

Sweet Adelines International - Southern Cross Region #34
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Sunday 10 June 2018
Online Meeting via Facebook Audio Live Feed

Meeting Commenced 12pm AEST

PRESENT :

Helen Bolton, Linda Vinall, Terri Pod, Susan Grigson, Cecilia Connors, Lorraine Fillis, Sue Harvey, Anna Marie Shew, Gaye Stevens, Janet Caldwell, Ingrid Hampton, Linda Watt Smith, Sue Gilkes, Linda Britts, Jan Mahoney, Liz Hah, Margaret Richards, Val Norris, Roz Beste, Debra Griffiths, Lea Baker, Henrietta Farr, Jennifer Stevenson, Kathryn Khuen-Kryk, Annette Connolly, Diana Bagulho, Tracey Ezzy, Kali Caramia, Cathy Gordon, Sue Harvey, Jeanette Caldwell, Ingrid Moller

REC Members

Kate Hawkins (Membership Team Chair)
Annet Wezenbeek (Administration Team Chair)
Lindsey Dyer (Education Team Chair)
And Helen Burke as Secretary

Choruses Represented : A'Cappella Bay Singers, A Cappella West, Aurora Australis, Bathurst Panorama Chorus, Brindabella Chorus, Brisbane City Sounds, Circular Keys Chorus, Coastal a Cappella, Coastal Charisma, Endeavour Harmony Chorus, Geelong Harmony, Headliners Chorus, Hobart Harmony, Melbourne Chorus, Murrumbidgee Magic, Northern Beaches Chorus, Onkaparinga Harmony Chorus, Perth Harmony Chorus, Vocal Vibes Chorus, Voices of the Vasse, Wollongong Harmony Chorus, Indian Blue

APOLOGIES: Glenys Maddison, Davorka Gido, Chris Jones, Maxene Cooper, Rose McGee Robyn Thatcher, Katina Croft, Rosalie Grauer, Judy Rahn, Helen Barker, Joy Wood, Helen Hunter, Masayo Lamont, Suzanne Edmunds, Janet Henry, Anne Thomson, Adele Querzoli, Pat Orvad, Chris Forbes, Kim Warth, Laonie Stockman, Lou Patchitt, Jo Rupp, Jennie Harrison, Barbara Lynne Atyeo, Amanda Meli, Annie Sie, Barbara Goldflam, Wendi Leigh, Lyn Barker, Beverley Andrews, Rhonda Gray, Lyn Wotjaszak, Diane Jenkins

The Agenda for the meeting:

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Accept minutes of the last AGM
4. Questions relating to the Annual Report
5. Accept the 2016-2017 Annual Report

6. Accept the Financial Report for the year ended 31 March 2017
7. Confirm appointment of the auditor

Special Resolution: *That the Region change its financial year to: 1 January to 31 December.*

Close

MINUTES:

Annet Wezenbeek outgoing Finance Coordinator and current Administration Team Chair on the Regional Executive Committee (REC) opened the meeting at 12.00 pm AEST.

2017-2018 REGION 34 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Below is the transcript of the AGM as the minute

I would like to welcome you to the Sweet Adelines Australia, Region 34, 2017-2018 Annual General Meeting.

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today, and pay my respects to their elders past and present.

Today we have 23 choruses represented to attend the AGM. We have your details from the registration process that was open until 5pm, Australian Eastern Standard Time, Thursday 7 June. If you have anybody with you whose name was not recorded at the time of registering we encourage you to send an email to Sue Gilkes at communications@sweetadelines.org.au. We have also received a number of apologies from members in the region and this attendance will be recorded in the minutes.

The agenda for today's meeting:

We will call for acceptance of the minutes of the 2016 -2017 AGM, acceptance the 2017-2018 Annual Report and we will also call for acceptance of the financial report for the year ended 31 March 2018 and confirm the appointment of the auditor for 2018-2019.

We will vote on the special resolution as stated in the agenda

We will address any questions that we have received via Survey Monkey. I would like to emphasize that, that we welcome questions at any time during the year. If there are chapter leaders or members who wish to contact any one of us on the Regional Resource Team, our details can be found on the Sweet Adelines Australia website.

I'm Annet Wezenbeek, the outgoing Finance Coordinator in 2017-2018 and as of January 1st, the Region's Administration Team Coordinator.

The reason I am addressing you in this role is because the RMT elected to join the pilot program run by Sweet Adelines International to test a new Governance structure. An important reason for joining the pilot was for Region 34 to have a voice and being involved in any decisions made about the future of Sweet Adelines International. We now have the opportunity to provide feedback and suggestions for changes to the Governance structure to ensure that if there will be an affirmative vote for implementation it will be suitable for our Region.

During this pilot, which started in Our region on 1 January 2018, the Regional Management Team structure will continue as a shadow structure and I would like to thank all of the incredible women on the RMT for their willingness to stay on in their positions and embracing the challenge to adapt to new circumstances and change the way we have been doing things.

These women are dedicated and committed to the region and work tirelessly to deliver to our member's exceptional leadership and vision and I would personally like to thank all of them.

Your 2017-2018 Regional Management Team has been:

Kate Hawkins – Team Coordinator, Circular Keys Chorus

Sue Gilkes – Communications Coordinator, Aurora Australis Chorus

Annet Wezenbeek – Finance Coordinator, Vocal Vibes Chorus

Lindsey Dyer – Education Coordinator, A Cappella West Chorus

Val Norris – Membership Coordinator, Coastal a Cappella and Northern Beaches Chorus

Kali Caramia – Directors' Coordinator, Indian Blue Chorus

Annette Connolly - Events coordinator, A Cappella West chorus

Anna Marie Shew – Marketing Coordinator, Geelong Harmony Chorus

Late last year, after the RMT had formally accepted to enter the Governance pilot, Sweet Adelines International appointed the three Team Coordinators and with the assurance of the ongoing serving of the members of the RMT, we recruited an additional 13 members to form the new Regional Resource Team. Most of them were already serving at some level in a Regional role and the changes formalised and clarified their roles and involvement in the regional management. This clearly shows another advantage of the pilot where we can recognise the contribution of more members who help out at a regional level. We posted in the Facebook group a visual of the 21 people who make up the current Regional Resource Team. We appreciate each and every one of them for stepping up at short notice and would like to thank them for their commitment to our wonderful region.

Going forward with this pilot until December 2018 we anticipate other benefits like sharing the load of running the world largest region amongst more members, allowing members to share their expertise in smaller more targeted roles and find opportunities to identify, train and mentor future leaders. We hope that with this larger team we can bring even more exciting projects to fruition and ensure our Region continues to flourish.

in the first two weeks of January 2019 all regions will vote on a whether the new Governance model will be adopted. Until then we are continuously providing feedback on how the pilot works for our Region. Depending on the outcome, the period until May 2019 will be used to either revert back to the RMT structure or fully implement the new governance.

With me today are Kate Hawkins, Membership Services Team Coordinator, and our Regional Secretary Helen Burke. Due to illness Lindsey Dyer the Education Team Coordinator unfortunately is not with us here. She is following doctor's orders and is listening in online from her cozy bed.

Now onto some of the many highlights in our region for the 2017-2018 year.

This year, we saw again two choruses representing us in the International competition in Las Vegas – Perth Harmony put on a superb performance as they competed in the International Division and Brindabella Chorus created history for our Region, becoming the first gold medal winners as Harmony Classic AA Champions while also being awarded Most Entertaining Chorus.

Our Champion quartet for the 6th year in a row was Hi-Jinx. They elected not to compete in Las Vegas and the opportunity went to the second place winners Debacle Quartet who made their debut on the International stage. They went into the competition as 42nd placed and advanced to 32nd.

We are well represented at International level, with Sharon Cartwright elected by popular vote to the International Board of Directors. In addition we are represented by Lea Baker and Kate Hawkins on International Committees and Lyndal Thorburn on the International Copyright Taskforce at the request of Sweet Adelines International .

Two RMT members Kate Hawkins and Val Norris were delighted to be in Las Vegas for International Convention 2017. They also took this opportunity to attend the International LEAP Day – Learn, Engage, Apply, Perform - a leadership workshop which provided them the opportunity to network with RMT members from around the regions and meet with the Governance Task Force who would assist us with the transition to the new governance pilot.

We also sponsored the Education Coordinator Lindsey Dyer to attend the 2017 International Education Symposium. It allowed her to network with other Regional Leaders and learn new skills at the great variety of classes offered across all levels and subjects.

We continued to use Facebook Live as an opportunity to share important occasions with all members at home, like the excitement of the Rah Rah from the MGM Grand and the closing ceremony at the 2017 convention in Perth.

We held a first educational event also via Facebook live. Trish Tuffin, the Specialist Education Coordinator organised the very successful Quartet SchOOL Education Webinar that reach 2000 viewers. These videos are still available for viewing via the Sweet Adelines Australia Facebook page.

Directors School this year was aimed at front line directors and assistant directors. Our talented Regional Education Faculty delivered the program with great success. The positive feedback signposted this as a way forward for future education in the Region.

We had a very successful Convention in Perth with three choruses scoring over 600 points, a first for the Region and a record breaking quartet score for Hi-Jinx. Later in the year we found out that this

was their swan song as they have made to decision to go separate ways and we wish them all the best. Due to some clever budget choices, and higher than expected registrations, it was also a financial success.

The task forces we had established last year have reported back and we will continue to use the findings of these groups in education planning and guiding choruses in attracting and retaining new members. We are the biggest region in the world and the findings from this task force will help us maintain our status and continue this growth. We would like to thank everyone involved in these initiatives.

The Project Constitution Oz has reached its very successful conclusion this year. Every chorus in Region 34 has now received their standardised Rules for Incorporation. I would like to thank the team consisting of Sue Weston, Judy English, Val Norris and Dianne James for their work over the years on this project. Dianne has now joined the RRT as our new Governance Coordinator and the rest of the team has agreed to continue with their work. The next step being reviewing the Standing Rules for each chorus. We're confident we now have a team in place that can deal with any Governance issue.

We thank all our hardworking Regional Education Faculty who visited choruses during the year, who assisted prospective choruses and supported choruses through our Making a Difference Program. The Regional Education Faculty were also the Educators for both the Directors' School and August A Capella and we received many positive comments about the quality of their classes. Region 34 is truly lucky to have wonderful educators of this calibre available.

Our ongoing education programs, the Music Leaders' Program and the Southern Cross Regional Arrangers Program at a regional level and the Directors Certificate Program at an international level continue to provide our members with the opportunity to further develop and expand their knowledge and skills. We would like to thank all those involved with the development and ongoing coordination of these courses.

Lastly, we would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all our members who help within their chorus, their state and at a regional level. Without this commitment and dedication, we could

not continue to deliver to the members of Region 34, the world class education, Conventions and services that our members have come to enjoy.

Now to the procedural part of our Agenda.

We received a number of responses to our call for questions, which as per procedure, we will address with the individuals initially and the results communicated with all members.

Today we put four motions to the meeting. We will require someone to accept the motion and someone to second the motion. If you wish to either accept or second a motion, please type your first and last name in the comment box. We will take the first and second person's name as they appear.

Please note there will be a short time delay in this process and will read the names out as we receive them.

I would like to call for acceptance of the 2016-2017 AGM minutes. These were issued with the notice of meeting and also published on the regional website.

Motion to accept Minutes of 2017 AGM as read and a true record of that meeting

Moved by Val Norris

Seconded by Anna Marie Shew

Motion Passed

I would like to call for acceptance the 2017-2018 Annual Report – the narrative section:

Motion to accept Narrative section of 2017-18 Annual Report

Moved by Gaye Stivens

Seconded by Henrietta Farr

Motion Passed

I would like to call for acceptance of the financial report ended 31 March 2018

Motion to accept Financial Report from 2017-18 Annual Report

Moved by Jennifer Stevenson
Seconded by Helen Bolton

Motion Passed

In the past, auditing services have been provided by Alexander Hopkins from Mannion's Business Services. As he has now retired, we propose to continue the auditing of our Region's accounts for 2018-2019 with the company Mannion's Business Services who can provide a suitably qualified auditor. I would like to call for acceptance of this proposal?

Motion to approve appointment of Mannion Business Services, NSW as auditor
Moved by Tracy Ezzy
Seconded by Linda Vinall

Motion Passed

Lastly, we call for a vote on the special resolution as stated in the Agenda which will be passed by no less than 3/4 of the members voting at a general meeting in favour of the resolution.

At the end of this recording, you will find a poll in the Facebook group to indicate if you agree with the following special resolutions which is:

“That Region 34 of Sweet Adelines International change its financial year to the calendar year 1 January to 31 December”

You will be able to see the results of this poll on the Facebook page and recorded in the minutes.

This was voted on by all members present via poll and adopted by unanimous agreement. Votes from Bonita Boon and Rosemary Saunders from Brisbane City Chorus in favour of resolution noted. Technical issues prevented the vote being added directly to the poll

That concludes our 2017-2018 AGM.

The minutes will be prepared and published on the regional website within a week.

From all of us, we would like to thank you for taking time from your Sunday to attend our AGM.

There being no other competent business the meeting closed at 12.16 AEST