

DURBAN RAMBLERS HIKING CLUB

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 12TH FEBRUARY 2022 AT 11h00 AT PALMIET NATURE RESERVE

1. WELCOME

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed and thanked all members for attending.

It was noted that the Attendance Register had been signed by all present.

2. APOLOGIES

The following apologies were received:

Judith Conlin; Jeremy Grest; Kurt and Jenni Bacher; Neville Lee; Mara Wheeler; Ron Page; Anne Rodwell; Margret Kristen; Ingid and Lee Death.

3. CONFIRMATION OF 2021 AGM MINUTES

The Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting were approved by the meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Chairman noted that the proposed rewarding of hike leaders was outstanding from the above and the plan is to host hike leaders at the 90th and the Year End Function.

5. RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

5.1 The Chairman noted that hikes continued to be undertaken with COVID restrictions during the pandemic in 2021.

5.2 It was noted that the Club did not have enough hike leaders, particularly where there was a large hiking group of more than 20 people in a hike. Currently hikers are being turned away in this instance, and it was suggested that two hike leaders would solve the problem.

5.3 The Chairman noted that there were 34 new members for the period July – December 2021.

5.4 It was reported that the full budget for 2021 had not been spent, and it was noted that there was a surplus of R13 000 to be spent in the current year.

5.5 The Chairman awarded the following members an Honorary Life Membership as follows:

- Myrtle Ryan
- Robin Ralfe
- Neville Walmsley
- John van Zyl and Denise Warburton.

The Chairman's report was approved by the meeting.

6. RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT

The Club's Financial Statements were distributed to all attendees.

The Treasurer, Ismail Vahed, delivered his final report as his three-year role tenure has come to an end.

He reported that the Club had a strong balance sheet.

It was noted, however, that the COVID lockdown regulations and the July riots had disrupted the scheduled hiking programme, and the Club had felt this impact. As could be seen from the Income Statement, membership fees dropped significantly from R20 050 to R18 100. During the 2021 year, thirty-two memberships had to be written off due to non-payment together 4 deaths and a resignation.

During the same period, the Club had received 34 new Memberships. The Club's current membership stands at 219 members.

The Treasurer reviewed the Income and Expenditure Account for 2021.

- He noted that donations stood at R3 040
- Hiking costs were down.
- Recce costs were minimal. The Treasurer encouraged hike leaders to submit Recce claims.

Jenny Rooks and Colin Turner moved to accept the Treasurer's report, which was duly done by the meeting.

The Treasurer was congratulated on the professionalism of his report and presentation by Biff Maggs.

7. CONSIDER AND RATIFY SUBSCRIPTION FEES FOR 2022

It was recommended that the fees for 2023 be retained at R100,00 per member, given the healthy financial status of the Club.

8. APPROVE ANY PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CLUB'S CONSTITUTION AND RULES

8.1. Extension of Committee Members' Role Tenure Period

From a letter from Rolf Klein, it was proposed that the constitution be changed to extend Committee Members' three-year role tenure period beyond the three-year term. Rolf was of the view that this would assist the Club in the challenge of finding new committee members every three years, as well as retaining excellent performance and skills sets.

This was opened to the meeting for debate and a vote.

The meeting felt that the Club needed fresh new blood and ideas in order to keep it vibrant and relevant in its ability to meet future hikers' needs and wants, and voted to retain the current three-year tenure period and not to change the constitution.

8.2 Children Indemnity Forms

The Chairman proposed that the Constitution be amended to make provision for Indemnity forms to be signed by the parent/guardian of children under the age of 18 who are brought to hikes. This was approved by the meeting.

Generally it was confirmed that dogs could be brought to hikes at the discretion of the hike leaders and if the reserves/areas permitted.

It was also confirmed that no firearms would be allowed on hikes.

9. TO ELECT NEW OFFICE BEARERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2022

- 9.1 **OFFICE:** **CHAIRMAN:**
 NOMINEE: **PHILIP COLLYER**
 PROPOSER: Biff Maggs
 SECONDER: Merle MacKenzie
- 9.2 **OFFICE:** **SECRETARY:**
 NOMINEE: **LISA LA COMMARE**
 PROPOSER: Philip Collyer
 SECONDER: Coleen Seath
- 9.3 **OFFICE:** **TREASURER:**
 NOMINEE: **BIFF MAGGS**
 PROPOSER: Ann Olds
 SECONDER: Colin Turner
- 9.4 **OFFICE:** **SUNDAY HIKE ORGANISER**
 NOMINEE: **RANI REDDY**
 PROPOSER: Stella Wells
 SECONDER: Ismail Vahed
- 9.5 **OFFICE:** **SATURDAY HIKE ORGANISER**
 NOMINEE: **GIL KRAUSPE**
 PROPOSER: Ann Olds
 SECONDER: Biff Maggs
- 9.6 **OFFICE:** **SOCIAL ORGANISER (90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION)**
 NOMINEE: **BIFF MAGGS**
 ASSISTED BY: Coleen Seath & Stella Wells
- 9.7 **OFFICE:** **MAGAZINE ORGANISER**
 NOMINEE: **MERLE MACKENZIE**
 PROPOSER: Ann Olds
 SECONDER: Jenny Rooks
- 9.8 **OFFICE:** **PUBLICITY ORGANISER**
 NOMINEE: **ANA BARBOSA**
 PROPOSER: Biff Maggs
 SECONDER: Jonathan Sampson

9.9 OFFICE: WEEKENDS AWAY
NOMINEE: JONATHAN SAMPSON
PROPOSER: Ismail Vahed
SECONDER: Merle Mackenzie

10. ELECTION OF HONORARY AUDITOR

It was proposed by Nevil Walmsley that Rolf Klein be nominated as the Club's Honorary Auditor. This was seconded by Colin Turner.

11. PRESENTATION OF FLOATING TROPHY

The Chairman awarded Diana Patoir a floating trophy for her outstanding service and contribution to the Club in both of her roles as Club Secretary and Publicity Organiser.

12. OTHER BUSINESS (ON WHICH DUE NOTICE HAD BEEN GIVEN)

12.1 90th Anniversary Celebration

The Chairman noted that the Club has total funds of R101 000 in its bank account. He proposed to put aside a budget for the above social celebration, as follows:-

- R9 000 towards the venue costs.
- R9 000 towards hike leaders' meal costs.
- R3 000 towards honorary member meal costs.

The meeting approved the above budget allocation.

12.2 New Germany Nature Reserve Financial Assistance

The Chairman proposed an assistance allocation of R15 000 from the Club's budget towards the repair of walkways to the above nature reserve, or a similar reserve.

After discussion, the meeting approved this assistance allocation towards New Germany Nature Reserve on the basis that the funds are to be used for the repair of the walkways and not towards the clearing of paths, which was the responsibility of the individual reserves.

12.3 Proposed Budget Allocation Towards Local Hike Guides

The Chairman proposed an allocation of R3 000 per year from the Club's budget towards the utilization of local guides in specific hikes where specialized hiking expertise is deemed to be required. This would enable the Club to undertake a variety of hikes which might otherwise not be viable, as well as to support local businesses.

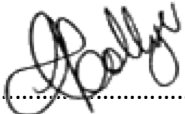
After discussion and a general vote, this budget allocation was approved.

13 IN MEMORIUM

The Chairman noted the passing of the following Club Members and requested one-minute of silence in respect of our late fellow members:-

- Margot Barraclough
- Audrey Vickers
- Gail Hawkins
- Jean Foster
- Sandra Pretorious
- Les Petzer

There being no further matters, the Chairman thanked the members for their participation and closed the meeting.



CHAIRMAN

11.03.2022

DATE