

AGM MINUTES

Mathematical Association of Western Australia (Inc) Annual General Meeting

Location: MAWA Office
12 Cobbler Place Mirrabooka and Via Zoom

Date/Time: Tuesday 7 April 2020 @ 6.00 pm

1. Opening of Meeting

6:05pm

2. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees: Barry Kissane, Sheila Byfeild, Julie Richards, Leith Pavlinovich, Lesley Stoffels, Rob Berwick, Paul Brown, Andrei Abrossimov, Edna Pivetta, Ann Choong, Rom Cirillo, Rachel Thuenissen, Sana Malahat, Suzie Harman, Ray Leeman, Tim Riessen, Shannon Taylor, Dion Alfonsi, Paula McMahon, John West, Ian Hailes, Alan Sadler, Donna Buckley, Wendy Pero, Racheal Whitney-Smith, Jack Bana

Apologies: Frances Ciupryk, Jim Tiao and Ray Tiao

3. Confirmation of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting

Mover: Ian Hailes

Seconder: Leith Pavlinovich

4. Presentation of Annual Report by the President

Firstly I would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding regarding MAWA's response to Covid-19. Regrettably the current situation has overshadowed what was a year of many significant achievements for MAWA, including the appointment of Paula McMahon as Executive Officer and securing a landmark funding agreement with the Australian Maths Trust (AMT). Our strong financial position also allowed us to rejuvenate our office space by installing our distinctive new signage and solar panels which have significantly reduced our electricity costs. MAWA has also invested in a software package that will achieve new efficiencies by

integrating our member database, event management, invoices, electronic mailouts, and shop systems.

New initiatives for 2019 included the inaugural MAWA Expo in March, the MAWA Maths Meets, and the Maths Empowering Girls Day in June. The 2019 Conference also achieved record attendance, including a sold-out parent evening with Eddie Woo. Key student activities also grew, with new venues added for the Have Sum Fun Competition and a new website for Have Sum Fun Online. The expansion of the Western Australian Mathematics Problem Solving Program saw an 80% increase in student enrolments over the same time last year, as well as a corresponding increase in family memberships.

In mid-2019, MAWA contracted Brook Johns to write a series of investigations and assessments in response to long-standing demand from schools. (These resources are now available in the MAWA store.) Late in 2019 we were pleased to welcome Tanya Condo as a member of the office team, which was expanded due to the increase in student numbers and our increasingly busy calendar of events.

Returning to our current situation, I could not be more proud of the way the MAWA team has responded to the Covid-19 situation. Thanks to Shannon and Paula's vigilance, MAWA staff, members and students were kept well-informed and safe during the rapidly-changing situation. As the situation has evolved, the MAWA team continues to provide support for literally hundreds of students, parents and teachers by managing our online learning platforms and maintaining essential office functions.

It would be remiss of me if I did not extend a special thank you to Sheila Byfield and Neil McMahon for managing and moving our library during the office renovations. I would also like to extend my thanks to Greg Hurn for his work as a committee member over many years. Although he will be missed, Greg has decided to take a step back for health reasons and we wish him well after so many years of service.

As we turn our attention to the year ahead, the Committee has proposed some changes to the constitution which we hope you will support. We have divided these proposed changes into two categories: the first are some essential corrections to ensure that the membership categories described in the constitution match those that are currently being offered by the association. In particular, the changes relate to the creation of the family membership category (which is responsible for 230 memberships) and concessional memberships for students in their first three years following graduation.

The second proposed change relates to advice that the Committee has received from the Associations Forum. The Associations Forum has suggested that where possible Associations should be led by a Board of Directors rather than a Committee, as committee members are by definition, legally considered Directors of the Association.

We feel that this change would bring us into line with many other state associations (such as MAV and MANSW) which have a Board of Directors rather than a Committee. The advice that we have received suggests that this change would potentially be advantageous to us in seeking funding from external organisations etc.

Comment: The Annual Report format and presentation is excellent

5. Treasurer's Report

- MAWA is in a sound financial position at the end of 2019
- Surplus is approx. \$7,000 which shows that we spent the majority of the money that we earned
- We had increased income but also increased costs due to merchandise purchases, resources and office improvements
- MAWA employed an additional staff member on contract to write materials that are now on sale

Comment: 2019 Annual Report states a net profit of \$36,793 but the balance sheet on page 30 of the 2020 Annual report states a loss of \$83,361. This is due to changes in the plant and equipment accumulated depreciation that the 2020 reviewer determined were necessary.

- Monthly finance meetings are being conducted and CFO has reviewed Griffin O'Dea Bowler report and reassures us that all accounts and accounting procedures are of the highest standard required.

Comment: Short term investment figure \$665,140 how is this invested?
In secured term deposits with CUA and Commonwealth Bank.

- Unearned revenues (WAMPSP) shows that the student fees are collected in 2019 but not expended until 2020 due to payment of teachers and associated costs.

Comment: STEM Clearing Account, why is there a difference between 2018 of approx. \$15,000 to 2020 of \$250.00? Most of the original \$5,000 per association was paid back during 2019 and the \$250.00 is to keep the account active for the foreseeable future.

Mover: Julie Richards

Secunder: Lesley Stoffels

6. Special Business – changes to constitution

Part A: Memberships

Request to look at the definition of individual member and the use of individual member wording throughout the document.

Changes to wording for student membership and family membership as outlined were acceptable.

Also 5.1.4 needs to state one representative per institutional membership

Mover: Paul Brown

Secunder: Julie Richards

Part B: Changing Committee Structure to Board

The constitutional changes as presented were discussed at length.

Comment: To accept the changes regarding the board as outlined in the draft document. Executive committee to review and determine changes as per discussion and these can be presented at a special general meeting or at the 2021 AGM.

Mover: Barry Kissane

Secunder: Rachael Whitney-Smith

In favour 25 of 29 voters this represents 86% of the meeting, therefore changes passed.

Points for Executive committee to address:

Section 9 General Meetings – remove board and replace with 'Annual or General Meeting'

Section 9 Include use of technology to attend meetings

Section 6 Remove Vice president and replace with immediate pasted president, Executive Officer or Treasurer.

Section 2 Institutional member include in definition cannot be a board member

Section 6 Conferment of powers seek clarification

Section 6 (6.3.1.5) Needs clarification

Section 9 (9.4.8) Determine when and circumstances for preferential voting

7. Election of New MAWA Committee

Treasurer: Rom Cirillo

Student Activities: Jack Bana, Zeynep Kaya, Rob Berwick, Rachel Theunissen and Donna Buckley

Conference: Wendy Pero, Lesley Stoffels, Trish Paxton, Colette Miranda and Chen Wang

General Committee Members: Dion Alfonsi, Rachael Whitney-Smith

8. Vote of thanks to outgoing Committee members

Vote of thanks to Greg Hurn who has been on the committee for more than 25 years and due to personal circumstances is unable to continue and we wish him all the best.

9. Board Selection

John West, Rom Cirillo, Jack Bana, Rachael Whitney-Smith, Lesley Stoffels, Donna Buckley, Robert Berwick, Rachel Theunissen, Dion Alfonsi and Wendy Pero.

10. General Business (if any)

None

11. Closure: 7:42pm

John West

Dr John West
MAWA President

30/4/2020

Date