



THE BILO BAR CLUB

A REGISTERED FIJIAN CHARITY SINCE 1981

PO Box 812, Sigatoka, Fiji

admin@thebilobarclub.com

+679 852 8780

www.thebilobarclub.com

Registration No. 1356 | TIN: 500073700 | ABN: 78 830 983 544

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BILO BAR CLUB

HELD; 07/11/2024 at SHANGRI-LA YANUCA ISLAND RESORT,

OPENED; 10.04 am BY CHAIRPERSON; A. Neaves

- 1. Committee members present** – A Neaves, D Neaves, G Harvey, D Lennox, A. Simon, C Marshall (video). In attendance: Avelina Namoumou, Sunil Resort Manager.
- 2. Apologies** - D Protich, L&M Scott, J Marshall, M Wood, J Kennedy, M&S Harvey, K&B York.
- 3. Members Present** - C Neaves, A & J Steele, D & D Dixon, E Whiting, K Shoesmith, S & G McEvoy, P & J Lonnevik, K Hollis, B Hollis, A McCuddon, P Swift, A Protich, L Murphy, P Walter, A Ross., A Scott A Atkins, D Williams, T Sommerville, B&S Vecera, S Damcevski, G Markham, A Trewich, C Maddison, R Baxter, M Gildea, A York, S & C Barnes, K Jeffrees, S Mott, P&H Clotworthy, R&N Dunn, A&D Hollis, M Kiely, M&T Holland,
- 4. Welcome** - The chair welcomed all for coming to the AGM and re-union.
- 5. Quorum Declared by Chairperson.**
- 6. Approval of Minutes** -

Minutes of the 2023 AGM were confirmed as an accurate record after one typo corrected. Proposed; Gloria, 2nd; C Neaves, carried. Matters arising; follow up on defalcation, local police require our officer to make report in person, Sue & Kevin cant travel due health at present, but will do soon, Protocol of AFP and Fiji police to take evidence being chased up, hotel report to police not progressing as she wasn't an employee at time of report. Allan McCuddan query on kidney building, kindly to be shut & hospital ward restoration were raised, kidney building not meeting current standards, hospital key contact doctor has moved on, looking at using kidney building as allied health facility, doctor in charge has moved on but talks in progress. Kindy mentioned has had works done.

7. Reports from Trustee/s

Sunil, Resort Manager - Welcome to all, pleasure to have you all here and for your support. Developments - enhanced island landscape, 6 containers of new mattresses being installed, larger screen for room TV's, bedside lamps with USB charger, nw furniture in reef wing, new chiller plant & water plant for in house water bottling, new Indian restaurant to open near Black Marlin, 60 cover air con restaurant, in house herb & vegetable gardens with chickens & goats, trees for planting of newlyweds, horse riding introduced April this year, new lounges for pool side next year, village tours 3 per week, Fijian foods show cased next year and cooking classes, we want to give you something new each year, thank you. Room rates for next year is the 30% off best available rate code BBM-B on the public web site.

A Neaves - Membership fee to remain \$50, dates for next year re-union is on the bilo bar web site, May is an ad hoc event, but 45th anniversary will be an event. Feedback taken on board, Nov next year will be "back in time" theme. It gives me great pleasure to announce that we will have doubled last years result with \$30k raised, good to see momentum of new members continuing, thanked Macka, Paul, Gloria & Pete for their work, Davui committee formed to look at operations activities during re-unions. Thanked the hotel management and staff, Golden Raffle tickets all came from Marsha and the team at the resort with just an email request from me so zero cost of this raffle to the club, thanked the committee members and ensured all present the committee are well regarded to look after your funds. Management of membership data base – time for change so from now on we have an online system, auto renew your subs and updating of your details now can be done online, you can still pay at the resort, retail page also set up. Direction for next year talked about, kindergarten funding

direction to be ratified, cost of getting kids to resort and visiting same with permissions needed made that impossible this year but will try for next year, \$50k spent on kindy's last year, kindy at remote site to be taken

on board, power now connected, cover area, toilets etc required. Members felt that kindy's are a key item, Allan M queried if we still own kindy buildings and whether a formal transfer has taken place – not thought to be owned by us as they were a gift but point taken onboard for follow-up. Sporting initiatives looked at for local clubs, looked at coral coast sevens but not meeting our goals. \$3k FJD per team for kit/equipment being investigated but so many teams so in a discovery phase. Set up of Australian branch of bilo bar club to get DGR status underway. Life membership – I want to put in place a clause in the constitution that cover life members, at present we have Ray Luis, Barry Hancock, Pauline Hanson, Alan Lucas, Graeme Harvey, Sue & Kevin Brett, Ron Jones & Al Wyman, notice board for same to be placed in Bilo Bar. Also contact with past founding member Barry Child and I would like to nominate him for the position of life member, motion to appoint Barry Childs and to create Sec 44 clause approve unanimously, Prop A Neaves, Seconded A Hancock.

Ariane & David - Presentation given on hospital ward repairs, President of Fiji was first patient to use the facility, pictures of the wards and children's horrendous ward shown, severe lack of electrical points in the childrens ward, suggestion that we fund painting of ward, more power points & new curtains – agreed to by members. Fijian government gives just \$50 pa per child for materials, report on Kindergarten teaching was given with suggestions for teaching aides of quality manufacture and also specific items. Two toilets and washing facilities are required for all kindy's, proper secure cupboards and shelving also required. A targeted box of materials to be given at the start of each year only. Soaps ? Allan M queried curtains being unhealthy and using blinds, hospital experts/staff direction to be followed. Amazon "wish list" facility was made known to the meeting, to be looked at, discussion on pencil sharpeners ensued.

D Neaves; I would like to make a big thankyou to Macka, Gloria, Pete, David & Ariane for the work they did in ticket sales and prize payouts and for putting up with my maddening admin form requests, but that aside as an example we had \$60k of cash turnover and it pretty well all balanced up. David made note of the person who donated \$600 from their horse auction

G Harvey – All schools now require minimum facilities and those kindy's that do not meet this will be looked at straight away, a few things to finish off on current works, Avelina inspects all works before payment. Nadromi – motion put and seconded by C Neaves to add it as a 6th school, its about the same distance to Sigatoka and accessed by a rough bush track, 15 kids in kindy, unanimously agreed. Staff quarters at Sigatoka kindy are in extreme state of disrepair, options being looked at to fix//replace. No shortage of useful projects.

8. Financial Reports;

Chris Marshall gave a report via online, copy of accounts were handed out, all accounts covered with the AUD account converted to FJD, overall results is net decrease of \$10k but not an issue as we have \$274k in the bank, admin costs reported on, best bank for buck policy being followed, diminishing bank balance if we keep spending more but no concern, full details of items given, 695 member renewals with 122 renewed online, \$66k on projects with details given. Scholarship decreasing as project is winding down. Over next 12 months fundraising matters to be discussed, being frugal etc. Gloria queried stats on new members returning - data base still being interrogated. Query on member numbers – approx. 1100 total. We are managing data from the hotel with continued improvements. Proposal to accept Gloria, 2nd Alana carried.

9. Motion to vote on Changes to the constitution;

Life Membership – proposed A Neaves Sec 44 wording - nominations to be given to Imperial Bilo before June 30th, committee determines merit of applicants, one appointment per year, 2nd G Harvey, query from floor amending constitution for new life members and costs – responded that no change to rules required to be lodged, G Harvey clarified the differences to Fiji rules and ours. Andrew made it clear that he is not a trustee and has no say in the funds in or out other than advice. Motion put to meeting to accept new clause for life members - unanimously agreed.

Trustee & Imperial Bilo Tenure - The committee member rule changes were read out and explained, Andrew explained that the cost of \$3,500 to lodge changes will be halved with this 4 year term and we may be able to lodge same without this extra cost, queries raised to clarify with Allan M wanting to have the election every 4 years to further save money but meeting felt that every 2 years with no board spills and continuity of knowledge etc was better practise, Alana wanted to clarify the 2 year election and 4 year tenure, this was explained, the actual motion was read out, C Neaves talked on \$3500 costs and if we do the lodgement ourselves – cost could be nil but depends on public servants on duty. Raised that is there a local lawyer used by hotel - can they do pro-bono – will ask.

4 Year Term

The committee members from Group B in office immediately before the 2024 AGM (D. Neaves, C. Marshall & G. Harvey) shall hold the position for a further term until the conclusion of the 2028 AGM. Every 4 years thereafter group B shall cease to hold office but are eligible for re-election.

The committee members from group A and the Imperial Bilo in office as at the 2024 AGM (A. Simon, D. Lennox & A. Neaves - Imperial Bilo) will hold the position until the conclusion of the 2026 AGM. Every 4 years thereafter group A shall cease to hold office but are eligible for re-election.

This was put to the vote, Alana seconded the motion with all in favour, carried.

11. General Business;

- Alan Struthers sought clarification on under 18's attending events, he missed having a sanctuary away from kids and queried children being given membership last year, he asked for a motion to change age back to 18. Andrew responded that age is still 18, children of members being recognised as such and that is what is in place. Alan stated children attend and are distracting & do kids pay fees & they all got badges last year– no they just get a turtle necklace, kids can attend functions as the hotel decides. Poll to floor that children are not to attend Bilo Bar events - no seconder to the poll. Kim S talked on the kids being the future of the club and the fact her son wouldn't be here without that generational connection and that the future of the club is our children. Graeme H reiterated same.
- A McCudden on motion passed re 4 year tenure, summary is shown on the agenda, Andrew read out the motion in full to clarify one group has an initial 2 years tenure then 4 years along with the other group.

The meeting closed at 11.43 am.