

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
of the Horowhenua/Kapiti Branch of  
The Government Superannuitants Association of NZ (Inc)**

Held at the Otaki RSA, 9 Ruakawa Street, Otaki  
On Tuesday 25 May at 11.00am

**1. Opening Remarks**

- a) The Chairperson Roger Pitchforth welcomed the 31 attendees and thanked them for their support. He also welcomed the GSA President, Tony Hamilton. Apologies were noted.
- b) The meeting observed a minute's silence for members who were deceased since the last AGM.
- c) There was one additional item of General Business – GSA Personal Data Books (Item 5b)

**2. Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting (as distributed)**

The meeting resolved to take the minutes of the last meeting as read and confirmed as a true record.

- a) Matters Arising. There were no matters arising.

**3. Branch Annual Reports**

- a) Chairperson's Annual Report. The report, which had been previously circulated, noted the challenges posed by Covid, and outlined changes to the Branch committee arrangements. The Chair acknowledged the service of David Swallow (National and Branch) and Brian Tyler (Branch) to the GSA, both of whom are standing down from the Branch committee.

It was moved and seconded that the annual report as printed by adopted.

*Roger Pitchforth*

- b) Annual Financial Report

The Annual Financial Report for the year ending 31 March 2021 was presented by Paul Gardner. The costs associated with secretarial functions have increased, as those services are now provided by Wellington Branch. The costs of functions for the past year were down as a result of Covid. Interest from the term deposits has also declined in line with interest rates. Overall, though the Branch continues to have a high level of funds (\$75,935), and the incoming committee may wish to look at returning some funds to the National Office.

It was moved and seconded that the annual accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021 be adopted.

*Paul Gardner/ Roger Pitchforth – Carried*

#### **4. Election of officers**

- a) Chairperson: Jeff Taylor.
- b) Secretary: To be appointed by incoming committee.
- c) Committee: Returning members – Paul Gardner, Edger Spark and Roger Pitchforth.
- d) Committee: Five new members – Eileen Ledger, David Ballantyne, John Laurenson, Patrick Thomas and Steve Anderton

It was moved by the chair that the above be appointed as the Branch Committee.

*Carried*

- e) Auditor/Financial Reviewer:

It was resolved that Barry Cross be appointed Auditor for the Horowhenua/Kapiti Branch of the GSA for the year ending 31 March 2022.

#### **5. General business**

- a) Centennial History Publication. The Branch still has two copies available for sale (\$40.00 a copy). Otherwise, copies can be purchased through the National Office.
- b) GSA Personal Data Books. The Branch has a few copies available. Otherwise, you can order a copy from the National Office or download it from the GSA website. It is useful resource to provide relevant details to your family members or legal adviser.

Roger Pitchforth then handed the control of the meeting to the new chair, Jeff Taylor. The formal business of the AGM concluded at 11.20am.

#### **6. Guest Speaker**

Jeff Taylor welcomed Tony Hamilton who addressed the meeting on matters relating to the GSA Board. Key matters covered included:

- CoLA – The 2021 Government budget did not include an allocation to address the problem that pre-1985 annuitants do not receive 100% of cost-of-living adjustments. Official advice indicates that there is a possibility of inclusion in the next budget round.
- Branch Committees – While some Branches are struggling to get sufficient committee members, the Board is committed to supporting all Branches to remain viable for as long as possible.
- Assigning your GSF annuity to another person – One area of the GSF scheme that is often misunderstood is the subject of assignment. Section 91B of the Superannuation Act allows for you, the superannuitant, to “surrender” up to half of your retiring allowance to another person. Those interested in exploring this option should contact Datacom, the superannuation scheme administrator, directly.

The Chair closed the meeting at 11.50am