

# Annual General Meeting

## Buddies Refugee Support Group Ltd

The meeting opened at 11:23AM on Sunday, 26 August 2018 at 24 King Street, Brisbane.

Apologies: Fergus FitzGerald, John Brinnand, Mitra Khakbaz, Rada van der Werff, Natacha Kaewong, Kristi Nageli, Louisa Lenz, Margaret Norris, Margaret Norman, Kayla Szumer, Sheila Merriman.

Attending: Andrea Strickland, Carolyn Bates, Garry Bates, Brendan Crimmins, Gillian Duffy, John Ennis, Scott Grimmett, Robyn Keen, Thorsten Kels, Margaret Landbeck, Len Mangan, Paul McKinlay, Angela Mercuri, Wendy Oakley, Ana Perez, Jason Reynolds, Penny Rivlin, Gaynore Stoessel, Meredith Walker, Lesley Willcoxson, Denise Williams, Kiana Woolley, Shaye Yuill, Michelle Watts.

Quorum was confirmed.

### **Minutes of the last AGM**

The meeting minutes of the last AGM were sent out with the Notice of AGM. There were no issues raised about the minutes.

Angel Mercuri moved to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Margaret Landbeck. The motion was carried by a show of hands.

### **Directors' Report**

The Directors' reports were included in the Annual Report.

### **Financial Report**

The Financial Report was presented by Gillian Duffy. Gillian explained how the outgoing monies are divided between indirect support, direct support, fundraising costs, community awareness and operating costs. Details can be found in the Financial report.

An audit of the books is only required if the meeting requests an audit. No such request was made. There are no plans to raise membership fees in the coming year.

Shaye Yuill moved to accept the Financial Report. The motion was seconded by Margaret Landbeck. The report was accepted unanimously.

Garry Bates requested a discussion about Buddies' membership. The number of paid-up members has slowly been declining and the monthly meetings are also attended by fewer members. I was suggested to encourage more members to become active in the group and

to engage the members more in the meetings and that the structure of the meeting doesn't invite new members. The meetings used to give updates of people seeking asylum that were directly supported by Buddies. Many of these have moved away from the area. There are still refugees on the Sunshine Coast but Buddies is not directly involved with them. Garry suggested to re-form the working groups to get more direct involvement with refugees and to invite more refugees to the meetings.

No motions arose from this discussion.

### **Election of new Directors**

Angela Mercuri and Diana Woolley have decided to resign as directors and their positions are declared vacant. Mitra Khakbaz has offered to resign her position if the meeting wishes her to do so.

Garry Bates moved the re-election of Mitra Khakbaz. The motion was seconded by Denise Williams. The motion was carried by a show of hands.

The chair opened the remaining two positions to nominations from the floor.

Lesley Willcoxson nominated Paul McKinlay. Scott Grimmett seconded the nomination.

Denise Williams nominated Shaye Yuill. Angela Mercuri seconded the nomination.

Garry Bates nominated John Ennis.

After a brief discussion about the voting process John Ennis withdrew his nomination and Paul and Shaye were elected by a show of hands.

The meeting thanked Angela Mercuri and Diana Woolley for the great work during the past year.

The meeting closed at 12:28PM.