

**MINUTES OF THE 18TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE BUILDING DESIGNERS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
HELD ON THURSDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2000
AT THE DOWNTOWNER, CNR LYGON & QUEENSBERRY STREETS, CARLTON**

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**CHAIRMAN:** Tony Iseppi, BDAV President

**ATTENDANCE:**

47 Members, as per Attendance Register  
Brian Morison, Assignments Australasia P/L  
Giselle Grynbaum, Assignments Australasia P/L  
Keith Henricus, Gordon Koch, Clive Peeters  
George Plionis, Matt Bailey, James Hardie Building Products  
Apologies: 7 formal apologies, as per Apologies Register

**1. OPENING**

In declaring the meeting open at 6.15 pm, the Chairman welcomed all in attendance, especially Fellows of the Association, members and new members, as well as sponsors' representatives who were present at the meeting.

**2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, held on 7 October 1999, having been circulated to members, were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Moved: Robert McLauchlan  
Seconded: Paul Simmons

**3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The President, Mr Tony Iseppi, presented his report, observing that the BDAV had experienced an extremely busy year, with every indication this would continue. He highlighted some of the initiatives taken by the Association in the past 12 months, including the success of the Professional Development program under Geoff Hoare's leadership; the mentoring program entered into with RMIT; the commencement of the drafting of a suite of standard form contracts for use by members - the engagement agreement, which is the first in the suite, had been released, and subscribers to the document had attended workshops to ensure they fully understood the agreement; a radio program on 3AK which had assisted to raise the BDAV's profile to the general public; the BDAV's involvement in submissions to the Productivity Commission, the Architects Act review; and the draft ResCode. He then highlighted the Association's objectives for the coming 12 months, which include the satisfactory implementation of the new residential code for building designers; the need to ensure that government continues to seek the views of the BDAV in any consideration of building design matters; the need for the BDAV to play a pivotal role as facilitator for professional development; the need to build strong relationships and member support for our sponsors. He thanked those sponsors who had come on board during the year, and existing sponsors who had continued their involvement with the BDAV. He also thanked the Executive Committee and the BDAV's CEO for their support and assistance to him in his first year as President.

Later in the meeting, a vote of thanks was moved for the President and the Executive Committee in appreciation of their excellent leadership of the Association in the previous 12 months.

**4. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer, Mr Peter Earnshaw, presented the Treasurer's annual report, noting the Association's secure financial position. The Treasurer noted that all expenditure items had been kept in accordance with budget, and the significant increase in membership had ensured the BDAV continued to have a solid foundation. He reported that subscriptions were still the Association's major source of income, and noted that the late-payment penalty imposed by the Association had resulted in prompt remittance of subscriptions by the majority of members. He also reported that the BDAV's inroads in attracting sponsors had also contributed to a solid financial position. He noted that a budget had been drafted for the coming year, and offered the financial report for the perusal of any interested member. A vote of thanks was extended to Mr Earnshaw for his excellent work as Treasurer over the past two years.

**5. MEMBERSHIP ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr Paul Simmons, Chairman of the Membership Assessment Committee, presented the Membership Assessment Committee report, noting that the BDAV had achieved a 39% increase in membership since the last AGM, giving the BDAV its strongest membership base ever. This despite having removed 5% of the membership for non-renewal of subscriptions. He noted that most applicants for membership were now registered resulting in very few assessments requiring to be conducted, but thanked those members who had assisted with membership assessments during the past year.

**6. CONVENOR, INDUSTRY SERVICES**

Mr Geoff Hoare presented his report, covering Government Liaison; Professional Development; and Industry Liaison activities undertaken by the BDAV during the past 12 months, noting particularly the submissions made by the BDAV to a number of government committees, including the Productivity Commission, the draft ResCode, and the BDAV's involvement with the Sustainable Energy Authority in the introduction of compulsory energy ratings for houses. He also reported that a number of members had "roadtested" the draft ResCode, at the request of the Dept of Infrastructure, and thanked those members for their assistance in this regard.

He also reported on all the BDAV's seminars and workshops conducted during the past 12 months, and also reported on industry liaison initiatives introduced during the year, including the BDAV's Project Specification, engagement agreement, and the mentoring program.

The Chairman then took over, reporting that the Professional Development Program had been running for three years since 1997, and several members had completed the first three years of the program, namely:

- Barry Cole-Sinclair
- Peter Condos
- Peter Earnshaw
- Sean Hamilton
- Roy Hodgson
- Tony Iseppi

*Continued on back...*

- Peter Jackson
- Michael Kapitan
- Darryl McKenry
- Robert McLauchlan
- Colin Mellett
- Michael Mettes
- Dale Swenson

Those of the above who were at the meeting were presented with certificates in acknowledgement of their achievement.

The Chairman particularly acknowledged the commitment by Mr Peter Condos, who had achieved 100% attendance at all PD activities during the three years 1997-1999 inclusive, and presented a plaque to Mr Condos on his achievement.

He encouraged all members to continue participating in the PD program, which will result in improved professionalism by members.

Brian Morison then presented a report on the amalgamation with members of the PDDG, which had resulted in increased membership growth to the BDAV, observing that this will provide us with a stronger lobbying voice for the good of the industry as a whole.

**7. CONVENOR, MARKETING SERVICES**

Mr Roy Hodgson reported on the BDAV's marketing activities during the year, including the radio program and the stronger relationships being built up with sponsors, which will benefit all members.

**8. CONVENOR, MEMBERSHIP SERVICES**

Mr Darren Evans reported on membership services during the year, including the introduction of the new engagement agreement and the project specification. He also reported on this year's successful Building Design Awards, noting the BDAV was honoured to have the new Minister for Planning, John Thwaites, present as Guest of Honour. The number of entries this year were increased from 1999, and the standard extremely high. He congratulated all the winners, in particularly the Building Designer of the Year, John Garden. He particularly commented on the high standard of entries from students in the Student Category, and thanked Mr Ray Watts for preparing an excellent brief for the Student Category. He observed that, financially, the event had not been as successful as the BDAV would have liked. This was largely attributed to the fact that the BDAV had been required to comply with national sponsorship arrangements entered into by the BDAA, for which the BDAV had not been financially compensated. A review of the Awards will shortly be conducted, and he urged any members who wished to submit comments to the review to do so via the BDAV's CEO. He thanked the judges, lead by David Terry, and also thanked the sponsors of the Awards. He encouraged as many members as possible to enter the Awards event in the future, as it offered numerous marketing opportunities and benefits.

**9. BDAA UPDATE**

In his capacity as Director of the BDAA, Mr Robert McLauchlan presented an overview of the national body's activities over the past 12 months, commenting on the BDAA's involvement in establishing competency standards for the industry; the enquiry by the Productivity Commission; and the establishment of a number of Working Group Clusters including Ecologically Sustainable Design, Heritage, and Vocational Education. The BDAA had been successful in obtaining a grant from the Australian Greenhouse Office to conduct a number of workshops promoting Best Practice Greenhouse Emission Design. The BDAA had also endorsed

a Canadian Study Tour for 2001, and had commenced dialogue with a number of overseas 'sister' organisations. He noted that guidance by the new national CEO, Mr Barrie Wright had strengthened the administrative and financial position of the BDAV. He expressed thanks to Mr Sean Hamilton in his capacity as State Advisor to him.

**10. BUILDING PRACTITIONERS BOARD REPORT**

Mr Frank Masten reported on the activities of the Building Practitioners Board in his capacity as Draftsperson Representative, including the review of the Board's audit procedures. He observed that draftsperson enquiries continue to remain low, and those appeals which had been heard by the Board were successfully defended.

**11. PUBLIC OFFICER**

The Chairman reported that Mr Peter Earnshaw had tendered his resignation from the role of Public Officer of the BDAV, and called for nominations to fill this vacancy. Mr Paul Simmons was nominated to this capacity, and he agreed to take on this role.

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| Moved:    | Geoff Hoare   |
| Seconded: | Sean Hamilton |
| Outcome:  | Carried       |

**12. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**

The Chairman declared that all positions were vacant for the BDAV's Office Bearers for the ensuing 12 months, and requested the Executive Officer to conduct the elections. The Executive Officer then announced that written nominations had been received for the following positions:

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|---------------------------|----------------|
| <b>President:</b>         | Tony Iseppi    |
| <b>Deputy President:</b>  | Geoff Hoare    |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>         | Paul Simmons   |
| <b>Committee Members:</b> | Darren Evans   |
|                           | Roy Hodgson    |
|                           | Michael Mettes |

He reported that the number of nominations did not exceed the number of positions offered, therefore no election was required. Accordingly, the above people, together with the Immediate Past President, Mr Sean Hamilton, were duly elected as the BDAV's Executive Committee for the forthcoming 12 months.

**13. GUEST SPEAKER**

Mr Tony Arnel, the new Commissioner of the Building Control Commission, addressed the meeting on his vision for the future of the Commission, noting that his agenda will include greater communication between key players in the building process, including industry groups and local government. He also reported that issues such as the environment, information technology, and research & development will be a major focus for the Commission in coming months. He then fielded questions from the floor, following which the Chairman thanked him for a most informative presentation, expressing the view that the BDAV looked forward to strengthening the excellent working relationship it already had with the Commission.

**14. CLOSE OF FORMALITIES**

The Chairman thanked everybody for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed at 8.05 pm, inviting everybody present to partake of refreshments.