

Maternity Consumer Network | AGM MINUTES

Meeting date | time 7/26/2016 7:54 PM | Meeting location Zoom Online

Meeting called by Alecia Staines (President)

Secretary Brooke Taylor-Gough

Time Meeting Closed 8:05PM – AGM
8:42PM – General meeting

Attendees

Alecia Staines, Kate Freeman, Marceline Green and
Brooke Taylor-Gough

AGM

- No minutes arose from the previous AGM.
- **Chairpersons Report** - As we hold our first AGM, it's a nice time to reflect on how far we've come in a very short period of time. Whilst we were unsure when we were founded on how exactly we should be set up as an organisation, time has proven having an incorporated association has served us well, and has allowed us to be "official" and also in a position to fundraise, access grants and have more political swing. Very early this year, we employed a consultant, who works in the not-for-profit sector. We asked her to help us with our strategic direction, help us clearly define our roles and responsibilities and have a plan for the next 6 months. Our key focus areas are continuity of midwifery carer, public available hospital data and an update of the National Maternity Services Plan (expired in June this year). Whilst this certainly isn't an exclusive list of what we do support, it's just a narrowed focus area that we can gain some wins in, whilst not burning out whilst trying to fix all of our broken maternity system. We've had consumer representatives trained around the country and have had a huge uptake in Victoria, where we are hoping to get a pilot mentoring program running with experienced consumer representatives. We've won a grant for maternity consumer representative training, so are looking forward to mentoring some consumers face to face in the New Year. The GovHack 2016 even saw us submit an entry for an app that allowed transparency and accountability within our hospital maternity systems, particularly around public available data. Although we didn't have a win, it was very well received by Health Departments and we'll be back next year with an updated concept, whilst still advocating for public available hospital data. Queensland has always had a very strong consumer advocacy base. There was a recent Statewide Maternity Forum, which brought together key stakeholders from across the maternity sector. Consumers were a big focus of the day, and some promising developments are taking place in HHSs (qld's primary health networks). Human Rights in Childbirth's, Bashi Hazard, was present and was keen to see this progress to every state in Australia. Queensland consumers are also meeting with their Shadow Health Minister in early 2017, to work with the LNP to update their Maternity Policy. This has taken plenty of commitment and regular meetings with several consumer's local MPs. We certainly are happy to help support and mentor other consumers to make similar progress in their state. As we see out 2016, we've totaled up all our media exposure for the year, and have averaged a publication/viewing every fortnight, across every TV station, print and online, as well as several radio broadcasts. We look forward to continuing to send regular Media Releases to keep maternity care in the spotlight, in an effort to make change at Federal, State and Local level.
- Kate moves and accepts the chairpersons report and Brooke seconds it.

- Treasurer’s Report- Dated 30.06.2016. Beginning balance \$0. Payments 2 \$491.50. Credits \$1429.90. Payments were for Engage, Create and Consult and innovative workshop. Bake sale and movie screening. Alecia’s fundraiser. Cleared \$938.40. Dated 30.09.2016. Beginning balance \$938.40. Credits \$125.97. Cleared \$1064.37.
- Marceline moved and accepted that the treasurers report was true and accurate. This was seconded by Kate.
- Election of office bearers.

Position	Nominee	Seconded by	Endorsed by
Preseident	Alecia Staines	Kate Freeman	Alecia Staines, Brooke Taylor-Gough, Marceline Green and Kate Freeman
Vice President	Kate Freeman	Brooke Taylor-Gough	Alecia Staines, Brooke Taylor-Gough, Marceline Green and Kate Freeman
Secretary	Brooke Taylor-Gough	Marceline Green	Alecia Staines, Brooke Taylor-Gough, Marceline Green and Kate Freeman
Treasurer	Marceline Green	Alecia Staines	Alecia Staines, Brooke Taylor-Gough, Marceline Green and Kate Freeman

No other nominations were brought forward.

General Meeting

- In the new year it was proposed that we get Julia from Engage, Create, Consult to have another meeting to check we are on track.
- Looking for someone to work with education officer to have some presence on social media. Helping organise movie nights. Kate said she was happy to do this.
- It was suggested we ask our community of members to post their favourite birth quote on the page for us to make some Canva tiles.
- Next year (2017) a blog will be started. Chasing someone to help out with the blog writing. This could also be a picture blog.
- Finances. Need to reimburse Marceline for travel to state wide Neonatal Maternity forum. Reimburse Alecia for ten noodle boxes and screening of Trial of Labor.
- We received \$360 through Event Brite for the Trial of Labor screening and got approximately \$100 for the night. \$72 was paid to the library for the use of their facilities.
- Next year it is proposed to have a screening in March and October. We will have all locations have it at the same time to spark more interest. For this screening we had no sponsors. One of the screenings will be Why Not Home as

the Sunshine Coast midwives are willing to give to us for free.

- Meeting with the Shadow Minister in the new year and have Bruce Teackle on board to come along to meeting.
- Kate to look into GLIP calendar.
- Potentially create a calendar for members to see what is coming up for the year. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Promotional materials to hand out will be a priority of the new year. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
- It has been pre-approved for Marceline to do the shopping for the My Midwives Christmas get together on the 16.12.2016. It was also suggested we go to Woolies at Drayton to potentially donate some coffee cups etc.
- Date for meeting in the new year yet to be decided but roughly mid-January.