



## Minutes of the 2016/17 ZAWA Annual General Meeting

Topic: Annual General Meeting  
 Date: Sunday, 9 October 2016  
 Time: 10.15am  
 Venue: Australian Asian Association Hall, Stirling Street, Perth

**Committee Members Present:**

Shahpoor Kalantary, Zerophie Deboo, Darayes Divecha, Homee Wadia, Cyrus Mistry, Tanaz Ghadiali  
 Apologies: Anahita Fitter

**ATTENDANCE:**

Names	
Dilshad Buhariwalla	Mehernosh Buhariwalla
Behram Cooper	Shernavaz Cooper
Hoshang Deboo	Dinaz Divecha
Merzin Ghadiali	Vizak Irani
Firoz Khambatta	Villie Khambatta
Yasmin Mehervanjee	Villie Mistry
Mehraab Patalwala	Darius Pavri
Maharukh Pestonji	Firoz Pestonji
Homyar Randeria	Arash Sethna
<b>TOTAL ATTENDANCE</b>	
<b>(incl. 6 committee members = 24 attending members)</b>	

**PROXIES:**

Proxy Received From		
Anahita Fitter	Khurshed Fitter	Hanosh Fitter
Tanyushka Fitter	Roshan Kalantary	Goolbanoo Rostami
Ross Khambatta	Farzana Khambatta	Zyrus Khambatta
Shalayne Khambatta	Kuky Wadia	
<b>TOTAL PROXIES</b>		<b>11</b>

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting:

**1. Chairman's Address:** The Chairman, Shahpoor Kalantary, advised the quorum had been met and the AGM could proceed. He thanked members for taking the time to attend. He provided a short synopsis of the event held over the year and also acknowledges the sad demise of elders within the community as well as births within the community.

**2. Adoption of the pervious Annual General Meeting Minutes:** The Secretary, Homee Wadia read out the recorded minutes of the 2015 AGM.

Matters raised at the previous AGM in General Business were discussed further as under:

- **Typo Error:** The accounts were for the year ended 2015 and not for the year 2014, as wrongly typed by Harry (Accountant). This was rectified. Homyar Randeria further pointed out that this should be minuted. However, Shahpoor advised that as per the new rules, the new minutes will have this amendment.
- **Clarification 1:** Homyar Randeria mentioned his comment at the last AGM was due to him initially opposing the winding down of ZAWA and instead forming a committee and taking a vote from the members.
- **Clarification 2:** Maharukh Pestonji said that the comment that BAWAZ split the community is not necessary. Shahpoor advised that we have to accept that it is "the elephant in the room".

The minutes of the previous AGM were subsequently adopted (proposed by Shernavaz Cooper and seconded by Firoz Khambatta).

**3. Chairperson's Report:** The Chairperson discussed ZAWA's activities in the previous 12 months – the Pora Pau Picnic at Burswood attended by 110 community members, The Jamwa Chalohji in November with a presentation on Iran by Aspi and Farida Madan, the Jamshedi Navroze function at the Atwell community Centre on 21 March 2016 catered by Parsiana Kitchen, the Dae Mahina Jashan and Ghambhar at the AAA Hall, and the Pateti Navroze function in August with ZAWA's Got Talent and a Chinese dinner. He also spoke about the implementation of a new ZAWA website. He suggested the minutes of the AGM should be uploaded to the same. Behram Cooper said it would be exposed to the whole world. After discussion, a decision was reached that like previous years, the AGM Minutes will be emailed to the members as a PDF document. Password protection was an alternate option.

## 4. Adoption of the Financial Accounts for 2015-2016:

Copies of the financial accounts for 2015-2016 were sent to all members, as well as having copies available at the AGM. Darayes Divecha, Treasurer, thanked Sorab Bulsara who has signed off as ZAWA's new auditor. He then read out the financial report and its key points:

- An acute drop in membership subscriptions in spite of several new members signing up.
- Several old time members are now in the seniors category.

Further Shahpoor said:

- Approx \$67,000 in a term deposit at 2.7% interest and it is about to be renewed. Shernavaz Cooper asked why not try somewhere like U Bank which gives a better interest rate. Homee Wadia suggested that since U Bank is affiliated to NAB, can Hoshang Deboo set something up on behalf of ZAWA. Homyar Randeria discussed the pros and cons of internet banking and the security risks and issues involved. Shernavaz also mentioned that CBA gives 4.7% interest. Shahpoor asked if everyone was comfortable with changing over to a new bank. He read out the extract from the Constitution wherein the investments could only be done at the four major banking institutions. Homee Wadia suggested to add \$3000 from the cash flow deposit account and round off the amount to \$70,000. Darayes Divecha said that we need the \$3000 for

operating expenses from time to time. Homyar Randeria said keep the door open for future consideration of internet banking. Shahpoor again asked the members present if everyone was agreeable to internet banking. Behram Cooper said there are no guarantees that everyone's computer will be virus free and totally secure. Hoshi Deboo said why don't we review all the rates and check out what best suits ZAWA's needs. Darius Pavri suggested ANZ Bank. Vizak Irani advised as per our Constitution, U Bank cannot be considered currently so we should stick with the banks mentioned.

- Shahpoor encouraged people to advertise on ZAWA's website which was \$100 for one year and a good price. Firoz Pestonji asked for a discount which was not accepted as the rates were very low compared to anyone else in the market.
- The sale of the Entertainment Book should be encouraged as the money comes directly to ZAWA.
- Darius Pavri asked about the bond of \$2000 appearing in the Annual Accounts. He suggested it should be written off as a bad debt till it is settled at a later date by the Auditor. The chair person would confirm what bond was being held on the name of ZAWA by the AAA and to amend the financial accounts accordingly.
- Firoz Khambatta suggested that 2 people from the new committee should be authorized to deal with future internet banking options and security of home computers.

After the Treasurer's explanation of the financial accounts and further discussion on the amount to be invested, the 2015-2016 Treasurer's Report was adopted (Proposed by Vizak Irani and seconded by Firoze Pestonji).

#### **5. New Legislation of ACNC:**

Shahpoor said that Australian Charities need to follow 5 basic standards:

- Not for profit nature – look at charities to donate to as we have not done so this year.
- Accountability to members – as per this meeting, how do we donate?
- Compliance with Australian laws
- Suitability of responsible members – Mehernosh Buhariwalla advised we need to include bankruptcy
- Duties of responsible person – there should be no conflict of interest. As per our constitution, no self profit by virtue of being a committee member. Shahpoor will send a copy of the conflict of interest rules and conditions, when the committee members need to sign the relevant forms.

Homyar Randeria suggested we should amend the constitution to include these details. Firoze Pestonji then said why does ZAWA not review the entire constitution which is now 20 years old. Homee Wadia said all that can be done at a properly constituted Extra Ordinary General Meeting. Darius Pavri said as per the ACNC rules, it is a requirement that each and every member to be sent a copy of the Constitution. Shahpoor replied that the Constitution can be read from our website but every member's details should be up-to-date and correct. It was agreed that the constitution would be emailed to each and every member.

#### **6. Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members:**

Many thanks to Zerophie Deboo and Tanaz Ghadiali for their efforts and services to the ZAWA community. Nominations were received from Mehraab Patalwalla and Firoz Khambatta for 2 new committee members. Shahpoor Kalantary remains Chairman, Cyrus Mistry has stepped up to the Vice Chairman's position, Homee Wadia remains Secretary, Darayes Divecha as Treasurer, and Anahita Fitter, Mehraab Patalwalla and Firoz Khambatta the 3 committee members.

#### **7. General Business:**

Firoze Pestonji pointed out that Vada Dastoor Khurshed Dastoor should not be addressed as Ervad but as Vada Dastoorji. He also thanked Mehernosh, Nazneen and Kuky for supporting the congress.

Shahpoor demonstrated a PPT illustration of the new website which will contain history, developments, religion, events, activities and a list of ZAWA members. He also showed membership application, contacts, other ZORO news, photographs, useful links and a Newsletter.

Homee wanted to discuss the future of our organization. He gave an example of the ROMAN Catholic Keralites in Perth who number 200 in 6 years and have collected \$2 million for a church of their own. This can only take place if we take pride in our own history and do something positive to move forward.

Firoze Pestonji said \$50 should be donated per month. Homyar suggested we throw open to the members and people can donate whatever they can and wish to. Merzin Ghadiali gave an example of the Parsees in Auckland who donate \$50 each month to their Anjuman, by direct debit form their bank accounts. Firoz Khambatta said some members will give and others will not so we should just maintain donation boxes, as per people's abilities to give or not.

Firoz Khambatta suggested we must get the ZAWA youth involved. He also mentioned that our projector needs an extension cord.

Mehraab suggested that people can RSVP too on the website. Shahpoor requested Behram Cooper to continue helping Sorab Bulsara and Mehraab Patalwalla with the setting up of the new website. The community's births and deaths also need to be included / uploaded on the new website.

There being no further business, the AGM was called to a close at 12.30pm.

An opportunity was then provided to remaining members to discuss the 11<sup>th</sup> WZC 2018.

Signed: .....  
Shahpoor Kalantary  
Chairperson

Signed: .....  
Homee Wadia  
Secretary