

ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SECTOR SUPERANNUANTS INC.
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING Monday 20 September 2021

1 MEETING OPENED: 10.36 am

PRESENT James Vandenberg, Barry Grear, Michael Evans, Alan Raftery, Eileen Pritchard, Peter Fleming (part) Peter Frick, Ian Beckingham (part) Brenton Pain

APOLOGIES Max Jahn (issues with Zoom connection), Lindsay Oxlad, Keren Wicks

2 WELCOME President James Vandenberg welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Item 3 Confirmation of Minutes of Committee Meeting 23 August 2021

Moved, Barry Grear, that the previously circulated minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of 23 August be accepted as a correct record. Seconded, Michael Evans. Carried.

Item 4.1 Superannuation advisory group update

Committee members noted that the first meeting of the advisory group was scheduled for 29 September, with the two initial topics the potential for the pre-July 1988 service component of pensions to be tax-free, and what scope there is to make the case that defined benefit pensions are good, but not better than the superannuation guarantee.

It was noted that key advisory group documents would be saved to the Association's Google "Drive " account and shared with Committee members by link from there

Item 4.2 Membership brochures update

Noted that membership brochures have now issued through the Super SA mailout. Some brochures are to be printed for more general use. Cost of this year's printed brochures was high, \$2,700. It was discussed whether Pension Scheme members might be contactable electronically, as Commonwealth scheme members are by the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation. It was noted that Super SA's current contact with pension scheme members is all by post. It was agreed to check with Super SA whether Pension Scheme members might become accessible electronically through Super SA as part of its current systems upgrade.

Item 4.3 Business name update

Michael and Brenton outlined difficulties in obtaining an Australian Business Number and registering the business name. Discussed whether to pay someone to do this, or look at possibly simpler registration of a .com.au domain instead of the .org.au. It was decided to persist with latter for now, and review progress at end of week.

Item 4.4 Victorian members sub-committee

Committee members noted the final messages of the ex-SCOA Victoria working group to the broader group of ex-SCOA people in Victoria, and the minutes of that group's Zoom meeting on 31 August. The suggested message to Victorian members asking for expressions of interest in joining the Victorian members sub-committee, and permission to provide it with their contact details, was accepted as reasonable, with James deciding on the final words after any feedback through Richard Clough.

Item 4.5 Superannuation Federation

Committee members discussed the Superannuation Federation meeting held on 16 September and whether to continue the Association's membership of the Federation; whether to decide that now or later; and whether to consult with members first, while noting that few would have any knowledge of the Federation. The consensus was to decide now, and that a key factor was the potential exposure to liability from the Federation continuing as an unincorporated body.

Moved, Michael, that the Association withdraw from the Superannuation Federation, and that Brenton prepare a draft letter explaining that the Association was not in a position to continue its membership. Seconded, Peter Fleming. Carried

Item 5 Correspondence

The reported correspondence was noted.

It was agreed to go ahead with a Zoom catch-up with the Tasmanian Association of State Superannuants, avoiding the early part of October. It was noted that Ray Hickman would be available to participate.

Item 6 Treasurer's Report

Alan mentioned that account balances did not appear in the reconciliation section of the August report, with Michael advising that he would check and resolve this before moving that the report be accepted.

Moved, Michael, that the following expenditure be approved:

- \$20.00 gift of wine for guest speaker
- \$2,690.20 brochures, Ariel Printing
- \$112.50 ? Ariel Printing
- \$256.00 envelopes
- \$1,563.00 Ariel, newsletter postage

Seconded Peter Fleming, approved.

Item 7 Membership Officer's Report

There was no membership report at this meeting.

Item 8 Newsletter and Web Manager's Report

Committee members discussed the successful issue of the September newsletter, James noting Peter Frick's great work, and Peter mentioning Ray Hickman's support and input from Brenton.

Peter suggested 24 January as the deadline for contributions to the February newsletter for it to issue in the first or second week of February. Possible items identified to date are

- Ray's Qsuper lifetime pensions item, held over from September
- Items on approaching State and Federal Elections
- Piece on Superannuation advisory group
- Item on Victorian membership

Michael noted the restrictions on electronic transactions involving his tax file number, arising from a past security breach related to Super SA, and that newsletter coverage could inform other members similarly affected. Peter Frick noted that he had online tax transactions with no problem.

It was arranged for Michael and Brenton to prepare an email to Super SA to clarify the factual situation.

Item 9 General Meeting September 27th

On current indications 28 members were expected at the special and general meetings, with a required quorum of 30, and two significant guests participating. It was agreed to send a reminder email to members.

Item 10 Guest Speaker Coordinator's Report

It was noted that Senator Patrick could be good speaker for the AGM in February, and that Ian would attempt to make contact.

Item 11 Qantas Club Report

Alan had no Qantas club matters to report.

Item 12.1 Acknowledgement of traditional owners

Following on from member Joe Frank's suggestion at the August general meeting it was moved, Michael, that an acknowledgement of the traditional Indigenous owners of the land be made at future meetings of the Association. Seconded, Barry. Carried.

The Committee noted the form of words recommended by Reconciliation Australia: "I'd like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, the Kaurna people, and pay my respects to Elders past and present." (For meetings in Adelaide.)

Item 12.2 Ethical issues in the investment of superannuation money

Committee members considered Joe Frank's suggestion that the Association should look at ethical issues associated with the investment of superannuation funds. It was agreed to advise funds SA that this is an issue of interest to members which could be discussed by its CEO when speaking on 27 September.

Item 12.3 Resuming face to face Committee meetings

The pros and cons of Zoom and face to face Committee meetings were discussed. It was accepted that the Committee would continue to meet by videoconference, and meet in person from time to time.

Item 12.4 Advice in newsletter of contacts on death of superannuant

The Committee discussed Max's proposal for a regular newsletter item providing super fund contacts for their partners when a member died, and advice of the advance document lodgement service offered by Super SA. Further discussion was held over to the next meeting.

Item 13 Other business

No other business items were discussed.

Item 14 Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting was confirmed for 18 October, by Zoom.

Meeting Closed: 12:20 pm.
