



Building Designers
Association Victoria

BDAV AGM 2010

Minutes of the 28th Annual General Meeting
of The Building Designers Association of Victoria
held on Monday, 11 October 2010
at the Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne

CHAIRMAN:

Darryl Crumpton, BDAV President

ATTENDANCE:

94 Members, as per Attendance Register
Brian Morison, Giselle Grynbaum,
Assignments Australasia Pty Ltd

Apologies: As per Apologies Register

1. OPENING

In declaring the meeting open at 6.10 pm, the Chairman welcomed all in attendance, especially Life Members and Fellows of the Association who were present. He also acknowledged the BDAV's sponsors, and introduced the members of the BDAV's Committee of Management who were present.

2. SPONSOR PRESENTATIONS

The meeting then received a presentation from Jeff Trevarthen of CSR Hebel, who spoke about their Powerclad product. This was followed by a presentation from Adam Schutz of KarelCAD, a major provider of Autodesk design solutions.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, held on 5 October 2009, 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: Salvatore Campagna

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President, Mr Darryl Crumpton, presented his annual report (*transcript attached*).

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Ms Dominique Hunter, presented the Treasurer's annual report (*transcript attached*).

6. CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Chairman declared that the following members, listed below, had satisfied the requirements of the BDAV's voluntary Professional Development Program, namely, having achieved a minimum of 15 CPD points in the preceding 12 months. Certificates were presented to those members who were present.

- Tim Adams
- Kane Airey
- Dianne Bayley
- Stephen Billson
- Dan Bonar
- Darren Bowman
- Colin Brown
- Salvatore Campagna
- Diane Carter
- Rick Castricum
- Raymond Clissold
- Dennis Cooke
- Darryl Crumpton
- Michael Dawson
- Robert D'Andrea
- Christopher Dearnaley
- Sam Dolev
- Peter Dowling
- Glenn Eastwood
- Alistair Elliott
- Neil Fletcher
- Helen Geddes
- Mark Gleeson
- Jason Gloz
- Fiona Gregory
- Paula Hanley
- Andrew Hayen
- Derek Hicks
- Geoffrey Hoare
- Roy Hodgson
- Daniel Hogan
- Andrew Hooper
- Ingrid Hornung
- Dominique Hunter
- Helen Hyatt
- Peter Jackson
- Anthony Jones
- Trevor Jones
- Robert Lavin
- Robert Leech
- Lawrence Li
- Charles Lithoxopoulos
- John Lukac
- Susan Marriott
- Enrico Marrone
- Simon Marshall
- Sven Maxa
- Gregory McNeil
- Gabriela Melnychuk
- Leanne Menegazzo
- Michael Mettes
- David Mulhall
- Kevin Murphy
- Leesa Myers
- Zol Nagy
- Michael O'Sullivan
- Denise Panozzo
- Natalie Papez
- Brian Pethybridge
- Patricia Piastra
- Jennifer Pryce
- Bryan Punshon
- David Rayson
- Katie Rees
- Allen Roberts
- Lucas Ryle
- Michael Salpietro
- Ronald Schreiner
- Jason Schubert
- Fabio Sella
- Simon Stagg
- James Stapleton
- David Terry
- Terri Thompson
- John Tigas
- Golub Tomic
- Tracey Toohey
- Lisa Tsvetanski
- Kurt Walder
- Simon Ward
- Vince Wardill
- Mark Watson
- Ross Whittle
- Ian Williamson
- Philip Wooley

7. BUILDING PRACTITIONERS BOARD

Mr Geoff Hoare, the Draftsperson Representative on the Building Practitioners Board, presented a report on BPB and Building Commission activities, noting:

At 30 June 2010, there were 24,199 registered building practitioners, of which 2,233 were registered draftspersons, an increase of 89 since 2009. This included 1,904 Architectural Draftspersons, 152 Interiors, and 179 Services.

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The Building Commission recently launched eToolbox, allowing RBPs to renew their registration, report CPD, etc online.

8,540 RBPs had met their CPD points' requirement in the past 12 months, an increase of 241% on the previous year.

National licensing is on the horizon for practitioners, and is anticipated to be in place by 2013.

Recent regulatory reforms include bushfire regulations. Regulatory reforms on the horizon include implementation of the Premises Standard, and the 6-Star standard.

The Building Commission conducted 586 investigations over the past year, of which 46 were domestic building site audits, 135 office audits, and 300 shed site inspections.

Five inquiries were held into Draftsperson matters, including failure to show adequate information on adjoining properties (Part 4), failing to comply with Part 3 of the regulations, etc. A further seven Draftspersons are currently under investigation, for issues including failure to adequately detail a retaining wall, failing to identify an easement (built over), illegal use of another Draftsperson's RBP number, and falsely applying a planning permit endorsement stamp to plans without first obtaining a town planning permit.

A landmark decision against a builder had been reached the previous week, who had engaged a draftsperson who was unregistered.

Building Surveyor complaints continue to be received regarding quality of documentation, Part 3 & 4 issues, siting matters, etc.

It was understood that the Commission intends to focus next year on an audit of Draftspersons, via Councils.

The President thanked Geoff for his continued representation of the industry on the Building Practitioners Board.

8. NOMINATIONS TO COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

The Chairman noted that a ballot had been conducted immediately prior to the meeting, as more nominations for the Committee of Management had been received than positions existed. He called on the BDAV's Executive Officer, Mr Brian Morison, to announce the results of the ballot. Mr Morison advised that the following would comprise the new Committee for the coming two years: (in alphabetical order)

- Tim Adams (President)
- Darryl Crumpton (Immediate Past President)
- Paula Hanley
- Paul Hassall
- Dominique Hunter
- Alastair McDonald
- Zol Nagy
- Michael O'Sullivan
- Katie Rees

Mr Morison announced that the new Office Bearers will be:

- Tim Adams – President
- Michael O'Sullivan – Vice-President
- Dominique Hunter – Treasurer

Tim Adams (President)
Michael O'Sullivan (Vice-President)
Dominique Hunter (Treasurer)

The incoming President, Mr Tim Adams, expressed appreciation to outgoing President, Darryl Crumpton, for his leadership over the preceding two years, and for his contribution to the Committee over the past ten years, especially in the PI insurance arena, and his contribution to the industry, generally, over the past 16 years.

Mr Adams also expressed enthusiasm for the BDAV's recently-announced involvement in the area of accreditation for Thermal Performance Assessors (previously known as Energy Raters) and Home Sustainability Assessors. He commented on a recent industry forum he had attended at which Minister for the Environment, Climate Change and Innovation, Gavin Jennings, had observed in his presentation that "anyone in the carbon accounting, energy auditing, sustainability consulting areas has a job for life", making this a very important area for BDAV Members to get involved in.

9. DESIGNER PROFILE

The Chairman then invited Mr Sean Hamilton, of Hamilton Design, the winner of the 2010 BDAV Building Design of the Year, to present a profile on his winning project, Tralee at Moonah Links, which also won three additional awards in this year's BDAV Building Design Awards.

10. GUEST SPEAKER

The Chairman then introduced the Guest Speaker, Ms Jill Garner, the Associate Victorian Government Architect, who delivered an informative presentation explaining the role and activities of the Office of the Victorian Government Architect, including reference to some inspirational Victorian projects depicted in a new book about to be launched.

11. CLOSE OF FORMALITIES

The President then thanked everybody for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed at 8.09 pm, inviting everybody to partake of refreshments at the venue.



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BDAV AGM 2010 – PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's hard to believe that my two-year term as your President is just about over. It's certainly been an interesting and challenging time, but also rewarding in terms of the Members I have met and the friendships I have made. The past two years have certainly given me a deep insight into how the BDAV works and the broad range of activities in which the Association is now involved.

As we all know, the global economic downturn had a savage impact on business over the past two years, and the BDAV also felt the brunt. We lost several major sponsors as a result of their business downturn; however, we are delighted that several of our loyal corporate partners have continued their sponsorship, in particular our diamond sponsor, BlueScope Steel, and we are very grateful for their continued support. We also welcomed on board late last year Tait Timber as a sponsor, and we are pleased that they – and our other remaining sponsors – have remained with us.

Whilst the BDAV is not reliant on sponsorship income, it is an important contributor to the success of the Association, and we continue to work hard to endeavour to attract additional sponsors. I urge all members to support our sponsors whenever you can, because it is only by our members continuing to specify their products or using their services that our sponsors will continue to support the Association.

Significant activities over the past 12 months have included:

- Our continued support to victims of last year's dreadful 'Black Saturday' bushfires, and our continued dialogue with VBRRRA to assist where we could. Our Members' support in the rebuilding process has certainly been appreciated. We have recently installed promotional banners at the Kinglake and Marysville Rebuilding Advisory Centres, making residents in those localities aware that BDAV Members are prepared to offer design assistance, if they require it.
- Our recent appointment by Sustainability Victoria as an accrediting organisation to manage the accreditation of Thermal Performance Assessors and Home Sustainability Assessors who conduct assessments in Victoria. A lot of work has been done over the past year, and I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Tim Adams and Brian Morison and the sub-committee in establishing what is now known as the "BDAV Energy and Sustainability Hub". With our role in this activity about to officially get under-way in the next week or so, I am confident this will provide focus on the BDAV, and place us at the fore-front of the environmental and sustainable arena, driven by client demand. Hopefully, we will achieve an increase in membership from those practitioners who are involved in these activities.
- We have continued our lobbying activities through the resources of our political strategist, who has assisted us to open the 'RIGHT' doors to enable us to represent our Members and our industry in areas that have concerned us.
- As part of our lobbying program, we have developed position papers on key areas of influence that impact our profession, including Planning, Sustainability in Design, and Business Positioning for Small & Micro Businesses. These position papers have been the catalyst for meetings held during the year with the key government agencies and their senior representatives.
- One major 'win' in our lobbying activities was that we were able to clarify the correct position with relevant government agencies about the Minister for Planning's Ministerial Direction on

Tendering Provisions for Public Construction, and we were very pleased to ascertain that building designers ARE eligible to apply to be registered on the Construction Supply Register and Principal Consultant Registers. This is an important area of work for both metropolitan and regional Victoria building designers, and we encourage our members to become registered on the various registers.

- We have also held meetings with Planning Minister, Justin Madden, and Shadow Planning Minister, Matthew Guy, to discuss our planning position paper, and ways in which the Association may be able to assist to alleviate the frustrations that our Members continue to experience in the planning arena.
- We also met with Victorian Government Architect, Mr Geoffrey London, and our Guest Speaker this evening is as a result of that meeting. As you may know, the Office of the Victorian Government Architect does not represent the interest of architects, but, rather the interests of architectural design, and as a result, Mr London expressed interest in understanding the skills set of building designers in contributing to good design.
- We have also made various submissions to a number of Government inquiries, of which one of the most important was to the Victorian Competition and Efficiency Commission's Inquiry into Streamlining Local Government in Victoria.
- In consultation with the Municipal Association of Victoria, we conducted a survey earlier this year amongst our members to gain an understanding of 'best practice' implemented by municipal councils in the administration of the Victorian planning system. We particularly appreciated the Municipal Association of Victoria helpful input into that survey. We plan to run a similar survey annually to enable us to monitor improvements and new initiatives in the area of local government planning administration best practice. The survey has been positively acknowledged by the Government and the Opposition as an important contribution to the debate on planning issues.
- Past President and Fellow of the BDAV, Geoff Hoare, continues to represent all draftspersons on the Building Practitioners Board. Geoff spends a significant amount of time participating at Board inquiries, and other Commission activities, and we thank him for his significant contribution in supporting our profession.
- Our marketing activities have continued, and we developed a Strategic Communications Plan to give focus and direction to our marketing activities. Our central vehicle for our marketing activities is, of course, our new website which was launched last September, and we continue to receive compliments about the vibrant site, which reflects the modern, contemporary Association that the BDAV is today.
- We also embarked on a radio campaign on 3AW, and we thank David Cooke for being the 'voice' of the Association on one of the programs that aired as part of the campaign. Tim Adams also spoke on ABC Radio a couple of times during the year, and, with his keen knowledge and passion for all things sustainable, he fielded listeners' questions very well on air.
- With the assistance of our marketing consultants, we have achieved news articles in both The Age and the Herald-Sun, as well as across the local newspaper network, especially the Star group of papers and the Leader chain, primarily in coverage for our Awards winners. We are currently working on a strategy to get coverage in the regional newspapers, to ensure that our regional members also benefit from these marketing activities.
- We also supported Designbuild which was in Melbourne this year, and also exhibited at the Master Builders Building and Home Improvement Expo held in July. Our Members were certainly kept busy fielding consumer questions at that event. We had



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such a strong response that we have already committed to participate in that event next year.

- We were fortunate to be able to display our Awards entries at both Designbuild and the Building Expo, which both organisers agreed provided a strong attraction for visitors to those events. We will continue to look at every way we can to profile Awards entrants, as this provides a strong marketing edge for the entrants, and helps the Association to profile the skills of building designers.
- And, on that note, our flagship event – our annual Awards competition – continues to evolve. This year we ran our 15th Building Design Awards and, whilst the number of entries was down on last year, reflecting the cyclical nature of the building industry, the calibre of the entries has been highly praised, hence the interest by media in covering several of the Awards winners.
- And it was great to see the Awards entries again displayed at Federation Square, as this exhibit provides excellent exposure for our profession to the community, and to consumers.
- Our annual consumer magazine, Winning Design, also complements the Awards activity, and also contributes to profiling our Association and our Members to prospective clients and the community. This year's edition concluded the contract with the current publisher, and we recently appointed Crowther Blayne to produce Winning Design for us from next year. They are highly credentialed in magazine publication – especially for industry associations – so we're all very excited to see the product that they will deliver for us next year.
- And our monthly journal, BDAV News, continues to be popular, and we regularly receive compliments from readers – both from amongst our membership and from industry colleagues – about the timely relevance and quality content of BDAV News. This journal is a wonderful resource and I wish to thank the editorial committee for their continued diligence. I also encourage all members to continue to submit editorial contributions whenever you can.
- Our BDAV Insurance Scheme continues to be well supported by our members, and has become a valuable service for our membership.
- Our CPD Program continues to be strongly supported by members, with a couple of our seminars this year achieving more than 200 attendees. We ran our biennial conference in Melbourne this year, and this event was highly praised for not only a strong field of speakers, but the one-day format, which appealed to many of our time-poor Members.
- Our CPD Loyalty Scheme, introduced last year, has been well supported by Members, and was extended this year. This enables you to attend your 4th CPD seminar free, and has contributed to the strong attendance at our seminars generally.
- We were again acknowledged in the Building Commission's annual CPD Awards announced earlier this year and achieved 'Runner-Up' as CPD Provider. We wish to thank those Members who nominated us as their preferred CPD Provider, as this category is judged on the number of nominations from practitioners who attend the various Associations' CPD activities.
- Disappointingly, participation at our Regional Meetings has flattened off, as many country members now attend the

CPD events in Melbourne. However, some of our Regional Co-ordinators are working very hard at encouraging attendance at local meetings, and coming up with informative speakers of interest to the local membership, and we thank those Regional Co-ordinators for their efforts.

- We continue our strong relationship with the TAFE network, and our student scholarship program has been well supported by the various TAFEs that offer the Advanced Diploma in Building Design. This scholarship offers \$1,000 to an outstanding student from each of the eleven TAFEs who deliver the Advanced Diploma course, and the response from the students themselves has been very positive.
- One of our disappointments has been the difficulties the Association has experienced in the development of a BDAV specification, due to the fact that we were let down by the specification writers we approached. We have recently established a Specification Sub-Committee which has commenced their deliberations, and I am hopeful that this project will be finalised over coming months.
- And, importantly, our membership base continues to remain strong. We now have just over 1,200 Members, and membership growth continues. As has been commented previously at this annual meeting, continued membership growth is crucial to ensure the continuing success and longevity of the Association, and I urge all members to encourage your colleagues or employees to become a member of the BDAV, as younger members are the key to our future growth, and vital to bring fresh ideas and fresh energy to our programs.

All this, and more, has been achieved through the efforts of our hard-working Committee of Management and our Executive Officers, and I take this opportunity to thank them for their assistance and contribution to the many initiatives we have undertaken for our Members, and for their support to me over the past two years. The Committee is made up of rank and file members who find the time to contribute and administer the affairs of the Association on a voluntary basis, yet still run their own, busy design practices. The BDAV is now a significant entity, requiring not only foresight and an in-depth understanding of the needs of the membership, but also a business-like approach, and the Committee has had to make some important, and at times, difficult decisions, in the best interests of our members.

I cannot – at this point in the meeting – congratulate the incoming President, as we do not yet know the outcome of the election for the Committee of Management, but I assure whoever takes over the reins that they will have my strongest support.

I would also like to thank all the members I have met over the past two years, and the support you continue to give to the Association. Without you, we would not have an Association.

Building Designers continue to be in high demand, due to their down-to-earth, approachable nature, and their commitment to the design built form. Many of our members are embracing the various sustainable design opportunities that are now available, and savvy consumers are demanding sustainable features in their homes and offices. Our members, who are at the forefront of these various technologies, will continue to be in high demand, and I commend them for making the effort to understand the various design opportunities that reflect the community's needs and expectations.

Thank you.
Darryl Crumpton
BDAV President



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BDAV AGM 2010 – FINANCIAL REPORT

This has been my second year as BDAV Treasurer, and I've certainly gained a very solid understanding over the past two years of the various activities that impact the BDAV's finances.

I would firstly like to thank our sponsors. Our Diamond Sponsor – Bluescope Steel – plus our other sponsors : Architectural Window Systems, James Hardie, KarelCAD, and Tait Timber. Without these sponsors, we would find it difficult to provide the level of member services that the BDAV provides, especially given the difficult financial climate over the past two years. Our sponsors feel the pressures of financial trends the same as we do, so it is tremendous that they see a mutual benefit in continuing to sponsor our Association; so if and when you are specifying products, please consider our sponsors.

The Association has, again, this year kept membership fees and seminar fees to a minimum, with a small increase to help to defray increased costs from our suppliers. Our membership fees are still the lowest of any other state BDA across the nation. Two years ago we introduced a Loyalty Discount on membership subscriptions, recognising long-serving members who have been with us for ten or more continuous years, and this program continues, in recognition of those Members who have remained loyal to us.

As Darryl mentioned, last year we also introduced a Loyalty Program for our CPD events, in which you get your fourth CPD event free, if you attend three of our metropolitan BDAV CPD events which incur a charge. This program has been very popular, and I suspect has contributed to the strong attendance at our CPD events. We understand the burden of supporting any Continuing Professional Development program, and the BDAV will continue to make it affordable for members. Our CPD Program is considerably cheaper than many other Associations – we have never treated CPD as an income stream; we simply aim to recoup the direct costs that we incur in running events for you. We have also taped each CPD event over the past two years, and I would urge those members who cannot personally attend our CPD events to consider purchasing a DVD. It is important for us to endeavour to recoup the production costs of filming and producing the DVDs, otherwise we may have to review this service, as purchase of DVDs has been disappointing.

Last year we introduced a Student Scholarship program in consultation with the TAFEs, as we believe it is vital that we encourage young people to continue in our profession. As Darryl mentioned, top achieving students studying for the Advanced Diploma in Building Design from the TAFEs who supported this program received a \$1,000 scholarship from us; however, they had to indicate how the scholarship moneys would be spent by them to further their studies.

Our big-ticket expenditure item, again, this year was our annual Building Design Awards competition and associated gala presentation event, which was another great success. We again take this opportunity to thank the sponsors of the Awards. The public display of entries at Federation Square again created a lot of interest with the public. The BDAV also provided monetary prizes in the student category, for first and second place winners in the two student categories.

This year, we also spent some money in upgrading our promotional banners that we use at both trade and CPD events, but I feel the expenditure has been justified in maintaining the image of a modern, progressive Association.

We also engaged an outsourced lobbyist, and a marketing consultant, and these costs have, naturally, impacted our 'bottom line', yet we still achieved a modest surplus for the year.

I am pleased to report that, given all these activities, the BDAV has recorded a pre-tax profit of \$23,185 which is, again, a testament to the Association's prudent financial management.

The accounts have again been audited by the accounting firm of Clements, Dunne & Bell, and have been found to be in good order.

The financial report is able to be viewed at the BDAV's office by any member, if desired.

I would like to thank the Committee of Management, and the Executive Officer team for their support and assistance to me in my second year as your Treasurer.

Dominique Hunter
BDAV Treasurer



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