



# Annual General Meeting 2012 minutes

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Location: 22-24 Bay Street, Port Melbourne VIC 3207

Date: March 7, 2012

Minute taker: Wendy Taylor

Meeting start: 7.14 pm

Absent with apologies: Gavin Stilgoe

Board and officers present: Kerry Walton, Grant Delahoy, John Karmouche, Tony Ellis, Wendy Taylor, Paul Finey

## **2 Welcome:**

The MRA (Vic) President, Grant Delahoy, welcomed members to the MRAV 2012 AGM. Grant referred members to his report in the MRAV current newsletter *Countersteering*. Grant reiterated that while he was pleased at the number of members coming to the 2012 AGM, that those who were absent also highlighted ongoing issues with membership participation. Grant also:

- acknowledged the Board's effort over the past year to reinvent the organisation (as a social club),
- noted the intent to improve rider representation by endorsing and supporting the reinvigoration of the VMC, and that the VMC is now meeting with relevant national and state relevant bodies (including TAC, Victoria Police, TAC, Vicroads, Australian Motorcycle Council, etc.),
- noted that the VMC had a bigger pool of people than the MRAV to call and draw upon in their endeavours for rider representation,
- thanked Gavin Stilgoe, membership secretary, for his work in organising social rides,
- advised that the MRAV participated in the Victorian Parliamentary Road Safety Review of Motorcycling by supporting and endorsing the submissions made by the VMC, Ulysses, and Marcus Wigan,
- he (Grant) participated in the new Vicroads /MUARC motorcycle accident research project when invited by Vicroads to comment on the project.
- reminded members of the awesomeness of the MRAV 2011 Toy Run, and congratulated Kerry Walton for a job well done as the organiser of this event,

- reiterated the challenges that accompany a declining membership, including finding adequate number of people to volunteer to help out,
- confirmed the Board decision to allow for the commercialisation the MRV Toy Run event to enable it to survive and to grow, and contracting Big Time Promotions to run the 2012 and 2013 MRV Toy Run. Grant advised that the contract has been signed, with the content veracity checked by solicitor David Heasley,
- confirmed the acquisition of a trailer for the storage of MRV stuff, and to provide an MRV presence at relevant and social events. Gavin has volunteered to store the trailer at his home.
- advised that the Luke Wilson Memorial Ride was held on March 4, with about 80 people on 50 motorcycles, one trike, a side car and a Spyder,
- advised about the Maurice and Blackburn rider safer campaign "SMIDSY" underway on Facebook.
- advised that the VMC is about to launch its website, and this will help to improve its profile, and communication with riders and clubs,
- advised the members of the current membership: 68 financial members (as at the date of the AGM), plus 46 life members as of the date of the 2012 AGM. Grant said the membership two years ago was recorded as 650. He asked: - "how do we encourage interest in the MRV, and do we need to consider merging with another like organisation?" He reiterated that with the current level of membership, and lack of participation of members that it was hard to achieve much. He said that as part of the challenge of redefining itself as a social club the question needed to be: why join the MRV?
- advised that the MRV e-Forum had 1503 members. Over the past 90 days 38 members had used the forum, and over the past 30 days 17 members had used it. He advised that the MRV had 869 followers on Facebook, and 63 on Twitter. He said that the demographic had changed, and the MRV needed to be cognisant of this, and work this to our advantage,
- advised that a MRV submission had been quoted in a Belgian congestion paper.

Grant finished his report emphasising that the MRV needed volunteers to help organise rides and events, and to participate. He also thanked the 2011 Outgoing Board for their work and commitment.

Tony Ellis: motion of thanks to Kerry Walton for his outstanding effort with the 2011 MRV Toy Run. Seconded: John Karmouche. Acceptance: Unanimous.

Grant welcomed Peter Baulch, Victorian Motorcycle Council (VMC) to the meeting, and invited Peter to speak.

Peter thanked Grant for the opportunity to update members about the VMC. Peter acknowledged the VMC lobbying tack as being different to that traditionally undertaken by the MRV. He said that the VMC was gaining credibility with the agencies, and the motorcycling and scootering communities, and was communicating at a State and national level. Peter said that the VMC had been very busy, and this included submissions that he regarded as articulate and well researched to the Victorian Parliamentary Road Safety Committee inquiry.

Peter acknowledged the MRV for its support in the reconstructed VMC, and he also thanked Detlef Lamp for his significant contribution.

Grant introduced the MRV AGM chairman, David Heasley.

**3 Hand over to Chairman:** Mr David Heasley

**4 Membership Report:**

Due to the Absence of the Membership secretary, the President reported on the membership, including life members, to calculate the quorum.

Membership:

1	Paying members	1453
2	Life/Honorary Members	46
3	Active members, (Fees Paid)	68
4	Fees over Due <=30 Days	274
5	Other members, (Cancelled)	924

For the AGM to proceed, 68 voting members require a quorum of two per cent of the membership, or two people.

**5 Proxy Voting Declarations:**

The Chair asked for proxies to be declared, and these were provided to the Chairman.

**6 Quorum declaration:**

The Chairman noted that sufficient members were present and declared the meeting as formal.

**7 Previous AGM minutes:**

The 2011 MRV Minutes were reviewed. The Secretary advised that a correction to a surname is required, changing this from Viney to Finey. Motion to accept minutes with this amendment: Detlef Lamp. Seconded Rik van Zuylekom. Accepted: Unanimous.

## **8 Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer tabled the financial report:

\$7717.74 Bank balance as of today (AGM date)

\$1641.00 4B's Account

\$9358.74 TOTAL

The Treasurer confirmed that the most recent cheques issued: (trailer purchase - \$2000; skip hire - \$150; post office box rental - \$227; newsletter postage - \$195; Department of Justice annual return) were taken into account in the balances noted above.

Motion for acceptance: Detlef Lamp. Seconded: Tony Ellis. Accepted: Unanimous.

Grant advised the meeting that contrary to long standing accusation, the records of the MRVAV had not been disposed of, and that records are currently being scanned, and digitally stored, and will progressively be put on the MRVAV website.

## **9 Resolution:**

The following resolution was advised to members:

*That the balance of the funds located in the MRVAV "4Bs" account be donated to the Alfred Hospital's road trauma unit, and the account then be closed.*

Discussion ensued that while some members had endeavoured to improve the profile and participation of the 4B's, this had not been sustainable. The endeavours of Mick Dabbs and Alois Zimmer in particular were acknowledged. Mick Dabbs identified that a condition of the \$243 donation relating to Kirsten's funeral was to be given to the Alfred's road trauma unit.

Wendy advised the meeting that the Alfred Hospital is willing to discuss and negotiate the funds direction. Peter Baulch offered that the National Trauma Research Unit Director, Russell Gruen, would be worth contacting.

Motion: Mick Dabbs. Seconded John Karmouche. Accepted: Unanimous.

## **10 Further Business:**

Grant proposed some administrative changes to the MRVAV's by-laws. The proposed changes would be publicised on the MRVAV website. The changes proposed include:

- remove reference to the associate membership trial
- reduce from seven to five the MRVAV Board composition
- reduce the number of board meetings required from twelve to a minimum of four annually.

Motion: Kerry Walton. Seconded: Perry Stephens. Accepted: Unanimous

## **11 Elections:**

- (i) Election of President – one nomination – Grant Delahoy appointed
- (ii) Election of Vice President – one nomination – Paul Finey appointed
- (iii) Election of Secretary – one nomination – Wendy Taylor appointed
- (iv) Election of Treasurer – no nominations
- (v) Election of Membership Secretary – one nomination – Paul Finey
- (vi) Election of Ordinary board members – two nominations – Alois Zimmer and Tony Ellis appointed

With no nominations received for the Treasurer position, the Chair sought nominations from the floor. When no-one nominated, Wendy Taylor offered to step into this role.

Grant thanked Paul and Wendy for taking on the dual roles.

David Heasley handed the role of chairman to Grant.

Grant thanked David for chairing the meeting.

## **12 Closing remarks and handover to the new board**

Grant emphasised the need for members to get involved in the organisation, to organise and participate in rides and events. He also invited members to attend board meetings.

Grant said that the focus for the coming year for the membership is to get together socially.

## **13. Other business**

Peter Baulch invited members to a Ulysses twilight social ride scheduled for March 17. The ride will leave Baxter at 3.30 pm for evening dinner at Tarwin Lower.

Perry Stephens advised that Marcel Gomperts, a member of the Point Cook motorcycle club proposes to step back from organising the Pink Ribbon Ride.

Time of meeting close: 8.34 pm