



# THE HUT COMMUNITY CENTRE INC. 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Thursday 25 November @ 6.00 pm  
The Village Well

## 1. Welcome & Apologies

Chair acknowledged we were meeting on the land of the Peramangk and Kaurna people and paid respect to elders past, present and emerging.

Chair acknowledged some special guests – Leith Mudge (Adelaide Hills Council), John Kemp (Adelaide Hills Council), Martin Janovsky (Stirling Proactive), Neicy Heywood (the 5 C's), Anthony Risson (Aldgate Village Well), The Hut board, staff, volunteers and members.

Apologies from – Rebekha Sharkie (Federal Member for Mayo), Josh Teague (State Member for Heysen), Mark Osterstock (Adelaide Hills Council),

Chair outlined format of evening, explained housekeeping/COVID safety requirements and that The Hut members only may vote for Board members. Agenda to be rearranged as Treasurer needs to depart early.

## 2. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2020 AGM

**Motion:** The Minutes of The Hut Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 1 October 2020 were accepted as a true record of proceedings.

**Moved:** Fran Turner **Seconded:** Sylvia Pembroke **All in favour:** Motion carried

## 3. Receive Reports:

### 3.1 Treasurer's and Finance Report 2019/2020

Sylvia Pembroke presented the Treasurer reports as presented in the Annual Reports page 20.

The Hut has had great leadership by the management team through extremely different times. This and Government support via COVID stimulus payments kept us on an even keel financially and enabled a profit. This has enabled savings for an extension to the Stirling Book Shed. The Treasurer expressed sincere thanks to the Book Shed volunteers who contribute \$1.4million in unpaid voluntary hours. The income generated via the Book Shed helps fund the support programs available at The Hut. Thanks extended to all volunteers.

Work has commenced on expanding services in the Woodside area, with plans for a second Book Shed well under way. The Strategy and Financial Sustainability committee have worked hard to get this off the ground. Thanks expressed for their efforts.

Thanks expressed to Sandra Veitch for her work as financial administrator over many years. Welcome to Ivonne.

The Hut is in a very stable financial position.

Question raised re \$7,000 Grant Programs deficit. This was due to timing around DIS final instalment for ACE grant with the remaining \$7,000 unpaid as at June 30 2021.

Sylvia left the meeting.

### 3.2 Chairperson's Report

Lorraine Scheide, Board Chair, presented her written report as printed in the Annual Reports page 3. Further comments included the challenge of COVID-19 and the impact of lockdowns, cancellation of programs and reduced numbers of participants. It has also brought out the best in many people, showing compassion, empathy and offers to help.

The Board commends Deb, Bernadette, their dedicated staff team and all volunteers for their flexibility and commitment. Thanks expressed to the volunteers working in the Caring in the Community, Emergency Assist and Food Pantry programs who enabled these services to continue.

The Hut is extremely grateful and committed to supporting, encouraging and recognising all volunteers for their time and commitment.

The Chair expressed confidence in the existing leadership to steer The Hut through the continuing challenges of COVID-19 and to deliver the strategic plan.

Thanks expressed to all for their support over the last 12 months.

### 3.3 Executive Officer's Report

Deborah (Deb) Bates, Executive Officer, presented her written report as printed in the Annual Reports page 5. In addition Deb spoke about the consolidation of The Hut, Community needs and programs. New staff have joined the team and we see an exciting year ahead. Deb highlighted the need for connection and support to all. The Hut has not lost volunteers through COVID-19 which is against the national trend.

Deb expressed her appreciation and gratefulness to all paid and volunteer staff.

The strategic plan has been formulated after considerable community consultation and partnership.

The security of the Railway Station as The Hut's home has been extended through a renewal of the lease for a further 20 years.

Deb expressed her thanks to Fran Turner who is retiring after 6 years on the Board and the Strategy and Financial Sustainability committee.

Thanks expressed to the Adelaide Hills Council for their continued partnership and financial support.

### 3.4 Community Development Manager's Report

Bernadette Reading presented her written report as printed in the Annual Reports, page 7.

Standouts are the volunteers who are the strength of The Hut.

Food pantry has become the most active program with high increases of people accessing this service. The food pantry also provides a social aspect. Bernadette expressed her thanks to Hayley and the team.

Diversity continues to grow and is a continual focus. The Hut runs over 20 programs across 9 venues, the majority coordinated by volunteers.

The bi-annual survey which is conducted over a week indicated 75% of responders experienced improved connection and 95% felt enhanced by volunteering.

Thanks expressed to all our volunteers. Bernadette is proud to be a part of it.

The Chair moved that all of the above reports be accepted.

**Moved:** Geoff Welch

**Seconded:** Sharon Maslen

**All in favour:** Motion carried

#### **4. The Hut Video Presentation**

Bernadette introduced a promotional video that provides a snapshot of the activities at The Hut. Video played and appreciated.

#### **5. Appointment of Auditor**

As per The Hut constitution, the Board will appoint the auditor.

#### **6. Board Member Election**

Thanks expressed to Fran Turner as she retires from the Board after completing her 6 year term. Deb presented Fran with a thankyou gift on behalf of the board.

Nominees were introduced by the Chair and the voting process explained – The Hut members only eligible to cast votes.

Each nominee was given the opportunity to speak.

Sharon Maslen: Sharon has completed her first 3 year term on the Board and is part of the Strategy and Financial Sustainability committee. She is passionate about the plan to extend into the Woodside area. Sharon has 35+ years experience in community Services Management. She believes the role The Hut provides is a valuable service to the Adelaide Hills. It is a pleasure to be involved.

Peter Coldrey: Peter and his wife Claire volunteer in the Food Pantry. He believes The Hut is a fantastic organisation and believes he can contribute to the Board in all areas of skills sought. He has extensive experience. He was surprised that more nominees were appointed than positions available. Peter expressed his shared beliefs: family, honesty & openness, gender equity, social justice and teamwork.

Geoff Keynes: Geoff has been involved with The Hut for 5 years, when the Community Shed opened. He supports The Hut's stated goals: financial viability via self-funding and reduced dependence on government funding; social inclusion; public good. Geoff likes to ask questions and continue to learn. He believes a little more board visibility would be good and promised to do his best if elected.

Votes collected. Martin Janovsky and Deb Bates counted.

After counting, Sharon Maslen and Geoff Keynes were confirmed as elected.

Thanks expressed to Peter for nominating and an invitation extended to participate in a subcommittee.

2021 Board:

Greg Bussell  
Ann Croser  
John Kemp  
Jana Norman  
Sylvia Pembroke  
David Rawnsley  
Greg Stevens  
Lorraine Scheide  
Sharon Maslen  
Geoff Keynes

## 7. Strategic Plan

The chair highlighted the opportunity to view the new Strategic Plan, on display near supper table. The aim of financial sustainability is progressing well with the purchase of a transportable building completed, land and cottage leased, to facilitate the Woodside Book Shed and future programs in that area.

## 8. Questions and Comments

- a. Tony Herve enquired re the social enterprise ideas that were collected from interested parties. What ideas were received and how many were progressed? The second Book Shed idea rated as the highest option to explore. Other ideas included hospitality, toy shop, tourism, child care. All ideas were funnelled through criteria that considered duplication of currently available services, viability etc.
- b. Potential to resurrect Crafers Railway Station was raised. This is a community asset that is not being used. An invitation to present to the Board was provided.
- c. Lack of transparency of the Board was raised with suggestion of possibly publishing agendas, board minutes etc. The Chair outlined that all minutes and other document are available on request to the Executive Officer. The Board will discuss the option of publishing Board reports on The Hut's website.
- d. Member also suggested that the unsuccessful nominee be invited to sit in on Board meetings. The Chair stated that Board meetings are open to any Hut members.

## 9. Acknowledgements, Door prize & Wrap up

Next Board meeting to be held on Dec 9. Board positions will be elected then.

Chair presented Deb Bates and Bernadette Reading with a bunch of flowers in appreciation of their hard work and effective leadership.

Deb expressed she believes we are in for an exciting year with Book Sheds and major raffle. The Hut has a progressive, hard working Board.

Five door prizes were drawn with each winner having a choice from the donated goods on offer. Thanks to Ann Croser and Tapanappa for 2 bottles of wine, Rebekha Sharkie for a jigsaw, Jo Jarvis for a notebook and The Hut garden for pot and seeds.

## 10. Refreshments

Refreshments were served. Thanks to Ann & Brian Croser and Tapanappa wines, Denny, Deb, Jo, Ivonne and Hayley for the food and catering.

On behalf of the Board and The Hut the Chair thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting closed at 7:45pm

Accepted as an accurate record of proceedings:

*L F Sharkie*

Chair – on behalf of Members

Date 26 / 10 / 2022