



**Minutes**  
**19<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**  
**Thursday 25th October 2012**

**1. Attendance/Apologies**  
**Attendance: Members\* and Guests**

|                      |                           |                       |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Abdelis Idrick       | Huanhua Yu                | Neth Hinton*          |
| Abdi Salad           | Hui Ying Huang            | Ngian Duong           |
| Adam Bandt           | Huocai Hu                 | Ngo To Nu             |
| Adelah Formoli       | Ivy (Wee Fuen) Wang       | P Christoforidis      |
| Aimei Sun            | Jelica Bosilkov           | Panayiola Markopoulos |
| Ali                  | Jill Newton               | Peter Sago            |
| Alisha Watts         | Jingxiang Ye              | Phi Thi               |
| Aliul Osmoh          | John Barnas               | Philip Mammana        |
| Anna Bevilacqua      | Julie Borninkhof          | Philip Robinson*      |
| Antoinette Getolto   | Kavitha Chandra-Shekeran* | Prirr Wirarnce        |
| Amanda Stone         | Kerry Bergin              | Rada Nesovanovic      |
| Amy Lees             | Kim Chua                  | Radmila Dobric        |
| Anne Horrigan Dixon  | Kristy Baird              | Radoslav              |
| Austin Paterson      | Lily Stagoll              | Rena Pritchard        |
| Barry Pullen         | Linh Hoang                | Rita Diep             |
| Basira Wasl          | Linh Yui                  | Ro Roberts            |
| Betty Vorgia         | Llewellyn Prain           | Rob McLeod            |
| Bev Lewis            | LoRuman Kalerlin          | Robin Fisher          |
| Bon Bon Nguyen       | Louise Evans              | Robyn Williams*       |
| Brian Stagoll*       | Louise Lang               | Ron Exiner*           |
| Bruce Hurley         | Louise Wilson*            | Ron Thomson           |
| Brydie Quinn*        | Ly Muoi                   | Ros Paterson          |
| Cath Bowtell         | Lyn Morgain               | Roula Panatzis        |
| Caroline Hogg        | Mahmoud Humida            | Sarah Howe            |
| Cennet Uygun         | Man Le Nan                | Sarah Ward            |
| Danka Cipromic       | Mark Durran               | Shafiq Naime          |
| David Fanning        | Margaret Goding           | Sinh Khien            |
| Despina Miheilidou   | Margaret Simpson*         | Siobhan Allen         |
| Dieu Phan            | Marion Oke                | Stanko Radonic*       |
| Domenica Romeo       | Marryanne Clarke          | Sui Chan              |
| Effie Tsakiridis     | Mary Natoli               | Sylvia Morrissey      |
| Elaine Batchelder    | Mesmet Mat                | Terri Jackson         |
| Farfour Kalaitzoglou | Michael Fogarty           | Thi Lanh              |
| Franca Cardamone     | Michael Honeysett         | Thi-Ngor-Nga Le       |
| Frank Thompson       | Milka Baglvova            | Thi Tran              |
| G Pouls              | Mike Hannibal             | Thi Xi Le             |
| Geoff Barbour        | Mirella Rao               | Thorzi Remorto        |
| Geoff Sincock        | Mohindra Singh            | Thun Lam              |
| Glenda Scalise       | Moss Cass                 | Tom Marino            |
| Greg Denham          | Mustafa Misirli           | Tina Salafia          |
| Guisseppina Ferla    | My Qhan Tanh              | Vivi Koutras          |
| Hamish Townsend      | Nada Radonic              | Wajia Noore           |
| Helen Bosiljkov      | Nail Hamidovic            | Ya Ru Slui,           |
| Helena Maher*        | Nancy (Hui Yi) Chen       | Yulline Piugel        |
|                      | Zorzi Paterina            | Zhen Ya Yang          |

### Attendance: NYCH Staff

|                      |                 |                             |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Vera Boston          | Greg Denham     | Helena Jedjud               |
| Bich Ha              | Maddie Leitch   | Natasha Bakshi              |
| Sally Mitchell       | Danny Jeffcote  | Monique Thompson            |
| Maureen Schleiger    | Jeanette George | Melanie Smith               |
| Jo Southwell         | Louise Sadler   | Megan Richards              |
| Lorraine Nicholas    | Helen Chakman   | Caitlin Phillips-Peddlesden |
| Arzih Chehade        | Marlies Blatz   | Bronwyn Williams            |
| Jane Ford            | Paul Hawkins    | Katie Coles                 |
| Tu Anh Le            | Hoe Ping Lo     | Munira Mahmoud              |
| Geraldine Paine      | Ava Freeland    | Lisa Accadia                |
| Sharon Phipps-Kearns | Nikki Schliker  |                             |

### Apologies

Sandy Austin, Ruth Borenstein, Christine Carolan, June Carrick, Colleen Duggan, Karen Field, Chris Fox, Jocelyn Fuller, Sam Gaylard, Caz Healy, Ian Hicks, Heather Holst, Eileen Hurley, Jennifer Kannis, David Kennedy, Jim Killeen, Jenelle Miller, Jenny Wills, Jeremy Morgan, Tony Nicholson, Chris O'Neill, Kristine Olaris, Mary Parfrey, Rob Pearson, Christina Radburn, Robyn Reeves, Helen Riseborough, Tom Roper, Joe Santamaria, Cath Scarth, Solange Shaprio, Vicki Sutton, Basil Thompson, (VJ) Vijaya Vaidyanath, Miranda Van Son, Jenny Wills, Diana Wolfe, Richard Wynne.

### 2. Welcome and Introductions

NYCH Chief Executive Officer Vera Boston welcomed all those present and thanked all for their attendance at the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual General meeting. Vera then welcomed the guests in a variety of different languages. Vera acknowledged the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation as the original owners of this land, and paid her respects to elders past and present.

Vera reminded the guests that the proceedings of the AGM are being translated into 9 different languages, so asked all guests to be patient whilst presentations were being translated. Vera then introduced the theme of the 2012 AGM, which is Social Inclusion. She advised that there would be elections for three vacancies to the Board of Directors and confirmed that only people who are current NYCH members are eligible to vote. Vera reminded all guests that if they fill out an Application for Membership form today they will become a member for 2012-13, and be invited to renew their membership in June 2013. They will then be eligible to vote at next year's AGM in 2013.

Vera thanked the generous donors to our raffle hampers: Aesop Skin products, Organic Wholefoods, and Make a Difference Office Supplies. Vera then reminded guests that we have copies of the new Annual Quality of Care report and Calendar available today. Vera then thanked all of our esteemed guests for attending, and introduced Brydie Quinn, Chairperson of the Board of Directors for her address.

### 3. Previous Minutes

Brydie thanked Vera and asked for a motion adopting the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.

**Motion: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2011 be adopted.**

Moved: Brydie Quinn

Seconded: Margaret Simpson

**CARRIED**

### 4. Report from the Chair 2010/2011

Brydie welcomed all guests, including Adam Bandt, Geoff Barbour, Amanda Stone, past Board members and staff, Caroline Hogg, Barry Pullen, Frank Thompson, Anne Horrigan - Dixon, Rena Pritchard, staff from the local councils, the Department of Health, and local agencies. Finally Brydie welcomed Sylvia Morrissey one of the descendants of Dr Singleton who had founded the Free Collingwood Medical Mission Dispensary in 1869.

Brydie spoke of the highlights of the past year. Highlights include the opening of the Refugee Clinic at Fitzroy which targets refugee and asylum seeker populations and provides them access to direct care

and holistic health services and the Collingwood Living in Harmony project which has recruited facilitators who are receiving training from Victoria University.

She noted the Board's disappointment that NYCH's long-term goal of moving our Carlton site onto the Carlton housing estate is unlikely to go ahead. Brydie highlighted the changing socio-political environment and the resultant need for Community Health to become more financially self reliant. She thanked Social Ventures Australia and Social Traders for their support through the provision of loan funding to establish a private medical practice which will in future generate income to support NYCH's work with high need communities.

Brydie then noted with great sadness, the recent death of Frank Fisher. Frank had been associated with NYCH for many decades, as a client, member and director. In recognition of his ongoing passion and contribution to the organisation, NYCH has decided to establish the Annual Frank Fisher award. This will be awarded annually at future AGMs to an individual for their contribution to improving and advocating for the rights of public health consumers.

Finally, Brydie thanked NYCH's partners, the management team and all the staff, for their individual and collective contribution to making NYCH a strong, passionate and innovative organisation.

**Motion: That the Chair's Report be received**

Moved: Brydie Quinn

Seconded: Geoff Barbour

**CARRIED**

**5. Treasurer's Report 2011/2012**

Phil Robinson, Treasurer, delivered the 2011/12 Treasurer's report. He advised that our finances were audited independently by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu represented today by Geoff Sincock. Financial statements for 2011/2012 are provided at the rear if guests are interested.

Philip noted that there has been no major change to the scope of our services, or our financial position, since the last report.

Phil spoke about the budget setting process which includes an analysis of the external environment as well as the expressed needs of clients and communities. In light of these needs, the Board took the decision to budget for a small deficit and he noted that we ended up within 1% of the Board's objective for the budget.

Phil outlines the major sources of income which include the Department of Health and Department of Human Services and the Commonwealth Government as well as the Cities of Yarra and Melbourne and other funders such as the Ian Potter Foundation, the Pratt Foundation and the Sidney Myer Fund. Phil also acknowledged the donations we receive from services and individuals which assist us to deliver important programs. Finally Phil thanked Maureen and her finance team for ensuring that accurate and timely financial information is provided to the Board.

**Motion: That the Treasurer's Report 2011/2012 be adopted.**

Moved: Phil Robinson

Seconded: Stanko Radonic

**CARRIED**

**Motion: That the appointment of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu as the Company Auditors for the 2012-13 year be confirmed.**

Moved: Phil Robinson

Seconded: Michael Fogarty

**CARRIED**

**6. Introduction of Members seeking Election to the Board**

Vera asked the candidates seeking election to the Board to identify and introduce themselves and advised that staff would now be collecting the ballot papers. In response to a question, Vera also explained the criteria for becoming a member and the membership conditions.

## 7. Three levels of Social Inclusion

### 7.1 Clients: Tina Salafia– Cafe Meals

Brydie introduced our client guest speaker, Tina, who utilises the Cafe Meals program. Cafe Meals has now been running for 10 years and it provides subsidised meals for people who are homeless or marginally housed. Clients have an opportunity to eat in local restaurants, helping with their levels of nutrition, but also with their sense of social inclusion.

Tina spoke of her experience in the Cafe Meals program. Tina lived on her own and often wouldn't cook or go out. Tina has experienced the Cafe Meals program as an incentive to go out, and it has enabled her to go to places she would not have gone to in the past. She now buys foods and has an increased awareness of healthy eating. Tina expressed that being on the program has been a privilege for her, and she thanked NYCH and the Yarra City Council which provides the funding through the Home and Community Care Program.

### 7.2 Staff: Sally Mitchell – The NYCH Story

Sally Mitchell, Manager of Community Programs, introduced *“The NYCH Story”*. The NYCH Story was written to showcase our work at NYCH; what it is we do, how we do it, and how it empowers our community. Some services are located at NYCH and sometimes we work with other organisations to meet the client's need. In all cases, we work to ensure that our services are flexible, easy to access, and appropriate. We are fortunate to have great staff, who employ many innovative strategies to meet the needs of our clients. Our staff work at NYCH because of a genuine commitment to this community and regularly demonstrate their empathy, skill and passion.

Sally said: *“We wrote *“The NYCH Story”* to try and explain to external people the NYCH approach. It contains stories of our work with our clients, from receptionists to doctors to community development workers. Gathering facts and stories regarding their work gave staff the opportunity to talk about their work and to celebrate our successes”*

Sally particularly thanked the volunteer Bev Lewis, who interviewed staff to gather the stories for the book. Bev was presented with flowers and a certificate for her time.

### 7.3 Community: Brian Stagoll- Missionaries, Radicals, Feminists: A History of NYCH

In his introductory comments Brian Stagoll, Chair of the History Committee said how delighted he was that the rich and vibrant history of NYCH and its predecessor organisations was being launched today. Brian especially welcomed Sylvia Morrissey the great-great-granddaughter of Dr John Singleton. Brian then introduced Caroline Hogg, who has had a long connection to the Health Centre and the local area. Caroline was a former Minister for Health in the Victorian Government and is herself quoted in the History.

Caroline paid tribute to the wonderful history of NYCH, from 1869 until the present day. She spoke passionately about numerous milestones including the dispensary movement, the holistic model of care, employment of the first female GPs, social advocacy on a range of issues and the continuation of a long tradition evident in the organisation that NYCH is today.

Caroline made special mention of the contribution of Dr Moss Cass, here today to celebrate this history, who as Minister for Health in the Whitlam Government championed Community Health as we know it. Caroline then went on to praise the energy, dedication and loyalty of the current NYCH staff that make the Centre the wonderful welcoming inclusive place that it is. Finally, Caroline congratulated Hamish Townsend, the author who managed to capture the history in an engaging, informative and thoroughly readable work.

Brian thanked Caroline and introduced Hamish, noting that Hamish had travelled down from Queensland to be here today. Hamish thanked Caroline for her words and spoke about the long process of writing such a complex and varied history. He particularly noted his disappointment that not everything could be included and the hardest part was not the writing but deciding what to leave out. He went on to acknowledge the contribution of Alex Jarvis to the work and noted that it would not have been written without Alex's input. Finally he thanked the History Committee for their work in conceptualising and steering the project.

In closing, Brian thanked Geoff Barbour, currently the Mayor of the City of Yarra who had been the Chair of the Board of NYCH at the time the History was commissioned the, Editor Liz Sheehan, and designer Ben Hall.

#### **8. Recognition of Years of Service**

Phil announced that every year we recognise staff with 25 years of service and this year it was Pharmacist Tuan Anh Le, (universally known as Le) who had reached this important milestone. Phil spoke about the importance of the pharmacy and the continuation of a tradition which goes back to the Dispensary days. The Pharmacy plays a key role in ensuring high quality care and NYCH has been fortunate to have retained pharmacists of the quality of Le for so many years. Le joins a select group of staff been with NYCH and its predecessors for 25 years. Le thanked Phil for his kind words and responded saying that he enjoyed all aspects of the work and as a migrant himself he empathised with many of the clients who are also of migrant and refugee backgrounds.

#### **9. Drawing of the Door Prizes**

Caroline Hogg, Frank Thompson, Moss Cass and Geoff Barbour were each invited to draw a ticket for the door prizes and four lucky winners were awarded their door prizes.

#### **10. Results of the Election**

Vera announced the results of the election and introduced the Board for next year. Vera declared Kavitha Chandra-Shekeran and Helena Maher re-elected to the three year terms and congratulated them both. She then declared that Brian Stagoll had been re-elected to the one year term and congratulated him. Vera thanked the unsuccessful candidates Neth Hinton and June Carrick for nominating, and invited them to continue their involvement with NYCH as valued members.

The Current Board therefore consist of:

- Brydie Quinn
- Brian Stagoll
- Helena Maher
- Kavitha Chandra-Shekeran
- Robyn Williams
- Philip Robinson
- Ron Exiner
- Vicki Sutton

#### **11. Meeting Close**

Vera formally thanked all the Directors of NYCH, reflecting on how they bring their wisdom, expertise, knowledge and skills to the task of providing good governance for this organisation.

She also thanked all the staff who deliver the services and the programs which are so valued by the community, and finally she thanked everyone for attending and invited guests to stay on for refreshments.