

Minutes of the Wilderness Ratepayers and Residents Association's Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 20 February 2019 at the Wilderness Hotel and Spa at 18:00.

1. Welcome and Apologies

The acting chairman, Neville Ewing, welcomed all present and said he was delighted to see so many regular members attending. He advised that the chairman, Donald Goldfain was unable to be at the meeting due to health issues and wished him a speedy recovery. Apologies were noted from Erna van Wijk, Tony Bowen, Doug Wilcox, Patrick Walsh, Candice Hobday, Chris Burlock, Estelle Le Roux, Mike Young, Yvonne Barnardt, Mel Toerien, Merle Mobsby, **Andy ?** and Tracey Pretorius.

2. Adoption of the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and matters arising therefrom

Adoption of the minutes was proposed by Rob Berry, seconded by Stuart McAllister and the minutes were unanimously approved. There were no matters arising.

3. Adoption of the minutes of any previous general meetings (if any) and matters arising therefrom

Not applicable

4. Chairman's Report

Neville talked through a slide presentation covering the committee members' portfolios with emphasis on the positive impact for the community as well as commenting on some of the challenges faced during 2018 and those that were on-going. (See 2019 WRRRA AGM PowerPoint presentation)

5. Treasurer's Report and adoption of the Reviewed Accounts

Neville confirmed that the Ratepayers' subscriptions and Wilderness Improvement Program funds are recorded separately and went through the financial statements for both. (See WRRRA Financial Statement for 2018) Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Peter Mundell and seconded by Rob Berry.

6. Other business of which due notice has been given

None received

7. Ratification of Annual Subscription

It was proposed that the Annual Subscription be increased annually by a small amount in order to avoid introducing substantial increases after a few years of no increases. It was therefore proposed that the Annual Subscription for 2019 be set at R190 and this proposal was carried with no objections.

8. Election of Executive Committee

The Executive Committee comprises 12 members. During the year, casual vacancies are filled by co-opting members willing to take on the various portfolios.

- Three portfolios are currently open:
 - Treasurer as Neville Ewing has resigned. Niel Viljoen has agreed to take over this position.
 - Communications & Awareness as Chris Burlock has resigned. Karen Ewers has agreed to take over this position.
 - Environmental portfolio as Caroline Hall has resigned and we are seeking a volunteer to fill this position which involves liaison with SANParks, WESSA and similar bodies and on issues that affect Wilderness environmentally.
- The following committee members retire at this meeting either because they have served their 2 year term of office or were co-opted during the current year and offer themselves for re-election: Cornell Barnardt, Jackie Berry, Chris Leggatt, Dee Marcus, Donald Goldfain, John Miller, Doug Wilcox and Ian Willis. If all retiring committee members are re-elected, the three vacancies referred to previously need to be filled. Dave Hill had been co-opted in 2018 to work with WRRRA on the vitally important WFMU initiative and offers himself for re-election.

All the new and existing committee members were accepted.

9. General

- Members asked whether the WRRRA had any input to the new restaurant built on the Kaaimans. John Miller responded not really but that we had received the application and had some feedback but we were assured that from the environmental and municipality side, everything was complied with. The point was then raised as to whether sewage was going into the river. Caroline Hall advised that this query should be put in writing to WRRRA so that we can take this up and get confirmation of the situation.
- Anne Hadley Lombard stated that she was vehemently upset in relation to the dog story. She said there were serious problems with people walking around with dogs off leads, with dogs

pooing in the road and on the green, owners not picking up poo and when she has challenged them, she has been threatened. Was it possible to fine people and could the monitors help? Neville asked for Marlene to respond to this and she advised that the only people who can issue fines are police officers and that it is not practical to get law enforcement officials from George so it needs for all of us to stand up and tackle the problem. It was suggested that perhaps a leaflet could be put together to be handed out when there is an influx of visitors however Anne stated that the offenders are local people. Marlene suggested that they should be named and shamed. Neville agreed and suggested that a photo should be taken and we will then publish it in the newsletter.

- Ian Willis commented generally on municipal law enforcement and what needed to be done in terms of photos, letters, etc. Stuart McAllister commented that if he saw any strangers in his neighborhood he took the tact of addressing the issue and taking photos of them as a public spirited approach.
- Desire´ Zwahlen said that it was a concern to have fewer than 300 members in the WRRRA and that we need to have a more concerted drive to get more members. Dee Marcus confirmed that the current database numbers were running at about 800 people but only 300 are actually paying. It had been a conscious decision previously about getting the message about the WRRRA out and hope for the best that people would respond by joining.
- It was suggested that members need to know more about the recycling system and what goes into green, blue and black bags and asked if this could this be covered in the next newsletter.
- We had received congratulations from fairly new residents to WRRRA especially over how things were handled over the Christmas period. Neville especially thanked Marlene for her assistance in coordination of this.
- It was reiterated that if members were not receiving emails from WRRRA that they should advise us – this particularly relevant to people using iafrica and mweb as providers. It was also suggested that members should put WRRRA in their contact list to ensure they received emails.
- John Miller suggested that everyone should talk to a neighbor or friend to encourage them to join WRRRA.
- The question was asked if people can still register for voting, the answer was yes but they must go to the local IEC office by 28 February.

Neville thanked the committee members and the membership of the WRRRA.

The meeting was closed at 18:52

Signed

Chairman

Date.....

DRAFT