



HARTLEY COLLEGE PAST PUPILS' ASSOCIATION INC. NSW BRANCH, SYDNEY AUSTRALIA

Draft Minutes of the Special General Meeting (SGM)

Sunday 6th February 2022

Venue: Reg Byrne Community Centre, Corner of Fyall Avenue and Darcy Road,
Wentworthville NSW 2145

Attendance: S Kathirgamanathan; K Selvarajah; A Srikumar; C Somasundaram; K Kaneshalingam; B Sutharsan; V Jeyadevan; S Uthyakumar; K Yoganathan; V Nandagopan; T Sivasakthy; S Subenthiran; S Vinothan; K Sivanesan; S Nishanthan; S Kananathan; and Fred Thinesh.

Apologies received via emails and WhatsApp Messages: R Manimaran; S Yoganathan; P Ilango; Kachana Krishnathasan; P Paramatheva; V Sithamparanathan; S Thavaseelan; and B Kuganesan

Note: SGM started only at 330pm due to lack of quorum of 15 members

1. Welcome Address by the President

The President opened the SGM at 330pm.

At the start of the meeting, a minute silence was observed remembering the people sacrificed their lives our liberation in Sri Lanka.

The President thanked all the members who were present

The President has highlighted the quorum requirement to adopt the proposed HCPPA-NSW Constitutional changes as per the provision of the HCPPA-NSW Constitution.

The President informed SGM participants that he would like to start discussing the DGR matter as the first item

2. DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) Discussion-Findings of the Sub-Committee and moving forward

The President opened the discussion thanking the Sub-Committee members conducting the required research work and discussions with other community organisations, particularly Tamil Engineering Foundation and the Australian Medical Aid Foundation.

The sub-committee concluded the recommendation: Not to Proceed with the DGR Application



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During the presentation and discussion of the DGR recommendation, the President was assisted by the Treasurer and Charles Somasundaram, elaborating the reasons to arrive such recommendation:

- We are not a broad-based Charity organisation (The primary ATO requirement to consider DGR application) serving the community at large neither in Sri Lanka nor in Australia
- We are an organisation, primarily formed by members to enhance the educational and sporting standards at Hartley College and or its feeder/satellite schools
- Humanitarian assistance has been primarily focused on the Hartley College community
- One of our primary objectives of the HCPPA-NSW: 'Promoting fellowship among members' and this objective will not be considered favourably meeting the ATO requirements.

After the presentation and discussion, including responding to questions and clarifications by the members present at the SGM, it was concluded that NOT to proceed submitting DGR application.

Further, it was suggested to revisit this exercise in future

3. Adoption of changes to the HCPPA-NSW Constitution

The President presented the proposed HCPPA-NSW constitutional changes with the help of the Joint Secretary.

He thanked the Constitutional Sub-committee members who assisted him to complete the exercise as per the Resolution passed at the last AGM.

The discussion relating to clauses up to 4.4 was completed, highlighting:

- The proposed Clause 2.1 in the draft will be removed as the HCPPA-NSW will not proceed submitting the DGR application
- Only Life membership applications shall be processed from the date on which the proposed changes of the constitution would become effective
- The Life membership payment shall only be paid via electronic transfers to the nominated HCPPA-NSW bank account
- The President shall have the powers constituting Sub-committees in consultation with the Management committee to undertake specific projects and tasks
- The Clause 4.4.f "allowing Life members living in other States other than Victoria and Tasmania and the Asia Pacific region can vote via secret postal balloting or by other means as determined by the Returning Officer



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There was a discussion on allowing postal balloting and during the discussion, there were three options considered, viz.

- Option 1: Only postal voting, allowing all Life members
- Option 2: Only allowing voting in person, allowing the life members who are present at the AGM,
- Option 3: Combination both Postal voting and voting in person at the AGM

Majority who were present preferred to option 2.

There was a discussion on the type of Returning Officer. However, the independence of the Returning Officer was emphasised during discussion.

4. Adjournment of the Meeting

In view of lack of time to complete the proposed SGM agenda, the President moved to adjourn the SGM at 5pm and, hearing no objection, the President declared that the SGM meeting adjourned at 5pm.

It was decided to meet again, preferably at same venue to complete the outstanding agenda items of the SGM as per the provisions of the HCPPA-NSW Constitution.

Draft Minutes of the Adjourned Special General Meeting (SGM)

Saturday 26th February 2022

Venue: Reg Byrne Community Centre, Corner of Fyall Avenue and Darcy Road,
Wentworthville NSW 2145

Attendance: S Kathirgamanathan; K Selvarajah; A Srikumar; C Somasundaram; K Kaneshalingam; B Sutharsan; K Yoganathan; V Nandagopan; T Sivasakthy; S Vinothan; S Kananathan; R Manimaran; V Sithamparanathan; B Kuganesan; G Vaseekaran; G Thriukumar; S Ragavan; A Raguramankumar; G Saravanabavan; J Reginold; K Murugathas; S Vinothalingam.

Apologies received via emails and WhatsApp Messages: Not received any apologies either via emails or WhatApps or SMS messages or phone calls

Note: The Adjourned SGM started at 215pm as the quorum of 15 members reached at 215pm

The President opened the adjourned SGM at 215pm.

At the start of the meeting, a minute silence was observed remembering the people sacrificed their lives our liberation in Sri Lanka.



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The President thanked all the members who were present

At the start of the meeting, a point of order was raised as the constitutional discussion held on the 6 Feb 2022 be repeated according to the Constitution. All agreed to start discussing again from the beginning.

The President and the Joint Secretary then presented and discussed the changes to the HCPPA-NSW constitution

The Major Changes:

- Cosmetic changes in Clause 2: Aims and Objectives adding the humanitarian assistance both in Australia and Sri Lanka as part of the aims and objectives
- The only Life memberships applications will be processed
- Clarifying the current legacy ordinary membership in the membership register for communication purposes
- The Payment of Life membership applications only via electronic transfers to the nominated Bank Account of the HCPPA-NSW
- The President will constitute the Sub-committees in consultation with the management committee to undertake specific projects and tasks
- Proxy voting will not be allowed in any matters relating the election of the management committee
- Only Life members will be allowed to vote in electing the management committee and become members of the management committee
- The provision relating to the Independent Returning Officer (RO) and the required election process, including eligibility and rights of the RO
- The positions of the President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer will be elected from the immediate management committee
- The AGM should be held every year and having AGM under exceptional circumstances using virtual method
- The Vice Patrons terms have been amended to 3years at the start and then an extension of maximum 2 years.
- The management committee can conduct meeting via virtual
- The effective date of the adopted constitution-26 Feb 2022

The Proposed Changes were not considered for adoption

- The proposed Clause 2.1 Charitable Aims and objectives-will be deleted
- The alternate proposal for 2-year term for electing committee of management-will be deleted
- Postal voting for life members living in other States and the Asia Pacific Region and any other clauses referring postal voting-will be deleted or amended as appropriate



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Adoption of the Constitution with the Changes: The proposed changes to the HCPPA-NSW constitution were adopted unanimously, become effective on the 26th of Feb 2022

Election of the Returning Officer: G Saravanabavan was elected as the Returning Officer unanimously and V Sithamparanathan Vyrum was elected as back up Returning Officer.

Both would work together to elect the new Committee of Management at the forthcoming AGM

Closing the meeting: The President closed the meeting at 4pm thanking all the members who were present at the SGM adopting the changes to the HCPCS-NSW Constitution