M & G REID, T & V LARGE, A NEAVES, P KLAGES, E DILLMORE-MUIR, L & L GRAHAM.

Attendees

S BRETT, K BRETT, C NEAVES, A & J STEELE, C MADDISON, E WHITING, K SHOESMITH, P WALTER, V MULCAHY, S MCEVOY, M CILDEA, T CILDEA, M KIELY, S MOTT, R & S DROUGHTON, S & M VECEIRA, J HOGG, L HOGG, T SNELL, C SNELL, S MURPHY, P SWIFT, G MARACHIN, C PETRELLIS, P PETRELLIS, C MARSHALL, P LONNEVIK, J LONNEVIK, L BENELLE, M LEHMAN, S DAMCEVSKI, D DAMCEVSKI, C JOHNSON, M HARVEY, N MARTIN, K HOLLIS, B HOLLIS, N MARSHALL, A MCCUDDON, S MARSHALL.