

## **Annual General Meeting Report 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019.**

Chairperson, Alison Jacob:

Transitioning from State based funding to NDIS wasn't easily done but with hard work and determination was successful in getting all Laetare Court residents transitioned successfully.

- Alison spoke of a productive strategic planning day with Board and staff, where HOPES Inc refined our vision and attempted to be clearer about the outcomes HOPES Inc is wanting to achieve and being more diverse to achieve this without compromising our vision and philosophy.
- Alison gave a special thanks to Chris Oriel for all his hard work around the NDIS and making connections with NDIS and Disability Services officials at all levels and ensuring HOPES Inc was very much promoted.
- Alison thanked Karen Fall and Eliza White for all their hard work and support in transitioning to the NDIS.
- Alison thanked our Treasurer, Marion Cooper who has taken a leadership role in implementing new budgeting and reporting requirements for the NDIS.
- Alison extended a special thanks to each and every Board member for their hard work and dedication.
- Acknowledgement given to the passing of past Board member Barbara Olsen. Barb was excellent with policies and will be clearly missed. Also, acknowledged the passing of Gina Juhasz who was one of HOPES Inc original Board members and Chris Lewis who was a dedicated member of HOPES Inc and the swim group.

Treasurer, Marion Cooper, spoke to her report.

Noting that it has been a successful year with sufficient funding to cover commitments and for HOPES Inc to remain sustainable. Marion said that she has appreciated working with the Board and thanked them for their support. Marion noted that a Copy of Audited financial report was is in HOPES Inc Annual Report.

Executive Officer, Chris Oriel.

Welcomed family, friends, supporters and residents. Chris gave some examples of the difficulties we faced with the transitioning into the NDIS. It was also noted the support residents showed each other during this process. Chris thanked the Board, Eliza and Karen for their hard work and support in the transitioning to the NDIS and in their other responsibilities.

Chris also spoke about moving forward and maintaining community focus in an increasingly transactional business environment. The decision made to focus on clients who have an ABI and/or neurological condition specific organisation means HOPES Inc can continue to advocate for recognition of the specific nature of this disability.

Alison Jacob thanked Sue Hodgson, Carolyn Rakowski, Alex Sommer and Mark Lamont for their contribution, hard work and dedication to HOPES/Laetare Court as volunteers.

Sue noted that the Life Skills program in future will be known as **Laetare Horizons**.

All Board positions declared vacant. Meeting handed over to Public Officer – who presented Nominations:

#### **Executive**

President:	Alison Jacob
Vice President:	Sue Hodgson
Treasurer:	Marion Cooper

#### **Board Members**

Harun Abdullah  
Ros Calvert  
John Stublely  
Gill Whitehouse

Due to only one nomination for each position being received, the Public Officer declared all positions filled. Nominees accepted for the next 12 months. The Public Officer handed back the Chair to the President, who thanked everyone for their nominations.

The appointment of all Office Bearers were accepted by the meeting.

***Alison also invited anyone who may be interested in joining our Board to put forward an expression of interest.***

Motion for Appointment of Public Officer to be Marion Cooper by Alison Jacob

Seconded by Sue Hodgson      Marion accepted position.

Marion Cooper thanked Michael Derbyshire for his work.

Motion to Appoint Michael Derbyshire for current financial year (2019/20) moved by Marion Cooper and passed by the meeting.

Guest Speaker Elisa Ryan, Glenorchy City Council

Elisa Ryan gave an interesting and deeply moving account of her current position and her personal history:

Elisa is an Access and Inclusion Officer with the Glenorchy City Council and has also been a local resident all of her life.

Elisa spoke of her challenging teenage years, and how she struggled to navigate difficult situations within her own family. She also spoke of how she got through this time, which came down to the people who believed in her and supported her, the youth shelter staffs and a few significant adults that took the time.

Elisa praised all those who have been involved in maintaining the integrity of the aims of HOPES Inc whilst navigating bureaucratic change.

Elisa quoted Barack Obama *“Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”*

Elisa ended by touching on the main points she spoke about today and asked that we take one of these points forward from today:

1. How HOPES Inc can share the stories and successes of their cooperative housing model more
2. The importance of support and communities
3. The value of Partnerships and relationships – what relationships are not being made - how do you bridge that gap
4. What are you going to try out of your comfort zone?

Alison thanked Elisa and presented her with flowers.