



# 2023 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Time & Date: 10am-1pm Sunday 20 August 2023

Location: Food Co-op Shop, 3 Kingsley St, Canberra 2601

**Facilitator – Bonnie Learmonth**

**Minutes – Andrew Purdam**

Attendees: Members - 26

| Full Name                                  |
|--------------------------------------------|
| 1. Caitlin                                 |
| 2. Eleanor Irving                          |
| 3. Sue McQuatter (left before nominations) |
| 4. Yvonne Wisbey                           |
| 5. Nadia Nissen                            |
| 6. Sharon (Warman?)                        |
| 7. Sena (sp?)                              |
| 8. Matthew Farrier                         |
| 9. Helen Purdam                            |
| 10. Andrew Purdam                          |
| 11. Lukas Pecinka                          |
| 12. Karina Vennonen                        |
| 13. Ella (Crosby?)                         |
| 14. Shay Taylor                            |
| 15. James Godfrey                          |
| 16. Lucaya Rich                            |
| 17. Laura Kemp                             |
| 18. Frank Deveson                          |
| 19. Bonnie Learmonth                       |
| 20. Sanle (sp?)                            |
| 21. Josh Viljoen                           |
| 22. Roisin Concannon                       |
| 23. James Davies                           |
| 24. Fariba Halim Aurin                     |
| 25. Alex Zachary                           |
| 26. Poppy G                                |

Meeting commenced at 10:05 am

**Bonnie Learmonth made returning officer.** Lucaya nominated, Lukas & Karina seconded.

**Conflicts of interest:** Karina is a part-time supplier.

**Acceptance of 2022 AGM Minutes:** Laura nominated and Lucaya seconded.

**Board Chair's Report, Lucaya:** In addition to outlining from [Board Report 2023](#) , Lucaya added the following:

Huge thank you to the Board and all the Members and special kudos to the comanagers. Observation as to how the whole Coop community gathered to respond to the financial problems looming. We also created a lot of links with Pro Bono service providers who have helped with a lot of professional advice. Special thanks to James (update of Constitution) and to Laura (coming in as Treasurer).

**Treasurer's Report, Laura:** ( [The Food Co-Op 2023 Financial Year Report](#) )

Attached. In short, the Co-Op is still making a loss, but has slowed the rate. Laura declared the Coop solvent. Seconded by Andrew. Animated discussion followed around the participation rate of volunteers, alternative income streams.

**Co-Managers' Report:** Extra notes to what was tabled from [Co-managers Report AGM 2023](#) :

Huge thanks to all the co-managers of the past year, Monique, Shayma, Yani and Chloe.

Monique: General Manager will go to 15 hrs per week.

Shayma: Product Manager 16-20 hrs per week.

Chloe's role has been shared between Monique, Shayma and Bonny 20-25 hrs per week.

Yani's role in marketing will be filled by a marketing contractor who will also upskill Bonny.

12pm - Quick Break

**James proposed that we accept the [new Constitution](#).** Seconded by Nadia.

**James also proposed that the threshold for requesting a Special General Meeting be set at 5%. Caitlin proposed it be modified to 2%. Modification was rejected on a vote. Threshold of 5% was passed.**

**Proposal to accept the new Constitution was passed unanimously.**

**James also proposed that “this meeting calls on the incoming Board of Directors to make further changes to the constitution to ensure its continuing alignment to the Model Rules while simultaneously deleting superfluous rules [eg debentures] and making it more accessible [readable]”. This wasn't put to a vote but was noted in the minutes.**

**Nominees for the 2023/2024 board**

**James Godfrey** is prepared to and has the desire to continue being a board member. Wants to leave a legacy of having good transitions from one board to the next. Keen to have increased democracy within the organisation. He is determined that board meetings should focus on strategy rather than operational matters.

**Shay Taylor** keen on being closer to the decision-making processes. Can see opportunities for ongoing collaboration with the ANU.

**Fariba Halim Aurin** worked in managerial role. Feels she has something to contribute. Really wants the Coop to keep going on.

**James Davies** has been café coordinator and done general volunteering. Sees the benefits of the Coop going far beyond putting food on the shelf. It creates a space for people meeting each other and is really motivated to keeping the Coop alive.

**Eleanor Irving** new to Canberra and the Coop. Hopes to contribute in a practical way of researching and writing.

**Matthew Farrier** has been a café coordinator for about 18 months.

**Sue McQuatter** (not present) has nominated as Treasurer. Is an accountant with PS experience. Has also worked as a volunteer. Under the new constitution, the AGM doesn't vote on or appoint particular roles, but simply board membership.

**Sally Joseph** (not present) qualified in law, accounting and governance. Focussed on solutions for NFPs. VP of Hepatitis NSW. Would love to be part of the Food Coop's journey.

**Ella** has been involved with the Coop for three years. Talks to a lot of people at lunch and would like to be a mouthpiece for those people.

**Under the new rules, the board of nine was filled without needing a vote.**

Meeting closed at 12:55pm