



SHORTHAND REPORTERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT PALM COVE, FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND

SATURDAY 22 AUGUST 2009 at 3.10 p.m

*Minutes\**

*Present: S. Mendra, B. Harris, K. Jones, J. Pevreall, T. Fowler, T. O'Dea, B. O'Connor, S. Stockman, J. Batchler, P. Templeton, M. Halliday, H. Lubke, D. Rumpf, C. Menadue, D. Mackie, H. Case,*

*Apologies: M. Hazlitt, K. Robertson, B. Phillips, B. Worseley, N. Gilvear, Bairbre Sullivan, Barbara Hamilton.*

1. *Confirmation of previous minutes - **Minutes Accepted.***

2. *President's report:*

*Main points: SRAA magazine lapse and reasons, website function, SRAA unofficial meetings. Declining membership, loss of committee members. SRAA website. NSW TAFE course closure. UQ research into high-speed shorthand writing. 2008 Sydney Regional Conference. Reporting Issues: Loss of membership and departmental conference support. **Report Accepted.***

3. *Secretary/Treasurer's Report*

*The previous statement is to the end of January 2007 when there was \$23,600 in the bank. The statement presented to the meeting is to the end of May 2009 when there was \$13,700 in the bank. Interim expenses accounting for the later balance included: website management and upgrading, conference expenses, Hobson's "Job Guide" for two years at \$3,000 a year (now discontinued).*

*Management committee teleconferences (5) beginning in January discussed declining membership and participation and what could be done to revive both. Following the highly successful regional conference in November 2008 in Sydney, the idea of a great conference at a great venue was decided upon as a make-or-break effort to revitalise interest in the SRAA. Management committee decided to engage a conference organiser. Absolute Events was engaged at a heavily discounted rate on 3 February 2009.*

*The 2009 conference required an initial round of deposits for Sea Temple and Flames of the Forest which left \$1,300 in the bank. Registration receipts were intermingled with Sea Temple accommodation payments and the accounting information was so complicated that it was not possible to sort out what belonged to the SRAA and what was to be put aside for accommodation. Current balance is \$16,000. Right Touch stenographic services paid \$2,000 in sponsorship and \$1,400 was received in membership renewals. In the interim payments due to be paid by SRAA were met by Sue and Kath. It was agreed that Sue and Kath should as much as possible be repaid the money they provided. **Secretary-Treasurer's Report Accepted.***

4. *Acceptance of Resignations and Nominations for Management Committee for 2009-10*

*The following resignations were accepted: Kath Jones, Vice-president/Immediate past President; Judy Pevreall, SA committee member; Jason Bradley, Queensland committee member, Polly Templeton, Secretary (from May 2009) and Treasurer, Belinda Corey, Editor and WA committee member. Kath Jones reported that apart from the President being willing to accept another term, no nominations had been received for Management Committee memberships.*

*The AGM adjourned at 4.10 p.m. to allow members attending to consider the options for the future for SRAA outlined in the agenda.*

*SUNDAY 23 AUGUST 8.30 A.M.*

*Members overnight considered two options: 1. Caretaker board (Sue Mendra, Kath Jones, Polly Templeton) will continue until 30 October when a decision will be made based on a response from the membership and the industry on whether they wish the SRAA to continue and contingent upon receiving management committee nominations plus a proposal for future conduct of the association that was adequate and cohesive. If no adequate response is received, the caretaker board will make the decision to finalise arrangements with the Department of Fair Trading (NSW) and close the association. 2. Immediate winding up at the conclusion of the AGM. After discussion, **Option 1 Accepted.***

*\*A copy of the Agenda, President's Report and a transcript of the AGM discussion are available on request.*

*The meeting concluded at 10.30 am.*

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