



Minutes of the 2nd Annual General Meeting 2014

Te Papa, Wellington

Wednesday 5 November 2014 at 12.15pm

1. Chairperson's Welcome

The Chair, Veronica Jacobsen, welcomed the GEN members to the 2nd Annual General meeting of GEN. She noted that GEN membership reached 800 in 2014, with 600 members from the Public Sector. She confirmed that there was a quorum for the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

The Minutes of the 1st Annual General Meeting were tabled.

Moved: Veronica Jacobsen That the minutes be accepted as a true and correct record

Seconded: Jason Timmins

Carried: Unanimously

There were no matters arising.

3. Chairperson's Report, Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements

The Annual Report was tabled.

Veronica Jacobsen provided an overview of the work of the Training, Linkages and Conference sub-committees. The Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement for 2014 showed a small surplus from the 3 GEN sub-committees

She thanked all the committee members, the GEN members and the organisations that have been part of the GEN activities.

Moved: Girol Karacaoglu that the reports be accepted

Seconded: Jason Timmins

Carried: Unanimously

4. Consideration of Motions

Changes to the GEN Constitution were moved by a quorum of eligible members as required by the Constitution.

Eligibility for Committee Membership	
Rule	4.3 Only individual state sector employees may serve as Committee or sub-Committee members.
Reason for change	The rule excludes employees in the broader public sector and local government from serving on the Committee or sub-Committee and restricts the ability of GEN to be active outside Wellington.

Proposed change	4.3 Only individual state sector or local government employees may serve as Committee or sub-Committee members.
Seconded:	Girol Karacaoglu
Carried:	Unanimously
Term of Committee Members	
Rule	4.6 Committee (and sub-Committee) members will be appointed for a term of one year, to coincide with the AGM – however, there is no limit to the number of times Committee and sub-Committee members can be reappointed.
Reason for change	The rule does not allow the Committee a sufficient time in which to carry out its functions effectively. Committee members can resign at any time if they consider two years is too long to serve.
Proposed change	4.6 Committee (and sub-Committee) members will be appointed for a term of two years , to coincide with the AGM – however, there is no limit to the number of times Committee and sub-Committee members can be reappointed
Seconded:	Girol Karacaoglu
Carried:	Unanimously
Timing of AGM	
Rule	22.2 The General Meeting shall be convened at least once every year no later than five months after the Society's balance date.
Reason for change	The balance date is 31 March (see rule 20.1). Since we have adopted the proactive holding the AGM at the annual conference in the 4th quarter of the year, we are not in compliance with the rule. Changing the balance date is very difficult.
Proposed change	22.2 The General Meeting shall be convened at least once every year no later than nine months after the Society's balance date
Seconded:	Grant Scobie
Carried:	Unanimously
Quorum for AGM	
Rule	22.6 No Society meeting may be held unless 10% of eligible Members attend. (This will constitute a quorum).
Reason for change	GEN currently has more than 600 eligible members from the state sector. This would require a large proportion of attendees at the Conference to (a) be members of GEN and (b) attend the AGM, and so there is a risk that there could not be a quorum as many attendees at the conference are not eligible members. The 10% rule is a high bar that could prevent GEN from conducting the AGM and will get more difficult as membership grows.
Proposed change	22.6 No Society meeting may be held unless 5% of eligible Members attend. (This will constitute a quorum).
Moved:	Grant Scobie that rule 22.6 be changed as follows: "No Society meeting may be held unless the lesser of 25 eligible members or 5% of eligible members attend. (This will constitute a quorum)"
Seconded:	Jason Timmins
Carried:	Unanimously
Altering the Rules	
Rule	23.1 Any Member may request that a motion be voted on ("Member's Motion") at a particular Society Meeting, by giving written notice to the Secretary at least 28 days before that meeting. The Member may also

	<p>provide information in support of the motion (“Member’s Information”). The Committee may in its absolute discretion decide whether or not the Society will vote on the motion. However, if the Member’s Motion is signed by at least 10% of eligible Members:</p> <p>a. It must be voted on at the Society Meeting chosen by the Member; and</p> <p>b. The Secretary must give the Member’s Information to all Members at least 14 days before the Society Meeting chosen by the Member; or</p> <p>c. If the Secretary fails to do this, the Member has the right to raise the motion at the following Society Meeting.</p>
Reason for change	The 10% rule is a high bar that could prevent the AGM from considering legitimate motions at the AGM.
Proposed change	<p>23.1 Any Member may request that a motion be voted on (“Member’s Motion”) at a particular Society Meeting, by giving written notice to the Secretary at least 28 days before that meeting. The Member may also provide information in support of the motion (“Member’s Information”). The Committee may in its absolute discretion decide whether or not the Society will vote on the motion. However, if the Member’s Motion is signed by at least 5% of eligible Members:</p> <p>a. It must be voted on at the Society Meeting chosen by the Member; and</p> <p>b. The Secretary must give the Member’s Information to all Members at least 14 days before the Society Meeting chosen by the Member; or</p> <p>c. If the Secretary fails to do this, the Member has the right to raise the motion at the following Society Meeting.</p>
<p><i>Moved:</i></p> <p><i>Seconded:</i></p> <p><i>Carried:</i></p>	<p>Grant Scobie that rule 23.1 be changed to be consistent with the changes agreed for Rule 22.6</p> <p>Jason Timmins</p> <p>Unanimously</p>

5. Election of Officers

There being no further nominations the following were elected to the GEN Committee unopposed.

Veronica Jacobsen	Chair
Joanne Leung	Deputy Chair
Girol Karacaoglu	Committee Member
John Creedy	Committee Member
Jason Timmins	Committee Member
Michele Lloyd	Committee Member
Donna Provoost	Committee Member
Hayden Hitchins	Committee Member
Bronwyn Croxson	Committee Member
Joey Au	Committee Member
Patrick Nolan	Committee Member

Veronica Jacobsen thanked Linda Simpson as Treasurer and Lisa Meehan for their hard work during their time on the outgoing GEN committee.

6. General Business

David Butcher noted that the changes to the Constitution agreed at the 2013 AGM minutes had not been included in the circulated copy of the Constitution.

7. Next Meeting Date

The next AGM will be held during next year's conference.

The meeting was declared closed.