

New Peninsula Baptist Church

Minutes of the Annual Church Meeting – 16th May 2021 at 12.00pm held at Mount Martha

1. WELCOME

The Chairperson **Chris Williams** welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. OPENING PRAYER

Senior Pastor **David Underhill** prayed and gave a short devotion to open the meeting. David emphasized that as humans we tend to put our trust in other people rather than God. As a congregation, we tend to trust pastors, but even pastors are fallible. When our new senior pastor, Paul Crothers, starts tomorrow, we would be wise not to have expectations that are unrealistic, both in terms of time and capability.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Church Planning Meeting, held on 15th November 2020 were tabled. **John Williamson** proposed that they be accepted. John asked for a seconder to accept the Minutes and Ken Norris seconded the motion. A vote to accept the Minutes was held by a show of hands, which clearly showed acceptance of the Minutes.

The Minutes of the Special Church Meetings held on 6th and 7th December 2020 were also tabled. John Williamson proposed that the Minutes be accepted and this was seconded by John Crow. A vote to accept the Minutes by a show of hands was also held and clearly showed acceptance of the Minutes.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

5. AUDITED 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Treasurer, **Andrew North**, presented the finance report for both New Peninsula Baptist Church and New Peninsula Baptist Church Donation Fund with the aid of a powerpoint presentation.

Andrew proposed the acceptance of the Annual Audited 2020 Financial Reports. John Stamp seconded the motion. A vote by show of hands was then held, which clearly showed acceptance of the reports.

It was resolved that the 2020 Financial Statements for New Peninsula Baptist Church and New Peninsula Baptist Church Donation Fund be approved and that they be lodged with the appropriate returns with the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission.

The overall finance report was affirmed.

6. CHURCH BOARD REPORT

Chris Williams presented her report. Chris made a presentation to David Underhill and Glenda Holbrook to thank them for willingly taking on additional responsibilities as Interim Joint Senior Pastors after the departure of David Rietveld. Chris acknowledged not just their service but also their commitment and the capability they brought to the role.

Covid19 brought about much change and so the Board and Elders met via zoom early after lockdown. With the aid of the Interim joint Senior Pastors, some difficult decisions were made, as follows:

- The focus of church leadership had to be on ministry;
- The events for profit business was to be terminated, resulting in some staff finishing their employment.
- A panel of reference has now been set up to consider New Peninsula finances and the overall scope of the activities at our Mt Martha property more broadly Chris wished to thank the members of the Senior Pastor Search Committee for their diligence, commitment and prayerfulness leading to the unanimous recommendation of Paul Crothers as new Senior Pastor.

Chris also acknowledged the work of Mim Gaetano as Chair of the Board (3 years) and Geoff as Treasurer (4 years).

7. INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

David Underhill presented the Interim Senior Pastor's report. David thanked Glenda Holbrook and acknowledged it was a privilege to share the role of Joint Senior Pastor with Glenda. David also wished to thank all those who stepped up in the difficult Covid19 lockdown period. In particular, David wished to thank those involved in putting together online services, those who provided music support and the kids ministry leaders.

David also wished to thank the congregation for adapting to new technology by attending church services online and meetings on zoom.

David asked the congregation to consider what we can learn from the Covid19 experience and what is God saying to us about how we should interact with others going forward.

8. NPCCI REPORT

Andrew Taylor presented a report on CCI activities during 2020. Andrew advised that CCI is an incorporated body and that the AGM has already taken place and an annual report has been sent out to all members. Andrew particularly noted that single mothers seemed to suffer more than most during the lockdown period. Andrew was grateful and proud that CCI was able to continue during the lockdown, although the Op Shop was not able to open for 8 months. Andrew wished to thank donors to CCI and volunteers for their support. Andrew also thanked Mim and Geoff for their Board level support.

9. ELDERSHIP REPORT

Matt Evans presented the Eldership report, acknowledging the lockdown period caused a type of holding pattern for the Elders. The Elders are excited to welcome Paul Crothers to the role of Senior Pastor, starting tomorrow! The Elders had great confidence in David Underhill and Glenda Holbrook. The Elders are excited to welcome Geoff Ternes onto staff as the Business Manager. The Elders also wished to acknowledge the work of Ian Smith and Andrew Fuller in putting together the online services. Matt encouraged the congregation not to demand too much of the Crothers family and to allow them time to get to know the church and congregations. Matt encouraged the congregation to pray for Paul and Kate, the staff, Board and Elders.

Matt wished to thank Steve Carr for his work as an Elder, acknowledging that Steve has worked hard in the church, held several roles and served as a Board member. Steve will focus his efforts on the Rosebud congregation going forward.

10. YEAR TO DATE FINANCE REPORT FOR 2021

Andrew North gave an update on the current state of finances for the church, using some powerpoint slides. These showed that the church has had a surplus of \$32k for the 3 months ended March 31 2021, which is ahead of budget by \$18k. Government support has now ceased and this will have an impact on our finances. However, our cash position is still relatively strong and we are optimistic for the future.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Chris asked whether there were any questions arising from the reports presented at the meeting. One member asked what the plans are for future revenue generation, given the previously announced plan to have the property pay for the property and the plate pay for the [ministry](#). Chris advised that we have established a panel of reference to consider New Peninsula finances and the overall scope of the activities at our Mt Martha property more broadly.

12. CLOSING PRAYER

Glenda Holbrook closed the meeting in prayer.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11.54 am.

Confirmed:

Date: