

**BLUE MOUNTAINS VIETNAM VETERANS AND ASSOCIATED FORCES INC.**  
**2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Tuesday 11 April 2023 at 1100 hrs at**  
**The Blue Mountains & Community Hub, Macquarie Road Springwood**

The Secretary declared the meeting open at 1105 hours.

**Attendees:**

Jack Lake (JL)	President	
Chris McKay (CMcK)		Secretary/Vice President
Roger Lawlor (RL)		Committee
Greg Meek (GM)		Committee
Stafford Lowe (SL)		Member/Public Officer
Glenn Daly (GD)		Member
Norm Fraser (NF)		Member
Les Hogan (LH)		Member
Peter Jones (PJ)		Member
Sue Jones (SJ)		Member
Wendy Humphrys (WH)		Member

**1. Welcome by Secretary/Vice President**

The CMcK welcomed members in attendance.

**2. Silent reflection remembering those members who have departed this life since the 2021 Annual General Meeting held on 9 December 2021.**

Trevor Baker, Barry Gracie, John Woolley, Rod Murdoch, Peter Baker, David Harding, Dennis Lindgren, Clive Plummer, Pamela Martin, Stan Towers

CMcK requested all be upstanding for one minute's silence for departed comrades.

The Ode of Remembrance was recited by GM.

*Lest We Forget*

**3. Apologies**

Neville Barnier OAM, Sydney Cole, John Fenton, Charles Lee, Mike Matters, Steward McAlister, John McKechnie, Jim McKinnon, Rudy Mech, Doug Mepham, Stewart Mitchell, Ian Scott, Craig Terrey, Owen Wood, Lawrence Wright.

Motion that the members' apologies be accepted

Moved: GD

Seconded: JL

**4. Confirmation of previous minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting held on 9 December 2021.**

Motion: that the minutes of the 9 December 2021 Annual General Meeting as presented are a true and correct record of that meeting.

Moved: PJ

Seconded: RL

**5. Business arising from those minutes.**

None

**6. President's Report in accordance with Part 4.24 of the Constitution.**

JL advised that due to unforeseen medical circumstances, he did not have a written report available. He stated that financially the association was doing very well. Also, that John Fenton would be undergoing heart surgery. He will be contacting members soon to assist with the mid-year raffle stalls.

**7. Treasurer's Report, receive and consider the financial statement of the Association.**

Refer to Attachment 1

CMcK advised that the Treasurer Craig Terrey was unwell and unable to attend the meeting. All attendees were given a copy of the Financial Report, prepared by Craig. CMcK advised that the association was in a good financial position, and he thanked CT for the excellent job he was doing as Treasurer. He recommended that we would look at the interest rate on the term deposit when it matures, with a view to getting the best rate. GD suggested that we look at not investing the whole TD amount, to keep some funds available.

Treasurer's Report is accepted.

Moved: RL

Seconded: GD

Accepted Unanimously

**8. Receive other Sub-Committee Reports.**

**a. Wellbeing Sub-Committee Report**

CMcK advised that JF was unwell, so a Wellbeing Report was not available and that we wished him a speedy recovery. CMcK suggested working with St Mary's Train to assist with seeing wellbeing clients and that he will contact St Marys and Granville about their assistance with wellbeing enquiries. RL asked if you need to be TPI to be a member of the TPI Association, GD advised that veterans do not need to be TPI to be members. RL suggested assisting TPI veterans with the cost of membership in the TPI Association, GD thought that it would not be a good idea. There was a general discussion about the Gold Card. GD mentioned that Gold Card holders can volunteer for unlimited hours.

For information: All members.

**b. Fund Raising Sub-Committee Report**

JL will be contacting members soon to coordinate volunteers for the mid-year raffle stalls.

For information: All members

**c. Membership Report**

CMcK read out the Membership Statistics as follows:

Financial Members: 226

Unfinancial Members: 67

Total of Financial & Unfinancial Members: 293

New Members since 2021 AGM on 9 December 2021: 4

Deaths since 2021 AGM on 9 December 2021: 10

Resigned since 2021 AGM on 9 December 2021: 89 (87 fees overdue from 2011 to 2018)

It was highlighted by CMcK & GD that new members are not joining our association or RSLs.

GD commented that the RSL does not charge a membership fee, members are just active or inactive, depending on their involvement. Activities are organised to involve members. Also, Westpac Sub-Branch assists with donations.

For information: All members

Items 8a – 8d be accepted

Moved: RL

Seconded: SL

**9. Suspension of Standing Orders & Election of Returning Officer.**

Standing Orders were suspended, and Glenn Daly was appointed as Returning Officer.

CMcK advised that there were no written nominations received, so nominations for Committee positions would be taken from the floor.

Moved: CMcK

Seconded: RL

**10. Election of Officer Bearers and Ordinary Members of Committee in accordance with Part 4.15 of the Constitution.**

Elected Members are as follows:

President – Jack Lake

Nominated by CMcK

Seconded by RL

Vice President – Roger Lawlor

Nominated by CMcK

Seconded by JL

Secretary - Chris McKay

Nominated by JL

Seconded by NF

Treasurer - Craig Terrey

Nominated by GM

Seconded by RL

Committee – Les Hogan  
Nominated by JL                      Seconded by PJ

Committee – Norm Fraser  
Nominated by RL                      Seconded by CMcK

Committee – Greg Meek  
Nominated by NF                      Seconded by SL

Wellbeing Coordinator - John Fenton.  
Nominated by CMcK                      Seconded by JL

Vietnamese Liaison Officer - Jack Lake.  
Nominated by CMcK                      Seconded by RL

Chaplain - Colin Aiken.  
Nominated by NF                      Seconded by RL

Patron - Brigadier Nerolie McDonald.

#### **11. Re-appointment of Honorary Auditor**

Mrs Jillian Williams, CPA, FFIN, FASFA, AACI, MRMIA, MIPA, agrees to continue with this appointment, as advised by RL.

RL mentioned that Jillian may be selling her home and moving in the future and suggested that we find a replacement, for when that happens.

JL will contact Maurice McKinnon to see if he is available to replace her.

#### **12. Re-appointment of Public Officer**

Mr Stafford Lowe agrees to continue with this appointment.

#### **13. Re-Appointment of Honorary Solicitor**

Mr Trevor Cork BA, LL.M, FTIA agrees to continue with this appointment.

CMcK thanked GD for being the Returning Officer.

CMcK also thank JL and gave him his vote of confidence and requested that members give Jack their assistance, in his role as President.

#### **14. Future of the association and welfare activities**

CMcK has researched charity rules regarding funds held and suggested that our association look at what to do with our funds, when it comes the time to close the association. He highlighted that we don't want our association monies to go to the government. He suggested that our association could look at other charities and entities to donate to and use some of our funds held in the account.

CMcK advised that the disbursement of funds does not need to be written into our Constitution, according to the Australian Charities & Not for Profit Commission (ACNC).

RL tabled a document, that was in the Salute Magazine, about winding up an association and its Funds. CMcK will review the article.

SL suggested donating money now to needy organisations as we have plenty of funds and the Good Morning Vietnam, show profits were advertised to go to Veterans & War Widows.

CMcK will publish, for circulation, a paper on the legal & financial ramifications when closing the association in the future.

RL suggested using some of our funds for rebuilding the Bob Bowtell Bridge. CMcK will looking at it with the local council & Romola Hollywood.

GM highlighted that a donation to a big organisation, like Legacy may not be given to the local branch but end up in a pool of money. He suggested that funds go to a specific location e.g. Springwood Hospital.

SL requested a time limit for a decision on donation amounts and names of charities and organisations where some funds could go. CMcK advised that a time frame would be decided at the next committee meeting.

#### **15. General Business.**

Memorial Day – CMcK highlighted that it would be easier without a March, like last year. A March would be extremely expensive and time consuming and a lot of work, for a decreasing number of volunteers. Council may not pay for the cost of the Traffic Management Plan this year, which could be approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000.

RL mentioned that it was the 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War this year.

GD will email information about a Service in Canberra on 18<sup>th</sup> August.

GD informed about the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Medallion, with an easy online application process.

#### **16. Close of Meeting**

The Secretary CMcK thanked those in attendance and declared the meeting over at 1209 hours.

Jack Lake  
President

Chris McKay  
Secretary

Dated: 11 April 2023

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