

The Constitution Passes!

On Monday 13 2017, 25 people gathered at the RSL to make a decision about adopting a new Constitution.

The 2007 Constitution had served the Association well but in my opening remarks, I outlined the reasons why we needed to adopt a new Constitution.

It has been 10 years since the organisation's Constitution was drafted. At that time, the writers had a "Model Constitution" to refer to as they developed the 2007 Constitution in line with the NSW Associations Incorporation Act 1984.

Much has changed since 2007. There is a new NSW Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and a new set of Regulations, which came into force on September 12 2016.

While much of the wording between the 1984 Model Constitution and the 2016 Model Constitution are the same, many of the ideas between the two model constitutions are very different.

A sub-committee was set up to review the old constitution and develop a new one. Its members were Fran Tarbox, Maree Taylor, Bruce Cummings and Bob Birrer. The subcommittee tabled the proposed 2017 Constitution before the new Committee in January 2017 in order to help the committee members to review the proposed document and its implications for their role.

After the introductory comments, Bob Birrer led the members present through the five (5) parts in the Constitution and the 54 paragraphs in the new Constitution. After each of the sections in the Constitution, there were times for questions and answers.

I then read the motion to adopt the Constitution as the new one for the Association. The Constitution was passed unanimously.

The highlight of the night for the attendees was that the Constitution was passed with no rancour.

A big thank you to all who played any part in developing the new Constitution and in having it passed so effortlessly.

Jenny Sproule

President