



Minutes

Public Libraries SA 2023 Annual General Meeting

Domain Theatre at the Marion Cultural Centre

9:30am on Tuesday, 28 November 2023

1. Welcome and Apologies

We would like to acknowledge this land that we meet on today is the traditional lands for the Kurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the Kurna people as the custodians of the greater Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today.

Apologies:

- Andrea Kipperman, City of Port Adelaide Enfield
- Georgina Davison, City of Mount Gambier
- Meegan Barrett, City of Burnside
- Belinda Halling, City of Tea Tree Gully
- Emma Gosbell, City of Tea Tree Gully
- Michelle Elliott, City of Tea Tree Gully
- Benjamin Wheal, City of Tea Tree Gully
- Kim Ritter, City of Tea Tree Gully

2. Confirmation of Minutes

2.1. Meeting held 28 November 2022

Moved: Dionne Collins, City of Port Adelaide Enfield

Seconded: Chiah Mayne, Town of Gawler

Recommendation: *That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 28 November 2022 be accepted as a true and correct record.*

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from Minutes

Nil



4. Reports from Office Bearers

4.1. President's Report

Firstly, I would like to start by acknowledging we are meeting on the traditional lands of the Kurna People, and I pay my respect by recognising elders past and present. I also recognise that there is still much hurt and trauma affecting First Australians, so I also make a personal commitment to doing what I can to help in that healing journey.

Welcome to all who could make it today, I appreciate the time you have taken out of your diaries to be here. I am incredibly proud to work in a network of such dedicated and passionate people who truly make a difference in the lives of so many.

Over the past 6 years that I have been on the committee, I have seen many changes, improvements, and challenges that PLSA have been able to directly influence. And more recently in the last 2 years as president, I am proud of a few things that have both been seen and unseen to the network.

Firstly, the huge task of rebranding the network and going through the process of defining our identity. This was no small challenge, but the way the Libraries Manifesto can encapsulate our work, and the branding which visually represents us is now a perfect reflection of the work we do each and every day.

And off the back of our Branding, the now award winning Firstival Campaign that has been incredibly successful. In large, the success of the campaign was no accident, and I want to thank all the Marketing and Promotions committee (chaired by Jess Paul) for their dedication and sacrifice to delivering an amazing network wide campaign. In particular, I'd like to acknowledge the work done by Veronica and Jon at PLS (especially Jon) for supporting the network. It's an excellent testament to what is possible when you get the right people, who are the best at what they do, to come together and give them the freedom and support to create and deliver.

Some of the unseen has been the significant and substantial work around our funding agreement. With the economy in a tough position, and the Government needing to spend big in some areas and cut back in others, there was a real and actual threat to our funding agreement. While this threat will continue over the coming years, I am proud that when the risk presented itself, we did not simply back down and accept what we were given. We got onto the front foot, mobilised our resources and made sure the Government knew the importance of our network and that we would not go quietly if funding was cut, and if agreements were broken. Externally it may not seem like a win to just get what we were promised, but I can assure you that under the current circumstances it's a bigger win than it may feel.



I want to acknowledge Bruce Linn as Chair of the Libraries Board and Geoff Stempel as the Director of the State Library. During these times, they are in an extremely difficult position of wanting the best for our Public Libraries, but also needing to fulfil State Government directions. In my experience, Bruce (along with the whole Libraries Board) as well as Geoff are always working hard to make our network better. We are lucky to have strong and visionary leaders who care about our communities, and who I am confident will never jeopardise the fabric of what makes our network world leading.

I'd like to thank Hanlie for all her work in supporting our network as well. I have experienced firsthand how hard Hanlie works and how passionate she is about supporting our network. It is not an easy job, and I have seen the stress and pressure her position can come under from time to time, but she has always handled herself with grace and dignity and has maintained her drive to do the best she can for our network. At times I know she is probably dreaming of her caravan out on the open road, but that has never stopped her from giving 100% each and every day.

And quickly I'd also just like to thank Veronica, Helen, and James (and all their teams) for their work and support as well. We would not be the network we are if it were not for your commitment and support.

Finally, I would like to say a big thankyou to the PLSA Executive Committee. This is a volunteer role that is in addition to all our day-to-day jobs. It goes without saying that each of the committee has contributed a great deal to the success of the network, but I want to thank them personally for the support, encouragement, and commitment to being in this together.

We do have 2 retiring members from PLSA being Kim Ritter from TTG and Jackie Edlington from Unley - Thank you both for all your work over recent years.

And continuing on the committee we have -

- Dione Collins as Vice President (Also the APLA rep and on PLC)
- Vicki Hutchinson as Treasurer
- Tania Paull (also on PLC)
- Chiah Mayne
- Georgina Davison
- Meegan Barrett
- Helen Walkden
- Pepper Mickan
- Nicole Turner (JULA Rep)

I want to say a special thanks to Vicki for all her work as treasurer (which has been huge). She has undertaken the task of digitising our accounting system and establishing our banking system to make things easier going forward. I know from the number of approvals I get that she is always on the ball and doing a fantastic job.



And lastly, I want to say an extra special thank you to Dionne. While the title says Vice President, Dionne really has acted as Co-President in so many ways, and taken leadership and accountability wherever needed. She was instrumental in those funding agreement discussions, making sure we were represented in the best possible light, and is always on the ball with the important matters for the network. I have really appreciated your wisdom and leadership, and your ability to balance me out and calm me down when needed (probably a mutual benefit).

With all of this in mind I have come to the difficult decision that my time on the PLSA Executive has come to an end. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time and have learned so much. I have had the opportunity to be part of things I would never have normally been able to, and I am extremely grateful for that. I am taking far more out of this experience than I have ever been able to put in. I do want to thank Lynn Spurling and Ben Footner as the 2 Presidents before me, for setting up a great foundation to jump straight into, and I also really want to thank Janice Nitschke who has always been an incredible font of knowledge and support.

Thank You

Damian Garcia

4.2. Treasurer's Report (Vicki Hutchinson)

Financial Statements for 2022/23

Moved: Vicki Hutchinson, City of Victor Harbor

Seconded: Susan Lawrence, City of Adelaide

Recommendation: *That the Public Libraries SA Incorporated Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 be received and noted.*

CARRIED

Budget Update for Financial Year 2023/24

Vicki provided an update on the budget from the 2023/24 financial year.

Membership Fees 2024/25

Moved: Vicki Hutchinson, City of Victor Harbor

Seconded: Damian Garcia, City of Marion

Recommendation: *That the PLSA Executive Committee recommends that the membership fees for the 2024/2025 financial year increase by the Local Government Price Index figure for South Australia, calculated with the price index at the June 2024 quarter.*

CARRIED



Appointment of Auditor

Moved: Vicki Hutchinson, City of Victor Harbor

Seconded: Dionne Collins, City of Port Adelaide Enfield

Recommendation: *That the PLSA Executive Committee recommends to the PLSA AGM that the current PLSA Auditor, Creative Auditing, be appointed as Auditor for the 2023/2024 financial year.*

CARRIED

Bank Account Signatories

Moved: Vicki Hutchinson, City of Victor Harbor

Seconded: Tim Law, Rural City of Murray Bridge

Recommendation:

That:

1. *The bank signatories for the Public Libraries SA accounts be:*

- *President: Pepper Mickan*
- *Treasurer: Vicki Hutchinson*
- *Vice President: Dionne Collins*

2. *Damian Garcia be removed as a bank account signatory.*

CARRIED

5. Election of Office Bearers

Nominations were called from the Network to fill the upcoming vacancies for President, Treasurer and 4 Committee Member positions. The following nominations have been received:

President Nomination: Pepper Mickan, Light Regional Council (returning in a new position)

Treasurer Nomination: Vicki Hutchinson, City of Victor Harbor (returning)

Committee Member Nominations:

- Chiah Mayne, Town of Gawler (returning)
- Tania Paull, City of Holdfast Bay (returning)
- Emma Gosbell, City of Tea Tree Gully (New)



Emma is the Team Leader, Technology & Digital Learning at the Tea Tree Gully Library. She is a part of the Library Leadership team and oversees the management of Library systems, RFID and the delivery of digital literacy programs to the community. Emma has worked in public libraries for 30 years and has worked for several services in the network across a variety of teams including collections, programs and customer service. She is passionate about the future of public libraries in SA and collaboration opportunities as a united network and would be very excited to pursue these as a Committee Member of the PLSA Executive.

Thank you to our retiring Committee Members:

- Damian Garcia, City of Marion
- Kim Ritter, City of Tea Tree Gully
- Jaclyn Edlington, City of Unley

Moved: Tim Law, Rural City of Murray Bridge

Seconded: Ben Footner, Mount Barker District Council

Recommendation: *That the nominees be appointed to the PLSA Executive Committee for a period of 2 years each under their respectively nominated positions.*

CARRIED

6. In Memoriam (Pepper Mickan)

Teresa Quartermaine, City of Mount Gambier

Teresa worked at the City of Mount Gambier in the Technical Services Team from 09-02-2011.

7. Next Meeting

TBC November 2024.

8. Close

The meeting closed at 10:22am.