

Minutes of the Annual Church Meeting of Kew Baptist Church held in the church hall on 24th November 2019 at 11:15am

Acting Chair: David Atkinson

Acting Secretary: Ashray Rajagopalan

Attendance: As per attendance book

1. Opening and prayer (David A)

David Atkinson opened the meeting in prayer at 11:20am.

2. Attendance

The attendance book was circulated.

3. Minutes of church meeting, July 2019 (David A)

The minutes of the previous church meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: David Atkinson

Seconded: Ashray Rajagopalan

Motion was passed by a show of hands.

4. Membership Matters (David A)

Proposed Membership Roll revision was presented as distributed in the annual report.

Crispin Newmarch was accepted into membership of the church.

Moved: Nicholas Tuohy

Seconded: Sheila King

Motion was passed by a show of hands.

5. Finance Report (Michael N)

Michael Nguyen reported on the Finance Report November 2019 which was tabled.

Noted thanks to congregation for prayer & financial support, and to Lauren Pickering & Huong Nguyen for maintaining records.

A small surplus overall was achieved from the EP project financing.

The proposed property reserve fund was presented to receive property rental income, with church offering income to be reallocated to mission and ministry expenses, with a proposed increase from 13.8% to 15% with an increase in giving.

The report was accepted by the meeting.

Moved: Michael Nguyen **Seconded:** Ashray Rajagopalan

Motion was passed by a show of hands.

6. Annual Reports

Nicholas Tuohy presented the Senior Pastor update and the Annual Report.

The updated discipleship framework and mission framework (Grace, Grow, Gather, Give, Go) was presented.

The church vision was presented - becoming through spiritual formation, overflowing through leadership multiplication and advancing through targeted transformation. This is being increasingly realised since the last year or two.

The updated membership & discipleship covenant was presented.

Church Camp was a highlight of the year, although unfortunately all three congregations could not be involved as desired.

Pre-marriage courses have been good - a future goal is going to be marriage enrichment for existing couples.

Family ministry and women's ministry are continuing well.

Global Mission Team is looking for new members to replace members who are departing on cross-cultural mission.

Ministry priorities for 2020 were presented including appointing new pastoral leadership, increasing young adult ministry including through internships, growing creative arts ministry, nurturing family ministry, creating opportunities for mission and service to the community and world, and creating opportunities for ministry and mission through the property development process.

The Annual Report was accepted by the church meeting.

Moved: Nicholas Tuohy **Seconded:** David Constantine

Motion was passed by a show of hands.

7. Property Development Update (David C)

David Constantine reported on the Property Redevelopment process.

The consultation sessions have been productive.

Atelier Wagner architects have been supplied with the output from our consultation sessions and an updated version of the property brief. They are currently working through this.

An introductory meeting with Atelier Wagner was attended by David Atkinson and David Constantine - they have a history of working with Christian faith communities and are excited to be part of our property development process. A further meeting will be held this week to agree the scope of the development and receive initial feedback from the architects.

A further update will be distributed to the church in December with an intended timeline for the ongoing process.

Existing users of our facilities and the opportunities provided were also highlighted.

8. Leadership Team elections (David A)

Janine and Stuart Mackenzie were scrutineers for the vote.

David Constantine was nominated for election as Chair.

Moved: Ray Leigh **Seconded:** David Atkinson

Motion was passed by secret ballot.

Ashray Rajagopalan was nominated for election as Secretary.

Moved: David Atkinson **Seconded:** Lauren Pickering

Motion was passed by secret ballot.

Michael Nguyen was nominated for re-election as Treasurer.

Moved: David Atkinson **Seconded:** Lauren Pickering

Motion was passed by secret ballot.

David Atkinson was nominated for re-election as a Deacon.

Moved: Lauren Pickering **Seconded:** Ashray Rajagopalan

Motion was passed by secret ballot.

9. Constitution Review (Ashray R)

Ashray Rajagopalan reported on the Constitution review process.

The substantive changes including term limits and the updated membership covenant were explained, along with the rationale for these.

The minor changes include changes to make the document more readable and robust as a governance framework.

No questions were asked.

The revised Constitution was adopted by the church meeting as distributed.

Moved: Ashray Rajagopalan **Seconded:** David Constantine

Motion was passed by a show of hands.

10. Vietnamese Congregation Independence Proposal (David A)

David Atkinson reported that the Vietnamese congregation have requested that this item be postponed due to other ministry commitments.

No questions were asked.

Representatives from the Vietnamese congregation will present on this in a future meeting, although it was noted that questions on this process may be directed to the Leadership Team and/or leaders of the Vietnamese congregation in the interim.

11. ABM Marriage Statement (David A)

The Australian Baptist Ministries statement on marriage was presented with a proposal for endorsement by the church meeting, and implementation of a policy that our Pastors operate and church facilities be used for marriages according to this definition only.

This policy was adopted.

Moved: David Atkinson **Seconded:** Ashray Rajagopalan
Motion was passed by a show of hands.

12. Other Matters/Questions (David A)

No questions were asked.

13. Prayer and close (Nicholas T)

Nicholas Tuohy closed the meeting in prayer at 12:25pm.

Next meeting date: March 2020