Virtual Area Assembly - Minutes

Held: via Zoom (OA Meeting ID 737 1364 4056, Password 164)

Tuesday 6th September 2022

Meeting commenced 8.03pm

In Attendance:

● Dale A - Chairperson

● Therese P - Delegate

● Andrew M - Alternate Delegate

● Paula-Maree - Secretary & GSR NBBZ

● Jenny K - Treasurer

● Paul S - GSR Online Men’s Group

● Lisa M - GSR On Awakening

● Fatima O - Observer AA Portugal (non-voting)

Apologies

● Andrew B - GSR Geelong Sunday

Meeting opened with attendees reciting The Serenity Prayer ‘We’ version

Opening comments of welcome and congratulations from Dale A. No official agenda was sent out as this is the first meeting post VA Assembly election of office bearers.

Chairperson - Dale A flagged following items for discussion:

● Treasurer - Jenny K: report & update

● Webmaster/Secretary - clarifying of roles & responsibilities including Google Drive, email addresses, Zoom account

● Website

● How new online groups contact us

● Literature - Virtual Newcomer Packs

● Who can attend VA meetings

● Promotion of VA - wording to AA newsletter, contacting Area Secretaries re: online meetings

● Therese request: needs access to an available contact list of online meetings for any questions for General Service Conference being held in November 2022

● Paula-Maree request: discuss start time of next meeting

Treasurer - Jenny K

● Jenny has researched opening an account for the VA. Bendigo Bank is the best option and an account will be opened as ‘VA AA Unincorporated Association’. ● 3 signatures required to open an account and 2 signatures required when any accounts need to be paid. Co-signatories can be notified via text to access the account and approve transactions.

*- Therese put forward a motion to use Bendigo Bank, seconded by Andrew M* ***Motion carried to use Bendigo Bank***

*- Paula-Maree put forward Dale A and Therese P to be the two other signatories, seconded by Andrew M*

***Motion carried for Dale A & Therese P to be co-signatories on the VA AA bank account***

● Jenny K has received invoice # 5294 from the AGSO - $500 conference levy due by 30/9/22.

● Lisa M - GC vote at the On Awakening group for $150 to be out aside for the VA ● Andrew M - GC vote at the Goldfields group for whatever is left above a prudent reserve to be donated to the VA

● Group discussion re: going back to home groups which are financial and asking for a donation to the VA. Individuals can also donate directly.

*- Andrew M put forward a motion in lieu of VA not having an active account yet the Goldfields account can be used, seconded my Therese P*

***Motion carried to use the Goldfield’s Group account for donations to the VA until VA has an active account***

BSB 034 127 ACC 380 333 Description VA Donation

● Jenny K clarified the AGSO has a Deductible Gift Recipient Certificate (DGR) and has PayPal on the website so they can receive tax deductible donations. As AA groups and Areas are Unincorporated Associations they are not eligible for a DGR

Delegate - Therese P

● Questions for the GS Conference need to be sent to Group Secretaries of online meetings So they can be taken to the monthly business meetings to be discussed and voted on. Lisa M will email spreadsheet of contact details compiled so far

● Jenny K will send Treasurer's job description and instructions on how to set up a bank account for online meetings to Therese P and Paul S

● Therese attended a pre-GS Conference meeting and has been assigned to 3 committees: Finance, Regional & Remote and Policies & Admissions

Webmaster

● Discussion re: Webmaster requirements - Paul S shared screen re: spreadsheet for Men’s Online Group for which he is the administrator. Dale talked about the current Google Drive account for the VA Sub-Committee. It will require a name change and individual email addresses for office bearers.

*- Therese P put forward a motion for Paul S to be the VA Webmaster, seconded by Paula-Maree*

***- Motion carried for Paul S to be the VA Webmaster and new name for the account will be* AA Australia Virtual Area**

● Dale A will give Paul S access to the Google Drive account.

● Discussion of VA webpage held over for next meeting

Other Business

● Currently using the On Awakening Zoom account for the VA meetings ● Group discussion re: the role of VA to provide Zoom account access for online meetings - to be discussed and clarified at the next meeting

● Who can attend VA meetings? Group discussion. Unanimous agreement that the following people can attend VA meetings:

- GSRs and Alternate GSRs

- Observers

● Who can vote?

- Only one vote per group

- VA office bearers vote

● Therese P will post her report for conference on the Google Drive and/or WhatsApp for VA members to read and correct by 11/10/22

● Paula-Maree asked if future meetings could start at 7pm. Group agreed to start at 7.30pm so all members could attend on time.

● Fatima O, observer from Portugal, expressed her gratitude for being able to attend and observe and was positive in her comments and about the efficiency of agenda items being actioned.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 27th September 2022 at 7.30pm using the On Awakening group Zoom login. Meeting closed at 9.30pm