

SUBIACO CHURCH OF CHRIST INC
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Held at Subiaco Church of Christ, 260 Bagot Road, Subiaco
On Sunday 17th November 2024 at 12.15pm

Opening and Prayer

Sean Kum opened the meeting with a word of prayer and a reflection on Philippians 4:4-7.

Apologies – Ernest Chua, Nola Wortlehock, Lyndsay Wortlehock. Rod Cousins, Jean Cousins, Linda Lee, Peter and Sonia Prout.

Present

92 members were present.

The chairman, Sean Kum, declared the meeting open with more than the minimum quorum in attendance (being 10% of members).

Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting

Motion to accept minutes of the annual meeting held on 26 November 2023 with a modification to include Ernest Chua as an apology.

Moved – Rob Falls

Seconded – Michael Keong

A vote by the raising of hands for/against was held.

Motion carried.

Chairman's Report

Sean Kum spoke to the Chairmans' report.

Sean thanked the congregation for coming together and supporting our newly appointed Senior Pastor.

Sean acknowledged the challenging year since the last AGM. We thank the Lord for His continuing grace and mercy towards Subiaco Church.

Sean also noted that the Elders and leadership group have proposed a growth budget for this financial year. To enable Subi church to grow and expand our ability to preach the Gospel the staff team has expanded.

Sean requested a change in the agenda order as Ric Leaver, our current treasurer need to catch a plane later in the afternoon.

Financial reports

Ric Leaver provided a very high level view of the financials ending 30 June 2024. Income received was slightly above budget. Offerings received was slightly below budget. Expenses under budget due to

- Salaries as during the transition period some positions were not filled.
- Elders discretionary expenses below budget.

It was noted that income exceeded expenses by approx. 70K.

The current funds available to Subi church is significant. The Lord has blessed Subi Church. While we were in transition we were not able to consider some initiatives and therefore some funds accumulated; however now that the Pastoral Team is in place and has a primary focus on the wellbeing of the Subiaco Church family and furthering the Gospel Good News to the wider community there will be opportunities to utilise the financial blessings that God has provided.

Before Ric moved the motion, he gave an opportunity for questions.

John Mackenzie asked whether there were any 'disappointments' or targets not met due to the expenses below budget. Ric advised that during the transition period we may not have achieved all that we could have, however as mentioned before, with God's grace the ministry of Subi church did continue.

Motion that the Financial Reports be received.

Moved: Ric Leaver

Seconded: Brian Hamilton

A vote by the raising of hands for/against was held.

Motion carried.

2024/2025 Budget

The budget for 2024/2025 has been set as a growth budget. Ric advised it is important to note that the offerings for 2024/2025 is approximately \$300,000 more than the previous financial year. The major increase in expenses for 2024/2025 is salaries which is due to all positions being filled. Ric noted that the Elders had considered this growth budget knowing that if required, the financial reserves could be used at this point in time. The budget is a step of faith designed to move Subiaco forward into a time of spiritual and numerical growth. The immediate past blessings of our God has given the Church the financial capacity to take the "step of faith" while the new and exciting Pastoral initiatives are unfolding.

David Liaw asked about Playgroup, Church events and Internship. Pastor David advised that Playgroup was not operating at the moment, but Mums and Bubs was under the leadership of Tracey Johnston. Church events is budgeted to be lower this year as last year included the 125 year anniversary. Internship is used to pay for some expenses for David Graieg, the current intern.

George O'Neil made a comment that it seemed a small amount to pay \$2,000. Pastor David advised we do not pay our interns. David Graieg had asked to be an intern to gain ministry experience. As a theological lecturer, it is desirable to gain ministry experience and Subi church is able to provide this opportunity to him.

YewKeng Chua asked how are we tracking regarding offerings so far this financial year. Ric advised that it is too early in the financial year to advise whether we will meet 1.598 million as per the budget.

Motion to approve the 2024/2025 Budget.

Moved: Ric Leaver

Seconded: Rob Falls

A vote by the raising of hands for/against was held.

Motion carried.

Senior Pastor Report

Pastor David thanked God for the place Subi Church is in at this point in time.

Pastor David thanked the Lord for our Pastors, Elders, Staff, Deacons.

He also thanked Amanda Tan for the new format Annual Report. Overall the numbers tell us things are increasing or improving. Some things that need improving, including increasing the number of members in small groups and the number of members serving.

During 2023/2024 we were not as focussed outside of Subi Church. We have a renewed vision for mission and thinking outwardly. We now have a vision, strategy and team to move the church forward.

Election of Elders

Sean Kum advised that Grant Korn, Ric Leaver, Rohan du Heaume have been elected for a two-year term, gaining the minimum requirement of 75% of votes.

Sean thanked Osvaldo Almeida for responding to the call and being an elder this year.

Sean thanked Stuart Beattie for being an Elder for the last 18 years. Sean thanked Stuart's wife, Donna, for allowing Stuart to serve during this time.

Sean advised that he will also be stepping down from the Elders Board at this point in time, however he has offered to be called as an Elder under Section 19 for the next year to help the transition.

Sean advised two Elder interns would start working with the Elders Board during 2025. Sean noted that he would like to journey with these men as they start to engage with the Elders. The Elder interns will be announced early next year.

Any Other business

Questions raised prior to the AGM

Does the 687 average weekend attendance include the average of 103 SubiKids (i.e. are the kids included in the ~687)?

Answer : 687 average attendance includes children.

Re: about \$28K for Special Appeals collected in 2023/2024; where has this been reflected in the expenses in the statement? Similarly, the \$24.36K budget for 2024/2025: where is the corresponding expense reflected in the budget?

Answer : The correct name of the 'Special Appeals' account should be 'Missions Passthrough'; this name better represents what this account does. When someone gives us funds for a missionary, this is the account it goes through.

What are \$50K capital expenses budgeted for?

Answer : We are setting up a Welcome Lounge for new visitors and also purchasing a new coffee machine.

Comments and Thanksgiving

Brian Hamilton moved a vote of thanks for all the work that has been put in to building up Subi Church this year, including thanks for all staff, Pastors, Elders and Deacons.

Thomas Loke noted that the new Annual Report had a lot of numbers. Are we missing ministry information that should be reflected in the report.

Pastor David agreed that there is a strong emphasis on numbers in the AGM report.

Subi Church is outcome focussed, therefore the report has more numbers.

Metrics allow us to measure whether we are meeting our goals and then if we are not reaching the outcomes we have set, it allows us to determine if we need to change something.

A question was asked as to whether Chinese church is part of Subiaco Church officially? Should the Chinese church be part of our budget? Pastor David advised that we work closely with the Chinese church but they are not officially part of Subiaco Church. We do pay for some of their expenses including paying for the use of hall for their services.

John Mackenzie encouraged members to take up the offer to seek prayer after the service for any issues they face in life. Jenny Marshall encouraged all members to be people of prayer. Jenny encouraged all to attend prayer meetings, you don't need to be a 'prayer warrior'. Jenny agreed with John that we should encourage people to seek prayer after the service.

Jon Chee thanked David, Ray and Braden for all the sermons they preach and the work they put into their sermons.

David Davoll asked about the committees that Sean referred to in his report. Rob Falls has agreed to be the facilities manager. The Finance committee has been setup this year under the auspices of the Treasurer. Missions committee has been revitalised to include more committee members. Sean advised members who had skill sets that the Subi church could utilise, to please talk to one of the Elders or Subi Church leaders.

Cameron Macormic asked about the perspective on being metric focussed. Pastor David provided a response. 'We measure the things we love in life'. Metrics help us to know how well we are going and to make adjustments as needed. However Pastor David noted it was not just about numbers.

Closure

David Skirving closed the meeting in prayer at approximately 1.30pm.

Signed: _____ (Chairman) date: _____