

# AJGS *L'dor V'dor* Australian Jewish Genealogical Society

ABN No. 95 225 473 428  
[www.ajgs.org.au](http://www.ajgs.org.au)

PO Box 3075  
Bellevue Hill  
NSW 2023

Australian Jewish Genealogical Society  
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
Held at the Upper Victor Smith Hall, North Shore Synagogue, Treatts Rd, Lindfield  
13th October, 2019 2.30pm to 5.30pm

Present: Anne Winter, Paul Winter, Robyn Dryen, Liane Corbett, Peter Nash, Jack Jellins, Maureen Jellins, Dani Haski, Evelyn Frybort, Faye Green, David Laufer, John Morris, Kym Morris (minutes), Diana Laufer, Barbara Simon, Charles Simon, Rose Gunsberger, Terry Newman, Annita Newman, Jeannette Tsoulos (Chair).  
Guest: Ilona Lee

Apologies: Sue Davis, Kim Phillips, Sonia Gold.

Chair: In the absence of the President, Sonia (Sunny) Gold, a substitute chair was called. Jeannette Tsoulos was nominated by Robyn Dryen, seconded Kym Morris, all were in favour. The meeting was chaired by Jeannette Tsoulos.

Welcome: Jeannette welcomed the members to the AGM and explained Sunny's absence expressing her best wishes for Sunny's swift recovery.

Previous Minutes: The minutes from last year's AGM held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were distributed for reading and comment.

Business arising from last year's AGM minutes: None.

Move it be accepted by Robyn Dryen Seconded by Evelyn Frybort. All were in favour.

President's Report: Jeannette read Sunny's report including the Website report from Dani (appended). The President's report is appended.

Robyn – noted a correction in the report, the Waverley Library representative should read Ingrid Grace

Dani - commented that the committee did not write a letter to support an application for Spanish citizenship but did write a letter acknowledging the individual's membership of the society as part of their submission to the Spanish Government. Dani commented further that with Portuguese citizenship and Austrian soon to be similarly treated, AJGS should formulate a standard response to such requests for support.

Move it be accepted by Evelyn Frybort, Seconded by Annette Winter. All were in favour.

Treasurer's Report: The report was read by Kym Morris, copies were available. Several questions arose relating to the accounts which were the result of the change of reporting period, membership fees having been deferred for six months and the significantly larger expenses due to late reimbursements of a number of payments made the previous period.

Bank Balance at the end of June 2019: \$22,535.04

Move it be accepted by Jack Jellins, Seconded by Dani Haski. All were in favour.

Jeannette recorded her appreciation of Kym Morris's work as Treasurer while also taking on the duties of Secretary.

Robyn suggested that as a tribute to Kim Phillips and the many years of service to AJGS that Kim be nominated for Life Membership of the society. Deferred to Other Business.

The meeting was handed over to Robyn Dryen as Returning Officer for the Election of Committee and Office Bearers.

All positions were declared vacant.

Election of President: It was proposed that with Sunny Gold unable to respond to her nomination for President, and with no other nominations forthcoming, that the position of President remain vacant and Sunny be consulted as soon as she is well enough to respond. If Sunny does not wish to continue as President, a Special General meeting will be convened to elect a President.

Move it be accepted by Robyn Dryen, Seconded by Jeannette Tsoulos. All were in favour.

Election of Vice President: Robyn Dryen nominated Kym Morris, seconded by Dani Haski. There were no other nominations. Kym accepted the nomination and was duly appointed.

Election of Secretary: Jeannette Tsoulos nominated Kym Morris, seconded by Dani Haski. There were no other nominations. Kym accepted the nomination and was duly appointed.

Election of Treasurer: No nominations were received before the meeting and so were called from those assembled. Kym Morris nominated Barbara Simon, seconded by Jack Jellins. There were no other nominations. Barbara accepted the nomination and was duly appointed.

Committee members: The constitution calls for three committee members, four nominations were received. After consideration, three were appointed and the fourth was co-opted to serve on committee, consistent with the constitution. All nominations were accepted.

Committee Members:

Jeannette Tsoulos

Evelyn Frybort

Annette Winter (Co-opted)

Dani Haski

Other Business:

Robyn proposed we confer life membership on Kim Phillips in recognition of her extensive service to AJGS over many years. The motion was seconded by Kym Morris and all were in favour.

Kym mentioned errata on the treasurer's report provided - balance at date was incorrect should read 30/6/19

David Laufer mentioned that at last year's AGM Nigel Meinrath was appointed representative to Jewish Board of Deputies. AJGS received an invoice from them for over \$600 for affiliation. The committee made enquiries and were advised that the invoice was in error. Our affiliation / constituent status and voting rights are not understood and further enquiries will be made.

AGM Closed: Jeannette declared the AGM closed at 3.15pm and a general meeting was opened.

There was a break for afternoon tea and the general meeting proceeded with a discussion, introduced by Dani Haski, and facilitated by Ilona Lee on the future of the society. Notes to be forwarded separately.

Jeannette advised that a talk will be held at the Jewish Museum following the Australian Jewish Historical Society AGM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 2:30pm, Steve Hart will launch Stephe Jitts' book "The Moses Family in Yass 1837 – 1878". All welcome.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Sonia Gold

It gives me great pleasure to present my first President's Report.

As an inexperienced President it has been a challenging year, but also an interesting one. I have certainly been conscious of our Society's primary role, that being, to assist and encourage those with Jewish ancestry to research their family histories.

Our current membership at the time of writing approaches 80, and renewals are still coming in. I wish to welcome new members Dr Peter Cowie, Judith McDonald, Elizabeth Cameron, Felipe Rocha de Souza.

Over the past year (July 2018 to June 2019) there have been 11 Sundays at Lindfield as well as four Monday workshops and four more held at Waverley, the latter took the form of presentations by Robyn Dryen and Dani Haski. I take this opportunity to encourage more of you to consider future attendance at these interesting and educative sessions. (Robyn, Dani, Evelyn Frybort and Jeannette Tsoulos have regularly attended these workshops).

The AJGS received a request from a new member seeking support for an application for Spanish citizenship, for Sephardic Jews under the Jewish Law of Return. Consequently, I wrote a letter of recommendation to the Spanish Government. The Society intends to publish guidelines for other members applying for citizenship of overseas countries.

A donation was made to the North Shore Synagogue in appreciation of the services it has provided to our Society.

This year we sadly lost Lionel Sharpe, past Honorary Secretary of AJGS Victoria. Lionel was a most esteemed and very popular colleague and a good friend of ours over many years.

I wish to acknowledge and thank the following people:

- My committee, composed of Vice-President Kim Phillips, Treasurer and Minutes Secretary Kym Morris, Membership Officer Nigel Meinrath and committee members Evelyn Frybort, Jeannette Tsoulos and Annette Winter for their work for the benefit of the Society. (Unfortunately, Nigel had to step down during the year for personal reasons).
- I have appreciated Annette Winter's continued kind offer to host our committee meetings.
- Robyn Dryen also deserves my appreciation as she has spent many hours responding to research enquiries.
- I wish to make a very special mention of Dani Haski, the editor of Kasher Koala, for her production of such brilliant publications and for her taking on numerous other tasks.
- I can't conclude my report without mentioning and acknowledging the following people for their assistance throughout the year:
  - Paul Winter, our Honorary Auditor
  - The Rabbi, President and staff of the North Shore Synagogue
  - Ingrid Grace (corrected from meeting notes) at the Waverley Library
  - Bill Bowes, the Society's System Administrator, who acts pro bono.

And, finally, I wish to thank you, and all our members, for your support of, and loyalty to, the Society.

It has been a privilege to serve you as President for the past year. This then concludes my report. You are encouraged to make any comments or to ask questions,

Sunny Gold  
President.

## Web Site Report from Dani Haski:

In the last 12 months we had more than 25,000 unique visitors to the website. These visitors have viewed over 115,000 pages. This has been predominantly the home page (27,618 visits), followed by the international resources research page (2790 visits), then general resources (1790 visits), contact (1704 visits) and Australian resources (1314 visits).

As we have no mechanism for feedback it's difficult to gauge the value users are receiving from the site, but people are generally positive when they talk to me about it.

Kosher koala has been well received. The next issue will go out following the AGM. Members are, as always, invited to contribute articles.



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## 2019 Annual General Meeting – Treasurer’s Report

### Summary

Bank Balance carried forward 2018 AGM report (Jan-June 2018)	\$26,300.16	
Income during the financial year July 2018 – June 2019 (b)		\$910.38
Sub-Total (a+b)	\$27,210.54	
Expenditure (c)		\$4,675.50
Surplus / Deficit		<b>(\$3,765.12)</b>
Bank Balance at 30 June 2019 (a+b-c)	<b>\$22,535.04</b>	

### Income statement for the period ended 30 June 2019

Item	Description	Jan-June 2018	Jul 2018- June 2019
	<b>Income</b>	\$	\$
1	Donations Individual - \$200 AGM - \$23.40	15.00	223.40
2	Membership Fees Impacted by the extended 2018 membership period to facilitate change of reporting period to financial year.	3,790.00	355.00
3	Other income	100.00	
4	Bendigo Bank Interest	170.19	331.98
	<b>Total Gross Income</b>	<b>4,075.19</b>	<b>910.38</b>
	<b>Expenses</b>		
5	AGM Seminar and Lectures AGM Supplies - \$52.68 Lecture - \$500		\$552.68
6	PO Box Bellevue Hill Reimbursement for 2018 fell in 2018/2019 financial year		\$386.00
7	NSW Board of Deputies Annual Affiliation and Diary Inserts	\$137.50	\$49.50
8	Subscriptions Gesher Galicia - \$85.73, \$94.49	\$40.00	\$1,067.16

	IAJGS Affiliation - \$98.26, \$98.59 JGSGB - \$62.65 Avotaynu - \$129.82, \$169.06 (3 year) Australian Federation of Family History Organisations - \$40.00 Find My Past - \$288.62 Expense Claim was incorrectly transcribed less \$0.06, payee advised.		
9	Service NSW		\$46.00
10	Gifts and Donations North Shore Synagogue - \$1000.00 Gifts outgoing President - \$128.00		\$1,128.00
11	Insurance		\$1,372.16
12	Bank Charges Bendigo Bank Charges - \$15.00	\$10.90	\$15.00
13	Other Expenses Miscellaneous NAJEX - \$20.00	\$40.00	\$20.00
14	Web Domain Registration		\$39.00
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$228.40</b>	<b>\$4,675.50</b>
	<b>Income Statement – net (surplus)/deficit</b>	<b>\$3,846.79</b>	<b>-\$3,765.12</b>
	<b>Other Transactions – Zero Nett impact</b> \$1000 – Transfer from Main account to Statement account \$250 – Transfer from CBA to Statement account \$15,000 – Transfer from Main Account to Term Deposit		

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

- Negative balance due to decision to extend membership period to accommodate change to reporting year (calendar to financial) and re-imburement claims in the reporting period for expenses which occurred in the prior period.
- Basis of preparation: The financial statements have been prepared on a cash basis of accounting.

Kym Morris  
Treasurer, AJGS 13 October 2019