



**U3A Melbourne City Inc.**  
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**UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE MELBOURNE CITY INC. (A0045765E)**

**THIRTY FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Thursday 15 November 2018**

**10:30 a.m. at the Multicultural Hub, 506 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne**

**Attendance**

**Chair:** Jenny Holling

**Present:** Lesley Bright, Ann Johns, Michael Hoyer, Marilyn Harris, Helga Kuhse, Steve Milton, Anne Patterson, Margaret Smith, Russell Huntington, Lyn Mayer, plus 70 members and 23 proxies.

**Apologies:** Elizabeth Way, Gwen Nyman, Diana Bianciardi, Jeanette Bosisto, Frances Patterson, Eric Stokes, Roger Wilson, Shirley Arbuthnott

**1. Welcome**

President Jenny Holling welcomed all members to the meeting. On behalf of members, Jenny expressed her appreciation for Susan Webster (President - U3A Network Victoria) attending our AGM.

**2. Confirmation of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 15 November 2017**

The President noted an amendment in the minutes from 2017 ... "The actual 2017 budget showed a deficit of \$8,000 for the year..." which should read "*showed a surplus of \$8,000...*"

**Motion: That the minutes of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017, as amended, be approved**

Moved: Russell Huntington

Seconded: Shirley Mason

**3. Receive and consider the Annual Report and the Financial Statement for the preceding financial year**

The President highlighted U3A Melbourne City's achievements: 1541 members, tutors and group leaders providing 142 educational classes, as well as the Let's Do social program and monthly forums. Good governance, compliance, development of clear reporting and improved communication to members have been our priorities.

Financially, a deficit of \$13,379 was recorded for the financial year. The increasing costs of accommodation were noted.

**Motion: That the 2018 Financial Report be received and accepted**

Moved: Pam Davies

Seconded: Helga Kuhse

The President asked if there were any questions regarding the reports. A member asked who the patrons were and what was the network of grants referred to in the Financial Statement. The Treasurer explained that some Patrons do not want their names and/or donations disclosed. The Treasurer referred to the donation of \$10,000 from an anonymous donor as an example.

#### **4. Motion regarding Membership Fee:**

The Treasurer indicated that the financial situation is unsustainable. Funding needs to be addressed given the deficit for 2017/2018 of \$13,379. Donations have dropped from previous years and government grants have also decreased.

**Motion: That the Committee of Management be authorised, at its discretion and at an appropriate time to raise, by a maximum, of ten dollars, the annual Membership Fee (Full and Associate Membership) from 1 October 2019 until 30 September 2020.**

Moved: Ann Johns

Seconded: Lesley Bright

#### **5. Response to Submitted Questions**

Member Margaret Jungwirth had submitted a written question:

Why has the U3A not yet moved to a more equitable system of user pays?

The President noted a thorough analysis of the User Pays System had been undertaken in 2018. MyU3A is not a financial system but a membership database. The review done by the Committee with assistance by Kai Simpson (MyU3A System Manager) indicated that to adopt this option would place a heavy burden on the administration team.

#### **6. Life Membership and Recognition of Service Award.**

Michael Hoyer acting Vice-President, on behalf of the Committee of Management, presented Life Membership awards to three members, all having served at U3A Melbourne City for at least ten years.

Rhonda Favalaro	Tutor of Botanical Art	Life Membership
Julie Nankervis	Course Coordination	Life Membership
Fran Sciarretta	Office Administration	Life Membership

Each spoke about the joy received as a volunteer and that they could not have done it without the support of others. Each felt that more was received than was given. Rhonda said it changed her life. Fran spoke of the uniqueness of the organisation in that it was self-funded and run only by volunteers.

Michael Hoyer Acting Vice-President said he would like to thank President, Jenny Holling for her leadership this year. "She has been terrific."

#### **7. Election of Officers and Members to the Committee of Management**

Carolyn Cohn, the Returning Officer declared all positions vacant.

Nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer and for six Committee Members had been received by the closing date. All persons are financial members of U3A Melbourne City Inc.

The following members were nominated to form the Committee of Management for 2019.

Given that the nominations were the number required these persons were duly elected.

**Office Bearers**

<b>President</b>	<b>Jenny Holling</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Russell Huntington</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Elizabeth Way</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Lesley Bright</b>
<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Ann Johns</b>
	<b>Michael Hoyer</b>
	<b>Merilyn Harris</b>
	<b>Steve Milton</b>
	<b>Shirley Arbuthnott</b>
	<b>Helga Kuhse</b>

**8. Address by U3A Network President – Susan Webster**

Susan Webster indicated that it was a pleasure to be invited. She commented on the age of the U3A Melbourne City having been set up in 1985 and pointed out that it occupies a unique position because it incorporates more than the 3000 postcode and as a group it is looked up to by other U3As in Victoria. Susan Webster congratulated the group on its 'Remembering – The Pity of War' event, saying it was a most impressive and moving activity for Seniors' Week. She also spoke of the partnership with CPSU, acknowledging the civic minded partnership and that with the pro-bono service offered, everyone gains.

Susan Webster also spoke of the recognition of the Age Friendly Award and although it was self-nominating, it did highlight U3A and its work.

The Network had undertaken an advertising campaign to promote U3A and its work at a state wide level. It was possible to calculate the number of "hits" the advertisements had received and by adding a postcode, the user was directed to the nearest U3A in her/his region.

Jenny Holling thanked Susan Webster on behalf of U3A Melbourne City, for the work done to promote and support the U3A organisation.

**9. President's Address**

Jenny Holling said it was an honour to be elected again. She enjoys the role and her motivation is sustained through the generous-spirited volunteers and the wonderful, positive friendships made. The demands of being "engaged and focused" remain unchanged and like many volunteers, it does take a considerable time commitment to undertake the work. The organisation enables meaningful connections to be made for all members.

**Challenges ahead:**

- § Sustainability: financial and committed volunteers.
- § Technology: improving this area for the benefit of all members.
- § Lobbying: to explore funding sources and promote U3A as an organisation

**The 3 focus areas for 2019 are:**

- § Sharing the load through building teams of volunteers
- § Focus on increasing funding opportunities
- § Strong strategic planning

Jenny thanked all those volunteers who had contributed so generously in 2018.

In conclusion, Jenny Holling reminded us of George Bernard Shaw's remarks "*We don't stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing.*"

Jenny Holling thanked the outgoing Secretary, Margaret Smith, for all her work during 2018.

Meeting closed at 11:55am.