ACT Division Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 3 December 2008

MINUTES

Time: 5:40 – 7:00
Venue: Grosvenor Room, Olims Hotel

Attendance

Fiona Gratton   Rebecca Sorensen   Richard Johnston
Andrew Senger   Ken Hungerford    Brian McFarlane
Lindsay Callaghan   Cat Quigley     Geoff Campbell
Alix Kaucz     Barry Hamilton    Patrick Paynter
Hamish Sinclair   Susan Conroy    Mike Quirk
Justin McEvoy   Colin Lyons      David Wright
Anne Moroney   Neil Savery

Apologies

Ed Wensing   Anthony Jones    Steven Gianakis
Lee McCourt   Claire Middleton  Todd Rohl

Welcome and Notification of Proxies

Richard Johnston opened the meeting and advised that there was 1 proxy received being Anthony Jones

Apologies

Noted above

Minutes of the Previous AGM

Recommendation that the Minutes be accepted. Moved: Geoff Campbell. Seconded: Susan Conroy

Business Arising

The comments under Other Business in the minutes of the previous AGM regarding the Butters and Overall lectures were discussed. Susan Conroy advised that the John Overall lecture held this year would alternate each year with the Alison Burton memorial lecture. Geoff Campbell advised that the Butters Lecture was held this year so is not being held in alternate years to the John Overall lecture and Walter Burley Griffin lecture. Committee to discuss the timing of lectures with other institutes in the new year. Hamish Sinclair advised that a design forum would be held between October to December 2009 and asked whether the Alison Burton lecture would be
incorporated into this. Susan advised that the lecture has already been organised and will not be held in conjunction with the design forum.

President’s Report
Attached at Appendix 1

Recommendation that the President’s report be accepted. Moved: Andrew Senger. Seconded: Colin Lyons.

Treasurer’s Report
In Antony Jones’ absence the Treasurer’s Report, Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet were supplied to the meeting and are attached at Appendix 2. There have been pressures on the ACT Division to become as self sufficient as possible. This is something the committee will work on in 2009.

Special Address by Mr Neil Savery, PIA National President
Neil Savery provided an overview of his work so far as PIA National President:

- Neil has met with each division at their conferences. He acknowledged the work Richard has done as ACT President and National Councillor, as well as the work of the committee as volunteers. He also acknowledged National Office’s support for the smaller divisions, with Fiona Gratton having the role of division manager for ACT, Tasmania and NT.
- ACT will have the national congress in 2013 and the ACT Division will have a role in organising this. Other institutes are being encouraged to be involved in a design/planning forum to be held the same year to cross promote each other.
- Work of PIA at a national level:
  - Advocacy of issues such as affordable housing, sustainability, retention of planners, reduction of red tape etc and involvement in national forums (e.g. NCA inquiry, sustainability charter)
  - Global Planners Network (GPN) looking to provide planners in other countries with information on what planners do and the role they are meant to play
  - Work with Planning Officials Group (POG) to develop a consultation strategy to communicate the work planners do (that its not just development control). POG are giving $10,000 to develop a brochure on planners and planning for GPN.
  - CPP – work progressing but more resources are needed to promote CPP to state and local government.
  - PIA National Report Card – despite some flaws the report card gives a good indication of how planning is going, particularly how public and private sectors are performing.
  - Built Environment Meets Parliament (BEMP) – 2008 was the 2nd year it was held but there were 100% more participants, including more politicians. The Prime Minister has agreed to be a patron of BEMP.
- Current initiatives:
  - Green paper on airports released. PIA recommended that airport development needs better scrutiny
  - Climate change – development of urban action plans
  - Policy on integrated planning and transport
- Aim to incorporate a national planning scheme (including national principles) into every planning scheme rather than being a document at Commonwealth level.
- Housing affordability
- Healthy places and spaces - $700,000 has been given by federal government (with Heart Foundation and Local Government Association)

  o Governance – workshop held with National Council to address issues with national governance system and the need to work as a unified entity. The number of national councillors and executive council arrangements need to be revisited. Considering a board of 8 (from each state and one shared between ACT & NT) with the councillors being appointed by merit. Emphasis on the importance of chapters, but chairs would not automatically be a national councillor. A national chapter chair should be a member of a division committee. A referendum is very likely in the future.

  o Jeff noted that chapters were established to broaden the views of planning and was not meant to set up silos within the Institute.

  o Annie raised the issue of staffing arrangements to enact the proposed changes. Neil advised that this would be considered.

Other Business
No other business

Close
Meeting closed 7:00pm