

MINUTES

Of the 75th Annual General Meeting of the Association of Ukrainians in Victoria

Saturday, 2 October 2022, 2:00 pm, Ukrainian House, 3-11 Russel Street, Essendon VIC

Chair: Yuriy (George) Fedyszyn

Secretary: Andriy Mykhaylyk

Note 1: These minutes provide an abridged outline in English of business conducted mainly in Ukrainian.

Note 2: Abbreviations used throughout these minutes include: Annual General Meeting (**AGM**), Association of Ukrainians in Victoria (**AUV**).

1. Opening welcome

Delivered by Slawko Kohut, including acknowledgement of Country.

2. Australian anthem

3. Prayer

Delivered by father Andriy Mykytyuk.

4. Minute's silence

5. President's opening remarks and AGM agenda

- Introduction of AGM agenda and proposed changes to AGM agenda
 - Proposal to move audit committee election prior to general committee election.
 - Proposal to include section for remarks and briefing by Nick Janiw.
- Introduced Yuriy Fedyszyn, AGM Chair, and Andriy Mykhaylyk, AGM Secretary.

6. Salutations

- Received from the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organisations (**AFUO**), delivered by co-chair Stefan Romaniw.
- Received from Bishop Mykola Bychok, delivered by father Andriy Mykytyuk.
- Received from Ukrainian Sts Peter and Paul Cathedral Parish Council, delivered by Eugene Hawryszko.

- Received from Ukrainian Youth Organisation (CYM) Melbourne delivered by Mark Herczaniwski.
- Received from Ridnyi Kray organisation, delivered by Paraskevia Laholat.
- Received from Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Essendon, delivered by father Bohdan Vozniak.
- Received from new arrivals from Ukraine, delivered by Aliona Levanda.

7. Report of AUV outgoing committee

- Delivered by Slawko Kohut, AUV President.
 - Outlined achievement of financial stability, compared to situation 8 years ago.
 - Outlined passing of new constitution, which is more relevant to current regulations and legislation.
 - Referenced situation with continuity of Ukrainian studies in Australia.
 - Mentioned resolution of legal disputes relating to AUV St Albans ownership and leadership.
 - Highlighted greater coordination of Ukrainian community, including between branches and interorganisational cooperation of Ukrainian bodies in Victoria.
 - Mentioned progress on revitalisation of Ukrainian Community Centre in Essendon and noted future plans, which are in development.
 - Listed composition of general committee and thanked them, and leadership of each branch.
 - Thanked various volunteers involved with the AUV and its initiatives throughout 2022.
 - Noted that membership count stands at approximately 600 in the last annum, and clarified newly-established affiliate membership class.

8. Report on AUV Communications

- Delivered by Lesia Rudewych, AUV Communications Officer.
 - Update on status and changes of AUV website, including functionality.
 - Outlined goals and ambitions, namely:
 - Revenue-raising opportunities through utilisation of AUV halls and spaces;
 - Membership drive to raise funds for AUV, including drive to turn affiliate members into full and ongoing members; and
 - Greater cooperation of community and AUV management.

9. Report on AUV Ukrainian House Refurbishment project

- Delivered by Nick Wasyl.
 - Update on balcony and foyer refurbishment and relocation of welfare office within Essendon premises.

- Outline of plans that have been prepared to construct storage space in lane adjacent to Essendon premises and presentation of renders relating to idea to develop café to Russell St front of the Essendon premises. Noted the preliminary nature of these plans.
- Slawko Kohut noted issues with current air conditioning system and need for a new system in future.

10. Report on AUV Archive Project.

- Delivered by Slawko Kohut.
 - Noted ongoing nature of the project, including recent work with AFUO records.

11. Additional Reports

- Ukrainian studies report delivered by Marko Pavlyshyn.
 - Outlined discontinuation of Ukrainian Studies program at Monash University in 2020 and progress in establishing Ukrainian Studies program at the University of Melbourne.
- AUV Noble Park report delivered by Liana Slipetsky, AUV Noble Park branch President.

12. AUV Financial Report

- Delivered by Slawko Kohut.
 - Examined sources of revenue and costs over previous two financial years. Particularly noted roles of JobKeeper, insurance premiums, humanitarian aid to Ukraine and in Victoria, apartment revenue and investment viability, government grants.
 - Outlined outstanding financial challenges, including:
 - Outstanding loan from AFUO;
 - Future viability of apartments as an investment; and
 - Diversification of AUV investments.
- Mention of AUV raffle being conducted, to raise funds for resettled Ukrainians following the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia, delivered by Eugene Hawryszko. Thanked Slawko Kohut, Maria Kohut and Val Wasyl for their efforts.

13. Report by Internal Audit Committee

- Delivered by Michael Laba, AUV Audit Committee Chair.
- Noted audits conducted, and overall conclusion of satisfaction with audit outcomes.

14. Attendee Questions and Comments relating to Reports

- Orysia Stefyn requested the AUV's support of humanitarian drive of Noble Park branch.

- Ivan Guglak queried:
 - Costs of St Albans legal expenses;
 - Membership fee costings; and
 - Revenue and costs of fundraising.
- Clarification response to Ivan Guglak's queries delivered by Slawko Kohut regarding St Albans legal expenses (relating to the cost of settlement being lower than the anticipated cost of further litigation, as advised by lawyers consulted by the AUV), by Paul Herczaniwski regarding Membership fee costings (relating to the introduction of the temporary 'Associate' tier of AUV membership, for those wanting to make a one-off supporting contribution), and revenue and costs of fundraising.
- Mykola Pyk clarified legal costs not being recuperable through AUV's insurance coverage premium.
- Roman Zachariak queried whether any legal avenues were pursued regarding the St Albans branch legal issue.
 - Slawko Kohut responded that mediation was pursued as the more effective method for recuperation of costs and in the interest of time efficiency.
- Iryna Andreeva requested that "Ukrainian House" ("Ukrains'kyi Narodnyi Dim") is used on all formal communication and documents, rather than "Domivka".

15. Discussion and voting on proposed Resolution

- Slawko Kohut raised proposed Resolution regarding the sale of one apartment to repay the outstanding loan to the AFUO
- Kohut raised motion to discuss the proposed Resolution, seconded by Michael Moravski.
- Ivan Guglak notes that in his opinion only discussion but not voting should occur, with voting taking place at a different meeting, such as an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM).
- Stefan Romaniw clarified purpose of funds initially loaned and need for repayment of loan, in order for the AFUO to have this liquidity for when it is required. Underlined the AFUO's hope that these funds will be repaid in the coming 6 months, where conditions allow this.
- Tatiana Zachariak asked what the estimated amount that would be generated from the sale of an apartment would be.
 - Slawko Kohut clarified, noting the sale amount is estimated to be sufficient to cover the outstanding loan from the AFUO.
- Robert Sartori voiced his support for the sale of an apartment as a rational investment decision.
- Chair proposed that motion not be voted on at AGM and withheld to EGM or future AGM. Motion carried.

16. Voting for Internal Audit Committee candidates

- Candidate ticket in its full composition carried unanimously.
- Elected Internal Audit Committee comprises of Michael Laba (chair), Jarema Polatajko and Roman Zachariak.

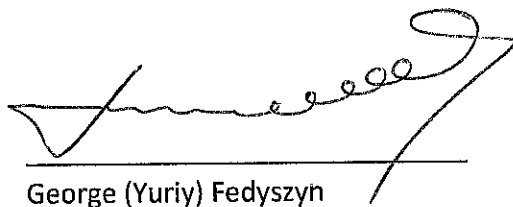
17. Voting for AUV General Committee Directors

- 6 nominations, 4 Director positions to be filled. Instructions for preferential voting utilising voting cards outlined.
- Nick Janiw delivered remarks regarding Ukraine trip whilst voting and count is undertaken.
- Stefan Romaniw provided update regarding AFUO and global Ukrainian community activism regarding support for Ukraine in relation to the war. Raised proposal for AGM to deliver letter of thanks to the Victorian State Government for their recent donation to the United24 fundraising effort. Motion carried unanimously.
- Voting conducted and counted. Four elected directors and their gathered votes are as follows:
 - Tatiana Zachariak – 93;
 - Natalie Harasemcuk – 100;
 - Nick Angelowitsch – 70; and
 - Teresa Kohut – 56.

18. Ukrainian Anthem

Meeting formally concluded at 5:30 pm.

These AGM minutes are endorsed by



George (Yuriy) Fedyszyn
Chair



Andriy Mykhaylyk
Secretary