

MINUTES OF THE 12th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
ADVOCATES FOR SURVIVORS OF CHILD ABUSE (the "Company")
(ABN 49 072 260 008)

Held at Midday on Sunday 23 November 2008
at the Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre,
16-18 Fitzroy Street, Kirribilli, Sydney NSW.

1. Present (in person)

Cathy Kezelman (Chair and Chair of the Meeting), Jane Wolfers, Connie Cowan, Robert Cowan, Geoff Barhnet, Susan Leith-Miller, Terry Nagle, Yvonne Mayer, Heather Smithers, Cassie Uphill-Buckland, Katherine Fairbrooks, Lindy Reid, Julie Waddy, Peter Wright, Michelle Sloane, Clare Porta, Michael Salter, Roger Wong, Mary Uldyne.

Minute Secretary – Lyn Oliver

2. Apologies

John Teer (Director and Treasurer)

3. Declaration of Proxies

The Chair advised the meeting that a total of 37 proxies had been received:

- Cathy Kezelman (Chair) - 21 proxies
- Clare Porta (Company Secretary) - 9 proxies
- Susan Leith-Miller (Executive Officer) - 5 proxies
- Michael Salter (Director) – 2 proxies

4. Minutes of the 11th Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the 11th Annual General Meeting were tabled.

The Minutes of the 11th Annual General Meeting were accepted.

Moved by Heather Smithers

Seconded by Cassie Uphill-Buckland

5. Chair's Report

The Chair proceeded to present the Chair's Report. The following key points were noted:

- ASCA is in a solid financial position (with \$200,000 in a cash investment account).
- ASCA is well positioned structurally to continue to build and grow to achieve ASCA's mission.
- ASCA's new look newsletter has been launched.
- ASCA's new website was launched on 11 November and received close to 1,000 visitors worldwide in the first week.
- The first of the new national Creating Possibilities Workshops will take place in December 2008.
- Chris Wilson has been appointed as the new manager of the 1300 line.

- A national advertising campaign (TV, radio, print) will be launched in early 2009 with a focus on adult survivors.
- ASCA is meeting with Parliamentarians Against Abuse in early December.
- ASCA's staff members are Susan-Leith Miller (Executive Officer), Katherine Fairbrooks (Administrative Assistant), Les Rushbrook (Accounts), Dominiek Coates (Research Program Manager) and Chris Wilson (1300 Manager)
- Thanks was extended to all involved in the support group network, namely the support group subcommittee, group convenors, trainers and Heather Smithers (Convenor of National Support Group Network), for their hard work and assistance to survivors.
- A vote of thanks was extended to ASCA's patrons, ambassadors, supporters, volunteers and the Board with a special thank you to Peter Wright who is stepping down from Board after 2 years and 9 months.

6. Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2008 together with the Directors' Report, Directors' Declaration and Auditor's Report

The Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008 were tabled.

The Chair opened the meeting for questions and discussion in relation to the Financial Statements. No questions were raised.

The Financial Statements for the year ended were 30 June 2008 were accepted.

Moved by Lindy Reid

Seconded by Jane Wolfers

7. Presentation of Directors

The Directors who were present introduced themselves to the meeting:

- Cathy Kezelman - Chairperson
- Clare Porta ,
- Michelle Sloane
- Michael Salter
- Mary Uldyne
- Roger Wong
- Peter Wright

8. Special resolution to change the name of the Company:

The Chair announced that the resolution to be put to the meeting as a special resolution was:

'That the name of the Company be changed from "Advocates for Survivors of Child Abuse" to "Adults Surviving Child Abuse".'

There was no discussion in relation to the special resolution.

Number of votes for the special resolution: 42 (75% of votes)

Number of votes against the special resolution: 14

The resolution was PASSED as a special resolution.

9. Special resolution to appoint Ernst & Young as auditor of the Company following the resignation of Peter Varley as auditor of the Company

The Chair announced that the resolution to be put to the meeting as an ordinary resolution was:

"Pursuant to section 327D(2) of the Corporations Act 2001, that Ernst & Young be appointed as auditor of the Company with such appointment to take effect from the time at which the resignation of Peter Varley takes effect."

There was no discussion in relation to the ordinary resolution.

Number of votes for the ordinary resolution: 49

Number of votes against the ordinary resolution: 1

The resolution was PASSED as an ordinary resolution.

10. General Business

- Peter Wright noted that he was today resigning from the Board due to family reasons and not as a result of the Board's decision earlier in the year to close support groups. He also highlighted that he supported the Board's strategic direction. Peter then proceeded to present gifts to the Board members, Executive Officer and to Katherine Fairbrooks for supporting ASCA in WA in the City to Surf.
- Cassie Uphill-Buckland asked how the decision to close support groups was made. The board responded that the decision was made after consideration of a variety of factors including frequent and serious complaints from participants in support groups, as well as therapists, and falling support group numbers. Support groups would not be funded by the government. At the February 2008 Planning Day, the Executive Officer reported to the Board on the legal, ethical and sustainability issues surrounding the support groups. The decision was made at the February 2008 Board Meeting as a matter of urgency.
- The board acknowledged that in hindsight the process of communicating the decision to discontinue support groups had not been particularly effective and that additional communication related planning should have occurred.
- Dominiek Coates will be working with Ann Van Loon (RDNS) to attempt to develop therapist facilitated groups.
- Terry Nagle asked about the Board's priorities for 2009. The Board responded that the priorities are:
 - (i) educational awareness;
 - (ii) psycho educational workshops;
 - (iii) advocacy; and
 - (iv) therapeutic alliances so that ASCA can oversee assistance to the 2 million adult survivors throughout Australia.

The Board's strategic planning process will be communicated through the newsletter.

- Cassie Uphill-Buckland asked if ASCA was becoming a political body. The Board responded that advocacy was part of its brief as a means of supporting all survivors (per ASCA's mission statement) and not just ASCA's members.
- Susan Leith-Miller, the new Executive Officer, noted how privileged she felt working for ASCA and highlighted that her past work experience equipped her with the required skills for her new position. She is committed to the mission of ASCA and thanked Cathy Kezelman and Katherine Fairbrooks for their support over the last six weeks. The Executive Officer noted there were three resources ASCA had to draw upon to achieve its goals – time (volunteers), energy and funds.

11. Closure

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 2pm.

Signed as a true and correct record.



Cathy Kezelman
Chair

Dated: 22 November 2009