



Building Designers
Association Victoria

BDAV AGM REPORT 2006

BDAV AGM Report Building Designers Association of Victoria

MINUTES OF THE 24TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BUILDING DESIGNERS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA HELD ON MONDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2006 AT ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, MELBOURNE

CHAIRMAN: Roy Hodgson, BDAV President

ATTENDANCE:

103 Members, as per Attendance Register
Giselle Grynbaum, Assignments Australasia P/L
Apologies: As per Apologies Register

1. OPENING

In declaring the meeting open at 6.10 pm, the Chairman welcomed all in attendance, especially Fellows of the Association, members and new members, and Mr David Davis, Shadow Minister for Planning & Environment. He also acknowledged the BDAV's sponsors, and introduced the members of the BDAV's Committee of Management.

2. SUPPLIER PRESENTATION

A presentation was made by Kym Little of The Laminex Group, about Laminex' GreenFirst initiative.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, held on 10 October 2005, which had been circulated to the members on the membership register at that time, were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Moved: Robert McLauchlan

Seconded: Michael Mettes

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President, Mr Roy Hodgson, presented his annual report, observing that he had enjoyed his two-year term as BDAV President, and acknowledged the BDAV's Committee of Management and the Secretariat for their support and assistance. He particularly acknowledged the support and input by the Immediate Past President, Geoff Hoare. He also thanked the BDAV's sponsors for their support. He outlined some of the activities undertaken by the BDAV in the past 12 months, and wished the new President every success in his role.

[A full transcript of the President's Report is contained in the October 2006 edition of BDAV News].

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Mr Darryl Crumpton, presented the Treasurer's annual report, noting another strong record year of trading, as a result of the BDAV's continued membership growth, and the generous support of our sponsors. He reported that the BDAV's books had recently been audited, and the auditor's report reflected a healthy and viable financial position, with a surplus of \$77,000 before tax.

6. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

It was noted that 70 members had satisfied the requirements of the BDAV's voluntary Professional Development Program, and certificates were presented to those members who were present.

7. NOMINATIONS TO BDAV COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

In the absence of the BDAV's Executive Officer, Mr Brian Morison, the Chairman invited Ms Giselle Grynbaum to announce the results of the nominations for the BDAV's Committee of Management. Ms Grynbaum reported that three nominations had been received for the vacancies that had arisen on the Committee, and the following comprised the new Committee (*in alphabetical order*)

Tim Adams
Darren Cole-Sinclair
Darryl Crumpton
Paula Hanley
Geoffrey Hoare
Roy Hodgson (who automatically becomes Immediate Past President)
Dominique Hunter
David Mulhall
Zol Nagy

Appreciation was also expressed to Messrs Andreas Sederof and Rodney Smith who had stood down from the Committee during the year, due to business commitments.

The new President, Mr David Mulhall, expressed appreciation to the retiring President, Mr Roy Hodgson, for his dedication and commitment to his role as President over the previous two years.

Mr Hodgson, in turn, congratulated Mr Mulhall on taking over the Presidency, and assured him of his continued support and assistance. He presented him with a President's badge, as had been tradition in the past to incoming Presidents.

8. DESIGNER PROFILE

Mr Ian Wilson, of Wilson ID, the winner of the 2006 BDAV Building Design of the Year, presented a profile on his firm and on this winning project.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT

Mr Geoff Hoare presented some case studies involving designers, in which he had been involved as an Expert Witness, and outlined what went wrong in each case, and what actions the designers could have taken to minimise the risk in each case.

10. GUEST SPEAKER

The Chairman then introduced Mr Bill Kuszniarczyk, of Clement-Stone Town Planners, who presented some very informative practical advice on how to deal with the frustrations in the planning process.

11. CLOSE OF FORMALITIES

The Chairman then thanked everybody for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed at 8.35 pm, inviting everybody to partake of refreshments at the venue.

BDAV President's Report

The following report was delivered by Roy Hodgson at the BDAV's 2006 AGM, as he vacated the Presidency of the BDAV.



It has been a very busy time for me over the last two years since I was installed as your President in October 2004. I have certainly enjoyed myself over that period. I am proud to say that the BDAV has become the most respected association that represents the needs of the design profession and has the best interest of my fellow designers, and the industry in mind.

Newer members may not know, but the BDAV is run by volunteers.... other members such as you, who give of their time freely to manage our Association...and several of them are sole-practitioners.

As President of the BDAV I was most fortunate to have a dynamic Committee of Management to assist me in the important decision-making for the Association. My committee is progressive in its thinking and demonstrated outstanding leadership, but, at all times, has had our members' best interests in mind. I take this opportunity to thank the Committee of Management for their support. I would especially like to thank Brian Morison and Giselle Grynbaum, our Executive Officers, for their tireless efforts on our behalf.

I also would like to pay a special thanks to Geoffrey Hoare, our outgoing Immediate Past President. Geoff's assistance to me on the Committee over the past two years has been invaluable, and his Presidency of the three years prior to that was certainly a hard act to follow!

I would like to acknowledge the generous contribution from our sponsors and thank them for their continued support. Without this support, our Association could not have delivered many of the initiatives that we have during my presidency. And in particular, I would like to acknowledge our strong partnership with Bluescope Steel, our Diamond Sponsor. We look forward to working with all our sponsors to continue to improve our services to our membership.

The challenges of our profession lie in the future. The need for continuing professional development within the industry is of paramount importance. Our Professional Development activities continue to attract record numbers here in the metropolitan area and, in a number of cases, have seen sell-out crowds.

Our Advanced Design Course is still going through the process of being launched, with two modules to be launched early next year on Sustainable Design and Contract Administration.

We ran a very successful series of 14 Occupational Health and Safety workshops during the year on Section 28 of the OH&S Act, and we will continue to keep members informed on their responsibility in this area, through the establishment of an OHS SubCommittee which we hope will produce some practice notes for you on this important area.

And our regional network throughout country Victoria continues to cater to the needs of remote-location members.

I have visited all the regional areas over the past two years, and would like to thank our Regional Co-Ordinators for their professionalism at those events, and also the local members for your continued support.

Earlier this year in April we held our third BDAV State Conference where the theme was *Technology in Building Design*. The Conference sought to review and explore some of the exciting developments that technology has made on our lives, and attracted a large attendance from our members, with some highly respected speakers who are at the pinnacle of their respective professions and who shared their knowledge with us over a couple of exciting days.

Our annual Building Design Awards, which is our flagship event, has continued to grow in popularity and status, profiling the impressive skills of our membership. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank members for their entries in this year's Awards which saw a new format of electronic submissions and presentation outcomes which has received some very positive feedback.

continued page 13....

Architectural Draftsperson Required

Long-established design firm experienced in all aspects of building design seeks an architectural draftsperson. We pride ourselves on: service to clients, respect to clients and meeting client deadlines. The successful application will have at least 2-3 years experience, preferably with an architectural firm, plus:

- full tertiary qualification;
- extensive knowledge of ACAD without supervision;
- extensive knowledge of residential and commercial projects;
- knowledge of current building regulations;
- able to conduct site visits on their own to measure existing features;
- experience in producing town planning documentation for Council submission;
- ability to produce architectural documentation from conceptual sketches through to full sets of working drawings, and prepare all documents required for Building Permit submission;
- ability to interact with clients;
- general office administration duties such as keeping job files in order, faxing, answering phones etc;
- knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and Photoshop.

Salary negotiable.

If you meet our pre-requisites, please apply in writing, including your resume, to

Interext Design Group Australia Pty Ltd
251A High Street, Thomastown VIC. 3074

BDAV President's Report

(continued)



Roy Hodgson chatting with The Hon Louise Asher, MLA, Deputy Liberal Leader, at the BDAV 2006 Building Design Awards

The public display of entries at the Telstra Building in the city was very favourably received.

And later this month we're launching our exciting new consumer-focused magazine, *Winning Design*, which will be available throughout newsagents in Victoria, which will profile this year's Awards. All BDAV Members will receive a complimentary copy. This publication will really place the BDAV on the map in the eyes and minds of consumers....our main clients.

There are not too many speeches I make that do not bring up our members' concern about the Planning Process. Tonight's no exception. Whilst I applaud the government's initiatives in its '*Cutting Red Tape in Planning*' proposals, I still feel that we are a long way from any true and meaningful reform in the planning arena. Whilst I realise that there is a process and a certain timeframe that needs to be followed, I am tiring of the same old excuses from Councils' Planning Departments that they are understaffed, overworked, too many applications or to find out that they are just simply not experienced enough to handle some applications that land on their desk. Personally I believe they need to treat the process like a real business and just get the work done, as we all do in our own practices. The benefit for the public at the moment is that they can shop around for a designer, but are then forced to use the Council's planning process. It shouldn't be that hard. Please be assured that the BDAV is working for our members in this area by representation on Roundtable Discussions and liaising with the Bracks' Government and with the Opposition, highlighting the very real coal-face issues that we are confronted with daily. I particularly would like to thank David Mulhall, our Vice President, who has been working tirelessly in this area.

We have continued our commitment to nurture students entering the design profession through our mentor program conducted in conjunction with RMIT, and through presentations at some of the key TAFEs involved in our profession.

As well as that, earlier this year we held a very successful seminar for TAFE Students studying design, where two of our leading members told them about their experiences during their careers, with the hope of inspiring them to continue

in their chosen profession. About 200 students attended that session and feedback from TAFE lecturers was excellent. We plan to continue that initiative as an annual event for students. I take this opportunity to thank Geoff Hoare and Andreas Sederof for speaking at that event.

We continue to be represented on numerous government and industry forums and, over the past year, we have been involved in:

- Building Commission forums
- Roundtable Forum on '*Cutting Red Tape in Planning*'
- Industry Reference Group which dealt with Version 5 of FirstRate
- Review of the Guide to Standards and Tolerances
- WorkSafe Victoria in relation to the Duty of Designers of Workplaces

to name a few.

We also take this opportunity to acknowledge the continued dedication that Geoff Hoare has had in representing all Draftspersons on the Building Practitioners Board. He is an outstanding ambassador for our profession.

In terms of marketing, we participated in Designbuild this year, and also in the 'Careers in Building' expo at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre co-ordinated by the Building Commission. And we've continued our marketing program with advertisements in key trade journals and in the Herald-Sun's HOME magazine. And, as mentioned, our new magazine will be launched this month.

Our membership growth has continued, with a further 18 percent increase in membership since last year's AGM. Last month we reach a record number of 1,046 members, but since then, we have cancelled the memberships of just over 7 percent of the membership, for non-payment of subscription fees, which is traditional at this time of year. This has brought us just under the 1,000 member mark. But I'm confident we'll rebuild that to last month's record number quickly.

I would like to thank the membership for its continued support.

Some long-serving members have also retired from our profession this year, and we will see that more and more over coming years, as our Association is now 23 years' old. So it is even more important for us to nurture young people entering our profession, to safeguard the longevity and survival of our profession, so if you know of anybody who you feel should be a member, do pass on their contact details to our secretariat....or better still, talk to them yourself....it's amazing what results can be achieved just through an informal discussion with a peer.

As I said earlier, tonight marks the end of my two-year term as your President. I feel that I have been privileged to serve you in representing the Association, and on the Committee of Management, and I have really appreciated the tremendous support and encouragement received by you over those, and previous years.

I would like to personally thank all those on the Committee of Management, both past and present, for your support and friendship. I wish David every success in taking on the Presidency, and am happy to provide support and guidance to him, in the same manner that previous Presidents generously did for me. I would especially like to thank Giselle and Brian warmly, for the exceptional way you have looked after me over those many years I have served as President and other various roles on the Committee.

I thank you all, and wish you every success in your professional endeavours.

Thank You.

Roy Hodgson
BDAV President 2004-2006