MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
DATE: 16 February 2013 TIME: 9.30 am
VENUE: Y Hotel, Sydney

APA Office Bearers and Committee Members

President: Patricia Shepherd
Vice President: Anne Button
Treasurer: Anita Ings
Secretary: Frith Luton

Committee Members: Julie Day
Christine Rothwell
Jeanni Monks
Rainer Rollfink

APA Representatives to the FAA National Council 2012–2014
Anne Button
Patricia Shepherd

1.0 OPENING
President – Patricia Shepherd opened the 12th APA AGM at 9.30am

1.1 Welcome – All attendees were welcomed by President Patricia Shepherd.

2.0 ROLL CALL

With attendance and proxies, the meeting met the requirements of the Constitution for a quorum.

Present: Patricia Shepherd, Anne Button, Anita Ings, Jeanni Monks, Christine Rothwell, Frith Luton, Michele Finey, Gregory Clare, Tess Cullen, Robyn Lee, Christina Thomas, Janet Menefy, Sara Gilbert, Brian Clark, Glennys Lawton, Maggie Moses, Molly Talbot, Julie Day
Apologies Received
Sylvia Wilson, Valeria Metter, Rainer Rollfink, Diane Hall, Maree Scopelliti Susan Jarrett, Glorija Lawrence, Noelle Rattray, Kerry Galea, Barb Thorp

Proxies Received
Sylvia Wilson to Frith Luton
Valeria Metter to Frith Luton
Rainer Rollfink to Frith Luton
Diane Hall to Frith Luton
Cyndi Walls to Frith Luton
Nicholas Owens to Frith Luton
Maree Scopelliti to Anne Button
Susan Jarrett to Anne Button
Barbara Thorp to Anne Button
Maureen Maloy to Anita Ings
Karen Darby to Anita Ings
Clementine Adkins to Anita Ings
Ed Tamplin to Anita Ings
Sherrynne Dalby to Anita Ings
Michelle Proctor to Christine Rothwell
Peter Burns to Patricia Shepherd

Observers: There were no observers present.

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

That the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted.
Moved: Frith Luton Seconded: Anne Button Accepted by consensus

4.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 2012 MINUTES

8.1.1 That a maximum grant of $500 be made available each year for the purpose of furthering the professional interests of the APA membership. Details of the conditions applicable to the grant to be worked out by APA committee/subcommittee. – Actioned – Deferred to 8.1

8.3 That the Agenda for the APA AGM be included in the December Newsletter – Actioned

8.3.1 That the APA Agenda be provided to the Newsletter Editor by the 10th of December each year. – Actioned

8.3.2 That the AGM minutes will be posted on the APA website in the Members’ section. – Actioned

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE IN
Responses and expressions of appreciation from guest APA panel speakers at FAA Conference 2012
General Correspondence
Numerous emails/phone calls
Offer of scholarship to online conference from Chris Turner
Applications for first time speaker at FAA Conference 2014
Nominations for Committee positions for AGM 2013
Proxy forms for 2013 AGM

5.1 CORRESPONDENCE OUT
Thanks to conference convenors and to guest speakers on APA panels at FAA conference
Condolence card to Neville Foster’s family
Condolence card to Aileen Page’s family
Registered letters to two members re late payment of membership fees
Emails re speakers for FAA Conference Hobart (APA speaker draw and first-time APA-speaker sponsorship)
Emails re scholarship offered by Chris Tuner to online conference October/November 2012. Maggie Moses was the successful applicant
Numerous emails
General correspondence (plus phone calls)
Letters of receipt to applicants for first-time speaker sponsorship at FAA Conference 2014

Correspondence accepted by consensus

6.0 REPORTS

6.1 President’s Report for 2013 – Patricia Shepherd
Report read and tabled [and available on the website]

Move to accept: Patricia Shepherd Seconded: Michele Finey Accepted by consensus

6.2 Treasurer’s Report for 2013 and tabling of the Accounts

The Treasurer’s Report, the Audited Accounts and the Auditors Report were presented and tabled [and are available on the website].

Move to accept: Anita Ings Seconded: Julie Day Accepted by consensus

6.2.1 Appointment of Auditor for 2012 to 2013:
Hemi Kaio, 22 Henson Street, Merrylands, NSW 2160

6.3 Written reports Liaison Officers were read out to the general assembly and copy of each report was given to each Liaison Officer.

NSW: Anita Ings (15 members) Moved Anita Ings Seconded Brian Clark
QLD: Jeanni Monks (15 members) Moved Jeanni Monks Seconded Michele Finey
SA: [2 members] Not represented
TAS: Chris Line (3 members) – no report – FAA branch may close – on hold at the moment
VIC: Michele Finey [27 members] Moved Michele Finey Seconded Tess Cullen
WA: Margie Crocker no report received

All reports presented accepted by consensus

6.4 Membership Convenor’s Report for 2013 – Jeanni Monks
At least 4 membership enquiries with 2 in the pipeline. Further discussion deferred to General Business

Moved to accept: Jeanni Monks  Seconded Christine Rothwell  Accepted by consensus

7.0 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICE BEARERS AND OTHER POSITIONS for 2013

Elections were not required as only one nomination per role was received. All positions were declared vacant elected as nominated

7.1 The election of the position of President for 2013

Patricia Shepherd – elected unopposed

7.2 The election of the position of Vice-President for 2013

Anne Button – elected unopposed

7.3 The election of the position of Treasurer for 2013

Anita Ings – elected unopposed

7.4 The election of the position of Secretary for 2013

Christine Rothwell – elected unopposed

7.5 The election of four Committee Members for 2013:

Julie Day
Jeanni Monks
Chirone Shakti
Clementine Adkins

All elected unopposed.

7.6 The appointment of Liaison Officers from each FAA-affiliated association for 2013:
NSW: Anita Ings & Christine Thomas
QLD: Jeanni Monks & Julie Day
SA: Not represented
TAS: Not represented
VIC: Michele Finey
WA: Margie Crocker

7.7 Appointment of Newsletter Editor: Narelle Duncan has been appointed

7.8 Appointment of Website Administrator: Kerry Galea has been appointed

7.9 Appointment of Media Advisor: Brian Clark appointed

7.10 Appointment of Membership Convenor: Jeanni Monks appointed
7.11 Special Resolution: Changes to the Constitution

[many thanks to Anita Ings for all this work]

That the following amendments and additions to the Association of Professional Astrologers Constitution be accepted by Special Resolution. (Changes are underlined/noted.)

7.11.1 AMENDMENT 1

Current Constitution:

28. Vacation of Office

For the purposes of these rules, the office of an officer of the Association or of an ordinary committee member becomes vacant if the officer or committee member –

(a) dies;
(b) becomes bankrupt or applies to take or takes advantage of any law relating to bankrupt or insolvent debtors or compounds with his creditors, or makes any assignment of his estate for their benefit;
(c) becomes of unsound mind;
(d) resigns his office by writing under his hand addressed to the Committee;
(e) fails, without leave granted by the Committee, to attend three consecutive meetings of the committee;
(f) ceases to be a member of the Association; or
(g) fails to pay all arrears of subscription due by him/her within fourteen days after s/he has received a notice in writing signed by the public officer stating that s/he has ceased to be a financial member of the Association.

Amend to:

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For the purposes of these rules, the office of an officer of the Association or of an ordinary committee member becomes vacant if the officer or committee member –

(a) dies;
(b) becomes bankrupt or applies to take or takes advantage of any law relating to bankrupt or insolvent debtors or compounds with his creditors, or makes any assignment of his estate for their benefit;
(c) becomes of unsound mind;
(d) resigns his office by writing under his hand addressed to the Committee;
(e) fails, without leave granted by the Committee, to attend three consecutive meetings of the committee;
(f) ceases to be a member of the Association; or
(g) fails to pay all arrears of subscription due by him/her within fourteen days after s/he has received a notice in writing signed by the secretary or public officer stating that s/he has ceased to be a financial member of the Association.

Moved: Anita Seconded    Christina Thomas        Passed by consensus

7.11.2 AMENDMENT 2

Current Constitution:
20. Votes of Members

(b) Manner of Voting

(i) Votes may be given either personally or by proxy. A person appointed proxy must be a member of the APA
(ii) Postal voting is an acceptable alternative in all matters. Postal voting must be conducted in a manner ensuring anonymity of voting as described in this constitution.
(iii) A valid postal vote is one third of the roll of the association.
(iv) Proxy to be deposited with Secretary

The instrument appointing a proxy shall be deposited with the Secretary of the Association Committee not less than 24 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in such instrument purposes to vote or at such later time as the Committee may permit but in any case shall be so deposited before being acted upon.

Amend to:
Votes of Members

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(ii) Postal voting is an acceptable alternative in all matters. Postal voting must be conducted in a manner ensuring anonymity of voting as described in this constitution.
(iii) A valid postal vote is one third of the roll of the association.
(iv) Proxy to be deposited with Secretary

The instrument appointing a proxy shall be deposited with the Secretary of the Association
Committee not less than 5 days before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in such instrument purposes to vote or at such later time as the Committee may permit but in any case shall be so deposited before being acted upon.

Moved: Anita Ings    Seconded: Robyn Lee    Passed by consensus

7.11.3 ADDITION TO THE CONSTITUTION

Cessation of Membership

A person ceases to be a member of the association if the person
(a) dies
(b) resigns from membership of the association by notifying the Secretary in writing
(c) is expelled from the association
(d) fails to renew membership of the association by payment of the annual subscription and fails to pay all arrears of subscription due by him/her within fourteen days after s/he has received a notice in writing signed by the secretary stating that s/he has ceased to be a financial member of the Association.

Moved Anita Ings    Seconded Julie Day    Passed by consensus

7.11.4 Remove in the Constitution the Clause ‘Expulsion of Members’ and replace this with the Clause ‘Disciplining of Members’ and Appeal of Disciplined Members’ as noted below.

Remove Expulsion of Members

a. Subject to this rule, the committee may by resolution expel a member from the Association if, in the opinion of the committee the member has been guilty of wilful conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Association or has persistently refused or neglected to comply with a provision or provisions of these rules.

b. The expulsion of a member pursuant to sub-rule (a) of this rule does not take effect:

(i) Unless the committee, at a meeting held not earlier than 14 days and not later than 28 days after service of a notice under sub-rule (c) confirms the resolution in accordance with this rule

(ii) until the expiration of 28 days after the service on the member of a notice under sub-rule (c) of this rule;

(iii) if the member exercises his right of appeal under the rule, until the conclusion of the special general meeting convened to hear the appeal,

c. Where the committee expels a member from the Association, the public officer of the Association shall, without undue delay, cause to be served on the member a notice in writing -
(i) stating that the committee has expelled the member;

(ii) specifying the grounds for the expulsion; and

(iii) informing the member that if s/he so desires s/he may address the committee at a meeting to be held not earlier than fourteen days and not later than 28 days after service of the notice;

(iv) stating the date, time and place of that meeting;

(v) informing the member that the member may do either or both of the following:

(i) attend and speak at the meeting;

(ii) submit to the committee at or prior to the date of that meeting written representations relating to the resolution.

(d) A member may appeal to the association in general meeting against a resolution of the committee which is confirmed under sub-rule (c) of this rule, within 7 days after notice of the resolution is served on the member, by lodging with the secretary a notice to that effect.

(e) Upon receipt of a requisition under sub rule (d) of this rule, the secretary shall forthwith notify the committee of its receipt and the committee shall thereupon cause a special general meeting of members to be held within twenty one days after the date on which the requisition is received by the secretary.

(f) At a special general meeting convened for the purpose of this rule

(i) no business other than the question of the expulsion shall be transacted;

(ii) the committee shall place before the meeting details of the grounds of the expulsion and the committee's reasons for the expulsion;

(iii) the expelled member shall be given an opportunity to make representations either orally or in writing; and

(iv) the members present shall vote by secret ballot on the question whether the expulsion should be confirmed or revoked.

(g) If at the special general meeting a majority of the members present vote in favour of the revocation of the expulsion, the expulsion shall be deemed to have been lifted and the expelled member is entitled to continue his membership of the Association.

Replace with

14. Disciplining of Members

1. Where the committee is of the opinion that a member -
a) has persistently refused or neglected to comply with a provision or provisions of these rules or directives of the committee; or 

b) has persistently and wilfully acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the association, the Committee may by resolution-

(i) expel the member from the Association; or 

(ii) suspend the member from membership for a specified period that the committee may decide 

2. A resolution of the committee under subsection (1) is of no effect unless the committee at a meeting held not earlier than 14 days and not later than 28 days after service on the member of a notice under subsection (3) confirms the resolution in accordance with this section.

3. If the committee passes a resolution under subsection (1) the secretary must as soon as practicable serve a written notice on the member

a. Setting out the resolution of the committee and the grounds on which it is based; and 

b. Stating that the member may address the committee at a meeting to be held not earlier than 14 days and not later than 28 days after service on the member of a notice; and 

c. Stating the day time and place of the meeting; and 

d. Informing the member that the member may do either or both of the following

(iii) attend and speak at the meeting 

(iv) submit to the committee at or before the date of that meeting written representations relating to the resolution 

4. Subject to the Act section 50, at a meeting of the committee mentioned in subsection (2) the committee must

a) give to the member mention in subsections (1) an opportunity to make oral representation; and 

b) give due consideration to any written representations submitted to the committee by that member at or before the meeting; and 

c) by resolution decide whether to confirm or revoke the resolution of the committee under subsection (1) 

15. Right of Appeal of a disciplined member

(1) A member may appeal to the association in general meeting against a resolution of the committee that is confirmed under section 14 (4), within 7 days after notice of the resolution is served on the member by lodging with the secretary a notice to that effect
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(2) On receipt of the notice under subsection (1) the secretary must notify the committee which must call a general meeting of the association to be held within 21 days after the date when the secretary received the notice or as soon as possible after that date.

(3) Subject to the Act section 50 at a general meeting of the association called under subsection (2) –

i. no business other than the question of the appeal may be transacted; and
ii. the committee and the members must be given opportunity to make representations in relation to the appeal orally or in writing or both; and
iii. the members present must vote by secret ballot on the question of whether the resolution made under section 13 (4) should be confirmed or revoked.

(4) If the meeting passes a special resolution in favour of the confirmation of the resolution made under section 14 (4) that resolution is confirmed.

Moved Anita Ings Seconded Gregory Clare Passed by consensus

7.12. Financial Matters

7.12.1 That membership fees be increased to
• $60 per annum for members
• $95 per annum for joint members
• $30 per annum for associate members

Moved: Anita Ings Seconded: Jeanni Monks Passed by consensus

7.12.2 That the subsidy for APA members to the 2014 FAA Conference in Hobart be $75 paid directly to the Conference for registered financial members for conference fees only.

Moved: Anita Ings Seconded: Michele Finey Passed by consensus

7.12.3 That the APA funds the sponsorship of a first time speaker to the 2014 FAA Conference in Hobart.

7.12.3.1: For 2014 the APA sponsored speaker will be entitled to 3 nights accommodation at the basic rate ($139?) per night and the speakers fee.

Future APA sponsored speakers will receive three nights accommodation at the basic rate if they choose to stay on site and the speakers’ fee as set by the conference

Moved Anita Ings Seconded: Gregory Clare Passed by consensus

7.12.4 That the APA funds the sponsorship of an astrology student studying with an APA member to the FAA 2014 Hobart Conference. Sponsorship will include the Full Conference package and 3 night’s accommodation at the basic rate if they choose to stay at the venue.

Application guidelines will be published in the March 2013 APA newsletter.
Moved: Anita Ings  Seconded: Brian Clark  Passed by consensus

7.12.5 That the APA reimburses the airfares of the Committee members attending the meeting from interstate in recognition of their contributions to the APA.

Moved: Molly Talbot  Seconded: Brian Clark  Passed by consensus

8.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 That a maximum grant of $500 be made available each year for the purpose of furthering the professional interests of the APA membership. Details of the conditions applicable to the grant to be worked out by APA committee / subcommittee.

Actioned: Information & application forms are available on the website.

8.1.1 That the APA Grant Guidelines and Application Form be approved.

Moved: Frith Luton  Seconded: Tess Cullen  Passed by consensus

8.1.2 That a Grant Committee be formed that includes one member of the APA Executive plus 2 other APA members to be appointed at each AGM.

Moved: Frith Luton  Seconded: Jeanni Monks  Passed by consensus

8.1.3 That the Grant Committee for 2013 to 2014 be Patricia Shepherd, Anne Button & Gregory Clare.

Moved: Frith Luton  Seconded: Glennys Lawton  Passed by consensus

8.2 That the new edition of the APA Working Guidelines be accepted.

Moved: Anita Ings  Seconded: Gregory Clare  Passed by consensus

8.3 The announcement of the APA first time speaker for the 2014 FAA International Astrology Conference in Hobart 2014.

The successful applicant was Nick Owens presenting the “Uranus Pluto Cycle: Waking Up to Power”

Thanks was expressed to all applicants: Nick Owens, Kalvert Clark, Karen Darby, Janet Menefy and Sarah Gilbert for their applications. Those not in attendance will be sent a thank you and advised of the results by Patricia Shepherd, President.

8.4 Discussion: in regards to the APA advertising or promoting events.

General discussion and agreement that if it is a wider astrological community endeavour, not self promotion, then the APA Executive can make the decision.

8.5 Discussion in regards to members’ entries in the APA website’s Professional Directory and whether there needs to be a basic set of guidelines outlining what is acceptable for these entries so as to support the professionalism of astrology.
General discussion and agreement that the Professional Directory is a directory, not a marketing tool. Suggested that information should be limited to astrological qualifications and areas of interests. More information and guidelines in the March Newsletter as developed by the Executive. [Christine Thomas will send AFAN guidelines to CR to assist]

8.6 Discussion arising from the Membership Convenor’s report.

8.7 OAMPS renewal form

Michele Finey raised the issue that there were unexpected changes to her policy and others have had the same experience / concerns. It was suggested that we all review our renewal policy very carefully and not sign until we have clarified any changes.

Members who have experienced changes to send the information to the Secretary (CR) to forward to the other Executives so it can be to be complied and errors noted. A letter will be composed sent to OAMPS to clarify. (Christine Thomas will send her form to CR)

8.8 FAA Conference Speaker selection - Michele Finey as a matter arising from the Victorian Liaison Report

A wide ranging discussion of a very complex issue.

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<th>9.0 Date and Place of next Meeting</th>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 22 January, 3pm at Wrest Point Casino, Hobart, Tasmania</strong></td>
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Meeting Closed at 1pm