

**Australia-Japan Society of Tasmania Inc.**

**PO Box 136**

**Sandy Bay, TASMANIA, 7006**

**Australia**



**Patron:** Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania

**Vice Patron:** Ms Kim Clifford, Honorary Consul General of Japan, Tasmania

**Date / Time:** Saturday 28 October 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** Komatsu Japanese Cuisine, 196 Davey Street, Hobart

The 2023 Annual General Meeting will consider the following agenda items:

## **AGENDA**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting 2022
3. President's Report 2022/23
4. Treasurer's Report 2022/23
5. Setting of Fees for 2024/25
6. Election of Executive and Committee:
  - o President
  - o Vice President
  - o Secretary
  - o Treasurer
  - o Committee Members
7. Other Business

Attachment 1:           Agenda Item Four:       Treasurer's Report 2022/23

Attachment 2:           Agenda Item Five:       Setting of Fees for 2024/25

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2022

**Date / Time:** Saturday 17 December 2022 at 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** Komatsu Japanese Cuisine, 196 Davey Street, Hobart

**Present:**

Steven Phipps, Melanie Tyson, Camellia Cseko, Mayumi Toya, Tricia de Jersey, Ben Ivory, Lachlan Pitt, Lisa Walkden, Phil Cooper, Yukiko Burns, Catryna Bilyk, Laurent Corgnet, Takame Ueki

**Meeting chaired by:** Steven Phipps (President)

**Minutes taken by:** Camellia Cseko (Secretary)

**AGM opened at:** 12:10 p.m.

### 1. Apologies

Ruth Erikson, Kira White

### 2. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting 2021

- No changes made

Moved: Steven Phipps

Seconded: Phil Cooper

Voted to accept, carried with no objections

### 3. President's Report 2021/22

- Over the course of the year, AJS-TAS has been able to organise our typical range of popular events
- Notable events have included:
  - **2021 Japanese Film Festival Satellite** which was split across two venues for the first time
  - Screening of the award-winning animated masterpiece, ***Your Name***
  - **Travel to Japan: Culture and Language Workshop and Lunch**, held in celebration of Japan re-opening its borders
- We also continued to hold events outside of Hobart, such as the **2021 Bōnenkai** celebrated in Invermay in Northern Tasmania, and the **2022 Hanami Picnic** in Deloraine. A special thank you was extended to Lisa Walkden for her contribution to the organisation of the event, and for the running of *sumi-e* classes throughout the day.
- Sadly, due to the pandemic, we were once again unable to welcome the *Umitaka Maru* in 2022, and although there will be a visit in February 2023, the crew and cadets will be unable to leave the vessel
- It was also disappointing to learn that the Japanese Film Festival Satellite will be discontinued as of 2022

- The year ahead:
  - although AJS-TAS was able to maintain a healthy level of activity during the pandemic, it has since been running out of steam in the course of the past year
  - losing our two flagship events (JFFS and the *Umitaka Maru*) has impacted our calendar significantly
  - it may be that we are emerging into a different world where there is less demand for community groups such as ours
  - we will need to re-invent ourselves if we are to continue to not just survive but thrive, we must work with members and stakeholders to create a new purpose, culminating in the drawing up of a new constitution
- Catryna Bilyk stated that it would be a shame if AJS-TAS were to cease to exist, and suggested we look at collaborating more closely with government and business in order to enhance our brand
- Steven Phipps also mentioned the potential of the renewables sector between Australia and Japan
- Society members and the committee were thanked for their ongoing support and efforts during what has once again been a year with challenges.

Moved: Steven Phipps

Seconded: Camellia Cseko

Carried with no objections

#### 4. **Treasurer's Report 2021/22 (see attached report)**

- The Treasurer placed on record the assistance of committee member, Ben Ivory, in preparing the report
- The accounts of AJS-TAS were audited this year, such periodic "health checks" are most beneficial
- Furthermore, the auditor provided a spreadsheet to allow a simpler recording of accounts in the future, allowing us to cancel the subscription of our accounting software
- The 2021/22 year was a financially stable one
- Member subscription income has remained steady
- Our Society's assets at 31 March 2022 were \$3230.65
- On behalf of the Society, Kira White was warmly thanked for her 5 years of invaluable service in the role of Treasurer

Moved: Ben Ivory

Seconded: Catryna Bilyk

Carried with no objections

#### 5. **Setting of fees for 2023/24 (see attached document)**

- Given the increase in fees last year, and the reduced costs this year, the Treasurer recommended that membership fees remain the same for the 2023/24 financial year
- Melanie Tyson stated that with membership revenue sitting at around \$1200 - \$1300 per year and administration costs amounting to around \$2000 per year the Society would continue to run at a deficit, and that in the future we would potentially need to access the Murdoch Clark Mortgage Fund in order to maintain the viability of the organisation
- Melanie suggested that the fees for Individuals be raised to \$35 and moved to make an amendment to the recommendation made by the Treasurer
- Laurent Corgnet seconded the amendment

- The Chair called for a vote to be made on the amendment
- The result of the vote to increase fees paid by Individuals: 9 for 4 against
- The amended motion was therefore carried

Amended motion moved by Melanie Tyson

Amended motion seconded by Laurent Corgnet

Carried with no objections

## 6. Election of Executive and Committee

### 6.1 President

- Steven Phipps nominated by Camellia Cseko, seconded by Tricia de Jersey
- No other nominations. Declared elected.
- Carried with no objections.

### 6.2 Vice President

- Melanie Tyson had declared her intention to retire from the position of Vice President, Melanie stated the role of Vice President had been a very rewarding one but that she had to step down due to other commitments
- Melanie was thanked wholeheartedly for her years of service as Vice President
- Tricia de Jersey nominated as the new Vice President by Steven Phipps, seconded by Melanie Tyson
- No other nominations. Declared elected.
- Carried with no objections.

### 6.3 Secretary

- Camellia Cseko nominated by Steven Phipps, seconded by Tricia de Jersey
- No other nominations. Declared elected.
- Carried with no objections.

### 6.4 Treasurer

- Kira White had declared her intention to retire from the position of Treasurer
- Ben Ivory nominated as the new Treasurer by Camellia Cseko, seconded by Steven Phipps
- No other nominations. Declared elected.
- Carried with no objections.

### 6.5 Committee Members (3 – 6)

- Nominations received for:

Ruth Erikson

Lachlan Pitt (continuing)

Mayumi Toya (continuing)

Lisa Walkden (continuing)

Kira White (continuing)

- No other nominations received. Declared elected.
- Carried with no objections.

## **7. Other Business**

- Catryna Bilyk made mention that Dianne Fitzpatrick had raised with her the possibility of AJS-TAS hosting a future NFJAS National Conference
- Steven said that this idea had been floated as early as 2018, and that the enormity of such an undertaking was currently beyond the capacity of the Society
- Catryna said that she will inform Dianne that 2023 is not the right year for AJS-TAS to host the Conference

**AGM officially closed at: 1:00 p.m.**

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