

ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SECTOR SUPERANNUANTS INC.
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING Monday 18 October 2021

1 MEETING OPENED: 10:30 am

PRESENT Barry Grear, Brenton Pain, Eileen Pritchard, Lindsay Oxlad, Michael Evans, Peter Fleming, Peter Frick

APOLOGIES Alan Raftery, Ian Beckingham, James Vandenberg, Keren Wicks

2 WELCOME Brenton passed on President James' apology for his inability to join the meeting. It was arranged by consensus that Brenton would chair the meeting.

Item 3 Confirmation of Minutes of Committee Meeting 20 September 2021

Moved, Barry Grear, that the previously circulated minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of 20 September be accepted as a correct record. Seconded, Michael Evans. Carried.

Item 4.1 Superannuation advisory group Meeting 30 September

Committee members noted the matters considered by the advisory group at its 30 September meeting, and that the group was likely to meet late October or early November, with the next two issues for examination expected to be taxation of non-superannuation income, and the proposal that age pension income should not be taxable.

Item 4.2 Business name registered

It was noted that the Association now had an Australian Business Number, and that the name PS Superannuants was now registered to the Association for a period of three years, renewable thereafter. Michael outlined the issues that were encountered in securing the ABN related to restrictions on his Tax File number arising from an Super SA security breach (4.5 below), and also explained the ABN and change of name evidence required by Bank SA to put the bank accounts into the new legal name of the Association.

Item 4.3 Victorian members sub-committee

Committee members noted the email sent to 81 Victorian members and the 41 replies received to date, all agreeing to share contact details with the to-be-formed Victorian members sub-committee. Three members were willing to join the sub-committee. Brenton mentioned three other members who might have been expected to be interested. It was agreed to contact Richard Clough and see if he would join the sub-committee.

Item 4.4 Newsletter advice of contacts on death of superannuant

The Committee discussed Max Jahn's proposal for a regular newsletter item providing super fund contacts for their partners when a member died, and also advice of the advance document lodgement service offered by Super SA. Committee members favoured Super SA directly advising members of their ability to lodge advance documents certifying birth and marriage information.

It was moved, Lindsay, to ask Super SA if it would advise Pension Scheme members of the advance document lodgment service in its half yearly member statements, perhaps with a link to its website. Seconded: Michael: carried.

Item 4.5 Super SA security breach

Committee members discussed the security breach notified by Super SA to affected members in August 2020, and whether to approach Super SA for further information about it. It was arranged that Michael would contact Super SA as an affected member and advise the Committee of what he learns.

Item 5 Correspondence

The reported correspondence was noted.

Whether to proceed with a Zoom catch-up with the Tasmanian Association of State Superannuants was discussed, and what the points of discussion would be. It was agreed that Mike would confer with Ray and advise within the next few days, with a view to meet briefly on the 26th or 27th.

A member in Victoria had suggested that video recordings of speaker presentations be made. The Committee noted the previous unsuccessful attempt to find a suitably skilled volunteer to video meetings, and the high cost of professional services.

Committee members did not favour separate email lists for SA and Victorian members, noting the practical difficulty in segmenting the list and the desirability of all members wherever they might be knowing what was happening with the Association.

Item 6 Treasurer's Report

Michael had received no comments on the September Treasurer's report, and moved that it be accepted. Seconded Lindsay, Carried.

Michael advised that he had checked that the August report was in balance, following a question on that at the September, and now moved that the August report be accepted. Seconded Peter Fleming, carried.

Moved, Michael, that the following expenditure be approved:

Hall hire 27/9/21	112.50
Receipt books	29.28
Insurance	610.00
Australia Post, newsletter	1175.06
Wine for guest speakers	33.98
Registration of business name	88.00

Seconded, Lindsay: carried.

Item 7 Membership Officer's Report

Committee members noted the report.

Item 8 Newsletter and Web Manager's Report

The Committee noted that Peter Frick would be in touch with web service Icarus on reducing the size of the letterhead and making it easier to read the words in the logo on the website.

Peter had received no further suggestions for February newsletter items. Committee members were happy for a link to the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation's "3rd Act" newsletter to be put up on the website.

Item 9 General Meeting October 25th

On current indications an attendance of 38 members was expected, including two members from Quorn. It was agreed not to send a reminder email about the meeting, 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 speakers were in place for October and November and that Ian Beckingham had not yet got a response from Senator Patrick's office about speaking in February. Lindsay noted that Byron Gregory assumed the Association was no longer interested in him speaking as he had not been contacted again.

It was agreed that Ian or Brenton would contact Health Partners and check Byron Gregory's availability for a meeting in early 2022.

Item 11 Qantas Club Report

There was no discussion of Qantas Club matters.

Item 12.1 Advising MPs of name change and other matters

Committee members discussed writing to MPs introducing the Association in its new name, advising them of the issues it wished to pursue, and discussed the recent letter from the SA Treasurer declining to change Pension Scheme entitlements because of its "already generous" benefits, and the high costs associated with making changes.

It was arranged that Brenton would prepare and circulate for comment a draft letter introducing or re-introducing the Association and explaining its role and expanded membership, and advising that it wishes to be consulted on matters related to public sector superannuation, and is available for meetings. The letter would go to all MPs.

That letter would be followed up with another setting out the changes wanted by the Association when they have been settled.

Committee members discussed the extent to which Super SA might have been involved in the preparation of the disappointing letter from the Treasurer, and the possible suggestion in the letter that the comparatively low number of Pension Scheme members reduces the need for their interests to be considered by government.

One view was that the letter from the Treasurer called for a response now. Another was to avoid closing off any lines of communication, and make the pre-election submission the substantive one.

It was arranged that Brenton would prepare and circulate a draft reply for Committee members consideration, aimed at conveying the Association's disappointment.

Item 13 Other business

Committee members agreed with Eileen that COTA and the Unions and would need to be notified of the change of name. other key bodies to be notified were the CSC, Super SA and Funds SA.

Item 14 Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting was confirmed for 22 November, by Zoom.

Meeting Closed: 12:20 pm.
