



## **BRISBANE PRIDE INCORPORATED ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Date: Tuesday 21st March 2023**

**Online Via Google Meet**

### **Minutes**

#### **1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

The chair advised that the quorum had been achieved and called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

#### **2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Acknowledgement of Country was undertaken by the chair, Brisbane Pride Acting President, James McCarthy.

#### **3. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES**

16 members in attendance. 8 proxies received. Nil apologies have been received.

#### **4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The minutes of the Brisbane Pride Incorporated 2022 Annual General Meeting had been made readily available for all members on the Brisbane Pride website as well as via email.

James McCarthy moved that these minutes are a true and correct record of the 2022 Annual General Meeting. Seconded by Bradley Heilbronn.

16 For, Nil against. MOTION CARRIED.

#### **5. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**5.1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT** presented by 2022 Brisbane Pride President, Bec Johnson.

Bec acknowledged the significant amount of hours and time that the Brisbane Committee give back to the community, to community initiatives and projects, to conversations and negotiations. The support for events for the community and all of their hours are 100% volunteer. They're one of the rare organisations in Queensland that 100% volunteer.

So, I really recognise you all and congratulate you all on just being brave and being awesome and deadly for the community and giving back to the community. We had a really good year last year. There was quite a lot of challenges in the year, but overall, I think in terms of the Queens Ball and the planning and the implementation stages and having the conversations around what went well, what we could reconsider and how we could do things better, they're always things that we discussed as a board. So those events, a lot of time is given into the Queens Ball from all of the board members. And I think it's safe to say we had another sold out Queens Ball. We introduced seating again upstairs and there's more steps for Brisbane Pride. Those sort of things have only happened over a period of time when all these volunteers have really got through and hammered through scopes of business and outputs for the community. I think the membership should consider moving Queens Ball to a bigger venue into the future as Brisbane Pride grows.

In terms of Fair Day, what we saw was the committee come together to make some really big decisions in the lead up to Fair Day. Everyone remembers there was some wet weather, and with that wet weather.

Some things were really out of our control in terms of decreasing the infrastructure and stuff on site for the Brisbane Pride Fair Day. But what I can say is there was a real strength in partnerships this year leading into that festival. Particularly Or Fair Day, particularly the march, by partners working together to make sure that we had a march and to make sure that we were transparent and we had open communication about that march and the capacity of the march and the safety of the march. I believe Fair Day, even though because of the wet ground and some of the decisions around health and safety that we had to make Fair Day, we've seen nearly over 5000 people go through those gates. So that is something to be proud of. Be proud of finding a central location point and a common point for our community to engage all with each other at Fair Day and our stalls and stuff, it still worked.

And that was remarkable. I think it's very unrecognised, the amount of hours that the executive team and executive committee do in terms of negotiating for sponsorship funding. It takes up a lot of time. And Brisbane Pride, as it continues to grow, should consider employing full time operational staff or project officers for this sort of work. It's quite intense, but I thoroughly enjoyed all of 2022 with the community and with the Brisbane Pride Committee. It has brought me a great amount of joy, and I leave knowing that some of the people that have been on this committee long term will do a wonderful job and will continue to their capacity to deliver events that bring our LGBTIQ+ Sistergirl and Brotherboy communities together. So, thanks so much.

James McCarthy and Naraja Clay both thanked Bec for her leadership during her time with Brisbane Pride Incorporated.

## **5.2 TREASURER'S REPORT** presented by Brisbane Pride Treasurer and Acting President James McCarthy

James presented the audited financial statements to the meeting and presented the Treasurer's report for the endorsement of the members. The audited financial statements included;

income for the year was \$394,936 which was a 17.9% increase on the previous fiscal year, we had expenses of \$351,312, which was up 16.9% on the previous year, leaving us a profit of \$43,624, which was a 26% increase.

The profit isn't quite what it could have been, given that we had to forego a large number of the stall income. We had to give a lot of that back because of the issues relating to rain at Musgrave Park.

Jessica Astrid asked James McCarthy a number of questions related to the financial statement for 2022, including questions about Brisbane Pride's contractors, event management and membership.

Dylan Barrett gave a breakdown of the current membership in relation to Jessica's question with approx. 85% of the membership being general membership and 15% concessional.

The current membership is 74 and this is similar to previous year's.

James McCarthy moved that the audited financial statement for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 be accepted. Seconded by Harry Katsanevas.

Jessica Astrid asked that it be minuted that she was not in support of this motion. 15 in favour, MOTION CARRIED.

## **6. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR**

James McCarthy moved that AB Services PTY LTD be appointed as the auditor for Brisbane Pride Incorporated for 2023. Seconded by Dr James Allen.

15 For. MOTION CARRIED.

## **7. ELECTION OF BRISBANE PRIDE INCORPORATED COMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Rule 18 of the Brisbane Pride Incorporated Rules, the following positions were declared vacant;

- President (1 Year)
- Vice President (2 Years)
- Treasurer (1 Year)
- Secretary (2 Years)
- 3 x General Committee (2 year term)

Jessica Astrid did not feel that the current met nomination format was applicable and said that members need to know who nominated and when they nominate and that she had sent prior notice of this requirement to the committee.

James McCarthy stated that sending correspondence to the committee at 3:30pm on the afternoon of the AGM is not prior notice and it is not standard practise to submit those things to be tabled.

Jessica Astrid disagreed with this and stated that they should be part of the documentation made available to financial members.

James McCarthy stated that Jessica Astrid had been attending the AGM's for some time now and should be aware of the process regarding nominations as it has never changed.

Jessica Astrid asked for the details of each nominee, who nominated them and seconded that nomination and then accused Brisbane Pride Incorporated of hiding that information.

Dylan Barrett outlined the nominations process again.

Jessica Astrid asked James McCarthy whether he considered the notice given for nominations was sufficient? To which James McCarthy replied "yes and It's roughly what we would normally get."

The nomination received for the vacant positions were:

President: James McCarthy

Vice President: Nil received

Treasurer: Nil Received

Secretary: Dylan Barrett

General Committee: Dr. James Allen, Harry Katsanevas and Gabrielle Martello.

Dr James Allen stated that he was finding some of the interactions of the meeting to be quite hostile and was generating a high level of stress and anxiety for him and asked Jessica Astrid what the purpose of the questions are and whether it's intended to generate that distress or sense of conflict in the group.

James McCarthy explained that Jessica Astrid has sent many communications to Brisbane Pride with these questions over a long period of time an prior to that, she has sent many communications to other organisations before she sent one to us. In previous years we have had these questions raised and in previous years we have responded to what our process is and we have provided a copy of the rules as to what the process is. None of what we are currently doing is actually necessary. It is simply to satisfy Jessica, which of course we are happy to do once again. But I do accept the issue that you raised, that it is a very unnecessary level of tension in the meeting and we really should calm that down and move on with this process.

James McCarthy stated that given that there were all the positions currently, except for Vice President and Treasurer, have got nominations against them and no other nominations, they will be accepted on block.

Dr. James, Allen, Harry and Gabrielle have been elected to the committee as general committee, James McCarthy has been elected President and Dylan Barrett will serve as secretary.

Vice President and Treasurer will now be filled from the floor.

Daniel Frost-Foster and Naraja Clay both nominated for Vice-President from the floor.

Naraja Clay and Daniel Frost-Foster were both given the opportunity to talk a bit about who they are and why they were seeking election as Vice President.

As quite a few attendees were carrying proxies, it was decided that the chat function would be the fairest way to collect the votes.

2 people abstained from voting.

7 members voted for Naraja Clay and 9 members voted for Daniel Frost-Foster. (Please note this includes proxies)

Daniel Frost-Foster was elected as Vice President.

Jennie Toonen nominated from the floor in the position of treasurer.

No other nominations were received, Jennie Toonen was elected to the position of Treasurer.

## **8. MEMBERSHIP FEES**

### **CONCESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

Concessional membership fee for 2023 be \$15, which includes a complimentary ticket into Brisbane Fair Day.

### **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**

James McCarthy moved that the general membership fee for 2023 be \$20 which includes a complimentary ticket into Brisbane Fair Day,

### **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP**

Associate membership for 2023 be \$50 which includes a complimentary ticket into Brisbane Fair Day.

James McCarthy moved that the above memberships be accepted for 2023, seconded by Dr James Allen.

16 in favour. MOTION CARRIED.

## **9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Ash Monaghan - current president of the Brisbane Tritons Water Polo Club spoke about wanting to talk to the committee and put forward a proposal for the Brisbane Tritons, along with maybe QC to host, like a pool party and potentially, like, some dive in movies or something, just to help flesh out the calendar for the month a little bit more.

James McCarthy asked The Brisbane Tritons to forward your proposal through to [hello@brisbanepride.org.au](mailto:hello@brisbanepride.org.au) and it will go before the committee for consideration.

## **10. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

Meeting closed at 6.36pm