

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ECOTOURISM AUSTRALIA

Wednesday 16th October 2019 at 1230 hours AEST

(WA: 10:30am | NT: 12:00pm | QLD: 12:30pm | SA: 1:00pm | NSW, VIC, ACT, TAS: 1:30pm)

At Ecotourism Australia Office – Unit 1A/88 Buckland Rd. Nundah, Brisbane, Queensland
and online via Redback Conferencing webinar and videoconference

MINUTES

Members present in person and/or online:

Rod Hillman, Alyssa Sanders, Lina Cronin, Michele Bain (Yondah Beach House), Anna del Rio, Eloise Touchot, Noreen Breakey (UQ), Claire Ellis, Steve Wroe, Rick Murray, Innes Larkin, Fabrice Miller (Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary and chair of sustain committee), Alysia Brandenburg, Chelle Fisher (Down Under Discoveries).

Apologies: W Hills and M Collins

Chair: Claire Ellis

Company Secretary: Rod Hillman

Minutes: Eloise Touchot

Meeting opened: 12.40 AEST

1. Welcome and apologies

C Ellis acknowledged the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community and paid respects to them and their cultures, and elders past, present and future.

C Ellis then welcomed Ecotourism Australia's members to the meeting and noted apologies received from W Hills and M Collins.

2. Confirmation of Minutes from 2018 AGM

Motion: that the minutes of the previous AGM 10th October 2018 were accepted

Moved: R Murray

Seconded: N Breakey

CARRIED

3. Matters arising from 2018 AGM minutes

No matters arising.

4. Report from the Chair - tabling of Ecotourism Australia Ltd Annual Report 2017/18

C Ellis spoke to her Chair's Report in the 2018/19 Annual Report and noted changes and opportunities for EA and its members:

- Global media highlight the issue of overtourism pushing destinations to invest in and improve their tourism offer;
- EA is committed to continually improve and drive sustainable tourism by encouraging operators and destinations to strive for excellence and providing frameworks and scaffolding to reach their desired outcomes;
- EA's global partnerships have enabled to diversify from product to destination and better support the success of the industry;
- It has been a year of hard work and major changes for EA, but also another tremendous year for EA members with the first 20-year members, members winning 25% of the Australian Tourism Awards and more than 20% of sellers at ATE displaying their ECO Certified branding;

C Ellis thanked her fellow Board members for their work and support. She also acknowledged the work of EA office who on top of running the core business also developed new programs and ways of improvement, and thanked them for their commitment and passion for the organisation.

5. Finance Report – tabling of Audited Statements

Rod Hillman, the CEO, confirmed the Financial Report for 2018/19 and the fully audited financial accounts for 2018/19 have been circulated and are available to all members.

No questions were asked.

Motion: that the Financial Reports for 2018/19 be accepted

Moved: R Murray

Seconded: I Larkin

CARRIED

9. Election of Board Members

C Ellis thanked Michele Bain and Steve Wroe leaving their Board member positions.

R Hillman viewed the election results and advised that there were six (6) vacant positions. The election resulted in the election of the following candidates to the EA Board of Directors:

- Claire Ellis
- Michael Collins
- Noreen Breakey
- Rick Murray
- Rosie Sandover
- Wendy Hills

C Ellis congratulated the successful candidates. It was noted that more than 20% of all members voted in the election.

10. Discussions and questions

C Ellis invited participants to ask questions, now or later by contacting the EA Office. No questions were asked.

C Ellis gave thanks again to all Directors and their contributions.

C Ellis thanked all participants and the EA Office for attending the AGM.

Meeting closed: 12.59 AEST

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Ellis', is centered on the page. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.