

Collins Street Baptist Church
Annual General Meeting
20 October 2019

The meeting opened at 12.20pm

Present: Rev Simon Holt (Chair), Rev Carolyn Francis, Ros Otzen (Minutes); 33 members as registered in the Attendance Roll

Apologies: Robert & Lesley Iles (overseas), Rev Marita Munro, Rev Len Lewis, Nigel Smith, Ian & Barbara Pawsey, Carolyn Newall, Megan Williams, Peter Rademaker, Sam Li, Kenny Wang, Theresa Cheok, Carol & Phil Geyer, Karl Stacy

Rev Carolyn Francis welcomed all, and read from Philippians 4 and prayed.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the AGM, 21 October 2018

Moved Barbara Martin/Neil Wright

That the Minutes of the AGM on 21 October 2018 be accepted.

Carried unanimously

2. Election of Deacons and Church Officers

2.1 Nominations

Carolyn introduced the nominees thanking them for the gifts and abilities they bring to the church's life.

* Officers: Robert Iles, Secretary and Paulo Pereira, Treasurer

* Deacons, for a three-year term: Robert Iles; Katherine Jones; Amanda Mao; Abigail Chenoweth

2.2 Appointment of Scrutineers

Moved Peter Hearne/Sean Winter

That the Peter Hearne, Returning Officer, be joined by Neil Wright and Bruce Tudball to be scrutineers of the votes.

Carried unanimously

3. Presentation of Annual Report 2019

Rev Simon Holt presented the Report, with special thanks to Geoff Maddock for his magnificent photographic record of the past year. Matters for gratitude and thanks:

- There has been a significant rebirth of the Verandah Cafe, now breaking even, the barrista supported by a fine team of volunteers, and superbly led by Lesley Iles, to whom we are deeply indebted for her leadership and management. This is an active and successful ministry.
- Robert Iles as Secretary has given enormous support in his role as Secretary, coming to CSBC three or four times a week, and dealing with a host of matters. Paulo Pereira, our Treasurer, has given constant and excellent work on all matters to do with our finances.
- The new security system, facilitated by Peter Young's expertise, voluntarily given, has made a significant difference to the safety and amenity of our buildings.

Members reflected in small groups on 2019 and 2020.

Thankful for this last year: Support for members finding it hard to attend because of age & health; care & warmth of church friendships; grateful thanks for Ian & Barbara Pawsey; 'Let Your Life Speak' series; Verandah cafe and the conversations it facilitates; preaching to be proud of; the Green Room and its tendrils throughout the church; 'Propagate' series; creative & constructive Diaconate – a team working well together, and we would like to hear more of what is done there; the gentleness of the church and its inviting; Retreat Day, enabled more concentrated reflection; new members and attendees; different ways congregation can participate in worship; wider opportunities for informal connection – lunches etc; flourishing co-pastorate; excellent pastoral care; small group fellowship; church not thinking only about itself; sense of family; reassurance that there is a voice as an antidote to current

public discourse; opening up the Bible in a wise way; music from all musicians; morning tea volunteers; acceptance of LGBTI community; work of finance committee; overseas students; care and love at the death of Ros Wright

Hoping for 2020: acknowledgement and action on climate change; hoping for digital display out front; a stable economy world-wide; more international students; better heating in the sanctuary; renewed energy for work with young people and their connection into the church's life; renewed focus on baptism; assistance to get family members and friends to connect with the church; more testimonies; English classes for non-English speakers.

Moved Simon Holt/ Alan Garman

That the Annual Report for 2019 be accepted. Carried unanimously.

4. Appointments

Moved Paulo Pereira/Ian Angus

That the Collins Street Baptist Church Annual Report for 2018/2019 be accepted, with gratitude. Carried.

Moved Marilyn Rees/John Puli

That Nigel Smith be appointed as CSBC Delegate to the Baptist Union of Victoria

Carried

Moved Stefanie Pearce/Frank Rees

That the Annual Report of Gospel Hall Inc. be received and that current members of the Committee of Management, as listed in the Report, continue to serve. Carried

5. Declaration of Election Results

Peter Hearne reported that 80 Ballot papers were sent out; 42 were returned to the Ballot Box, and others delivered on the day. Office holders and Deacons as in the list above were all elected.

Simon recalled the listing of gifts identified by the people as being evident at CSBC. The Annual Report is just a window into who we are and what we are about, but this list shows the depth of our church: **we are the priesthood of God together**. All declared this aloud.

The meeting was closed by Simon in prayer at 1.05pm