

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**17 November 2016**

**Jasper Hotel, Melbourne**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Attendees*** |  |  |  | ***Apologies*** |  |  |
| **First Name** | **Surname** | **Organisation**  |  | **First Name** | **Surname** | **Company** |
| Leigh | Bartlett | Barwon Adolescent Task Force |  | Richard | Hill | Richard Hill Consulting |
| Khan | Churchill | City of Whittlesea – Baseline for Young People |  | Jerri | Nelson | North Central LLEN |
| Rowena | Allen | Commissioner for Gender and Sexuality |  | Gary | Green | Mildura Rural City Council |
| Roger | Holdsworth | Connect |  | Michael | Ford |  |
| Jessica | Bengtsson | KYC |  | Jessica | Twigg |  |
| Lindsay | Round | Nillumbik Shire Council |  | Pauline | Neil | Macedon Ranges Shire Council |
| Annie | Asquith | Scouts Victoria |  | Jessica | Twigg | YoKonnect |
| Cassandra | Prigg | UMSU |  | Carmen | Faelis | Crossroads Youth and Family Services |
| Krista | Seddon | VicSRC |  | Hayden | Collins | Swan Hill District Health |
| Taylor | Garner | Westgrove Primary School |  | David | Lyons | Trafalgar High School |
| Georgie  | Ferrari | YACVic |  | Leonie | Farrell | Banyule City Council |
| Leo | Fieldgrass | YACVic |  | Bev | Hoffman | North East LLEN |
| Desney | Millen | YACVic |  | Sophie | Moore | VicSRC |
| Jessie | Mitchell | YACVic |  | Fiona | Downing | YDAS |
| Jess | Orr | YACVic |  | Deb | Ellis | Strathbogie Shire Council |
| Dermot | Ryan | YACVic |  | Susanne | Prosser | City of Greater Geelong |
| Catalina | Sinclair | YACVic |  | Ana | Radovic | Australian Red Cross |
| Jo | Stanlake | YACVic |  | Ian | Johnson | YACVic |
| Karen | Walsh | YACVic |  | Wayne | Merritt | Melbourne City Mission |
| James | Campbell | YACVic Board |  | Brendan | Eager |  |
| Katerina | Dandanis | YACVic Board |  | Elizabeth | Thorne | High Resolves |
| Louisa | Ellum | YACVic Board |  | Andrew | Bruun | Youth Support and Advocacy Service (YSAS) |
| Kerrie | Loveless | YACVic Board |  | Lauren | Henley | YDAS |
| David  | Anderson | YACVic Board |  | Steph | Ryan | Member for Euroa |
| Jan | Farrell | YACVic Board |  |  |  |  |
| Paul | Turner | YACVic Board |  |  |  |  |

#### 1. Welcome and apologies

#### 2. Approval of the 2015 AGM minutes

**Motion:** That the minutes of the 2015 AGM, are a true and accurate record of events and be received and adopted.

**Moved:** Kerrie Loveless

**Seconded:** Khan Churchill

Carried.

#### 3. Reports

#### Chairperson

This last year at YACVic has gone amazingly quickly and as you will read in the Annual Report and from the ongoing newsletters, social media posts and general updates from the organisation, YACVic has grown, strengthened and developed momentum. As Chair of the Board, I have felt incredible pride in its work and achievements over the past twelve months.

A strong peak body is critical to the strength and success of the youth sector and a Victorian community in which young people are engaged in community, education and employment, are respected as valued, and have opportunities to lead and succeed. What the Board has witnessed and supported this financial year is an organisation that has listened to its members, worked with and for its young people and led many significant strategic initiatives with and on behalf of its youth sector. This has been a year of opportunity, thinking differently and establishing new linkages and collaborations for future work.

YACVic has launched its Strategic Plan (2016-2019) and continues to be at the forefront of innovation in the realm of youth participation by beginning a process of reimagining and activating what youth participation will mean to this organisation in the future. Growth is occurring in many facets of YACVic’s work including Rural, YDAS and KYC. The team have moved one floor upstairs in the current office complex to cater for their significant growth and future strategic work.

YACVic has an incredibly dynamic, skilled and passionate team of professionals, led by the CEO, Georgie Ferrari. On behalf of the Board of Governance, we would like to thank and applaud Georgie and her team for their tireless work over the past twelve months and for positioning the organisation as one of strength, capacity and leadership as a peak body.

Underpinning this work are YACVic’s countless volunteers, who give so generously of their time to support YACVic and its members and without whom so much of our success would not have been possible.

We look toward the next twelve months with great anticipation for the growth of advocacy, research, policy, youth participation and youth sector development across our State of Victoria.

**Treasurer**

The 2015-16 year was a good year financially for YACVic with additional providing additional funding to support the expansion of our services to rural Victoria, YDAS, KYC and the VicSRC For the 2015-16 financial year, YACVic returned an operating surplus of $125,817 (2015: $72,255), increasing net assets to $693,083 (2015: $567,266). YACVic remains in a strong financial position due to the diligent use of the organisation’s resources.

Income and expenses increased by just over 30% as result of the additional funding to expand our services and the costs (in particular salary and wages) required deliver the additional services to the sector.

As at 30 June 2016, YACVic had cash reserves of $1,526,615 (2015: $1,287,236) including term deposits to fund its operations. Our current Assets at $1,681,653 are 1.49 times higher than current liabilities. This ratio is lower than the prior year (1.78 times) due to funding received in advance for our expanded activities.

Many thanks to the Board, Georgie and the staff and volunteers over the past year for their efforts to in executing on the strategy of YacVic and ensuring we have a strong financial base.

**Chief Executive Officer**

I’ve been YACVic’s CEO for 13+ years now and I’ve never experienced as much positive change and growth at YACVic as I’ve seen in the last 12 months. Increased funding over several program areas has meant we have grown immensely from a staff of 16 full-time equivalents (FTE) to 26 FTE (once we’re all recruited); and we have literally moved up in the world, having relocated one floor up to a bigger and more accommodating office space.

Our funding boost has allowed YACVic to introduce significant new programs and projects, most notably with the launch of YACVic Rural and the Youth Disability Advocacy Service NDIS Readiness project. The Victorian Government recognises that young people in rural and regional communities face particular challenges and has invested in YACVic to build on our work in these country areas. We now have a presence in two regional locations and are actively servicing the Southern Mallee and Great South Coast regions, which is very exciting. The Government also recognises that young people with disabilities face particular challenges and vulnerabilities in the transition to the NDIS model and have resourced us to work intensively with them and their families to ensure they can fully access the scheme. YACVic has also been running YDAS for ten years this year!

I’m incredibly proud of our partner agencies, the Koorie Youth Council and Victorian Student Representative Council, which have flourished in the last 12 months and are now bigger and better than ever. Of course, the real winners are Victoria’s young people who are seeing increased supports and opportunities, as well as improved policy and engagement activities.

YACVic has continued to support and coordinate the HEY (Healthy Equal Youth) Project, which promotes the mental health and wellbeing of same sex attracted and sex and gender diverse (SSASGD) young people in Victoria. The HEY Project has also benefited from a funding boost and the number of partner agencies engaged in supporting SSASGD young people in Victoria has grown. As part of the HEY Project, YACVic administers an annual small grant round on behalf of the State Government—now in its sixth year—and we have distributed over $1m to assist organisations to work with SSASGD young people.

These developments have all coincided with the formulation of our new strategic plan, which maintains our focus on ensuring young Victorians have their rights upheld and are valued as active participants in their communities.

I’d like to thank the YACVic Board for their advice and support throughout this time; most importantly, for their encouragement and bold vision for our organisation as we embark on the great challenges that change and growth always bring. In particular, I’d like to acknowledge the leadership of Louisa Ellum, YACVic’s Chair, who is a great source of support and guidance to me. Louisa is ably assisted by Kerrie Loveless as Deputy Chair. Both Louisa and Kerrie have been always available, ready to listen, reflect and provide much-needed advice and guidance. I’m very grateful to them both. Rounding out YACVic’s executive governance team is David Anderson, our diligent Treasurer. I’m indebted to David for his careful eye and his considered approach to YACVic’s finances; a task that, at times this year—with a relocation and office fit-out—required quite a bit of his attention.

Thank you to our members whose collective voice brings us the volume we need to make a difference—without you we couldn’t be the strong, effective and vocal peak body that we are.

Finally, to the YACVic staff who are awesome—I feel so lucky to be leading a team of such dedicated, motivated and genuinely brilliant individuals who all work so hard for young people and the sector that supports them in Victoria. Thank you for another great year!

We’re always looking forward to the next 12 months but it’s great for us to pause a while here and reflect on what a successful year it’s been for YACVic and the youth sector.

**Motion:** That the reports be accepted.

**Moved:** CassandraPrigg

**Seconded:** Paul Turner

Carried.

#### 4. Appointment of Auditor and Public Officer

**Motion:** That AFS and Associates be reappointed as YACVic’s auditors for the 2016 – 2017 financial year

**Moved:** Kerrie Loveless

**Seconded:** Paul Turner

Carried.

**Motion:** That Georgie Ferrari be appointed asthe Public Officer

**Moved:** Khan Churchill

**Seconded:** Cassandra Prigg

Carried.

#### 5. Election results declared

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#### Board of Governance – over 25

Louisa Ellum

#### Board of Governance – under 25

James Campbell

Katerina Dandanis

**Rural member**

Bev Hoffman

**6. Other business**

The AGM closed at 4.42 pm.