



## **BRISBANE PRIDE INCORPORATED ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Date: Tuesday 29th March 2022**  
**Online Via Zoom.**

### **Minutes**

#### **1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Acknowledgement of Country was undertaken by the chair, Brisbane Pride President Rebecca Johnson.

#### **2. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

The chair advised that the quorum had been achieved and called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

#### **3. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES**

23 members in attendance. 7 proxies received. Nil apologies have been received.

#### **4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The minutes of the Brisbane Pride Incorporated 2021 Annual General Meeting had been made readily available for all members on the Brisbane Pride website as well as via email. Dylan Barrett moved that these minutes are a true and correct record of the 2021 Annual General Meeting. Seconded by Robert De Roos.  
15 For, Nil against. CARRIED.

#### **5. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**5.1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT** presented by Brisbane Pride President, Rebecca Johnson

##### **Acknowledgement of Country.**

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands, waterways and communities we meet on and pay respect to Elders past and present. Central to my leadership is recognition of my Ancestors, their guidance, wisdoms and humbleness.

##### **Opening Remarks.**

It is with many learnings over two terms as President and much happiness I provide my Presidents Report. The past twelve months have seen our LGBTIQ+ communities face challenging and tough times, many experiencing the impacts of COVID 19, Religious Bill attempts and significant weather events. Brisbane Pride Incorporated for the first time, moved to online meetings to plan and execute our LGBTIQ+ events. I am very proud to have led the committee and the festival operations through the pandemic to ensure we delivered safe accessible events such as the Memorial Garden, the 60<sup>th</sup> Queens Ball and Brisbane Pride Festival.

### **A Volunteer Committee.**

The Brisbane Pride Committee is 100% volunteer. I recognise the long hours of administration, planning, marketing, implementation and evaluation that the committee work on, to promote and amplify the visibility, events and voices of our LGBTIQ+ communities. I extend my thanks to the committee for their tenacity, resilience, and unfailing support to deliver Queensland's premier LGBTIQ+ events. The 2021 Festival operations were heavily impacted by COVID19, the committee postponed the original date in line with restrictions and transitioned all logistics to a new date for the Rally, March and Fair Day; was truly a remarkable effort by the volunteer committee.

### **Inclusive Development.**

Central to the growth of Brisbane Pride Inc is our commitment to strengthen diverse representation on the committee. We are committed to ensuring safe equitable and reasonable opportunities are shaped by the voices and aspirations of LGBTIQ+ peoples and communities. Brisbane Pride Festival feedback indicates a strong attendance across age groups and diverse identities. Last year Pride Fair Day welcomed a specific Disability space, led by Queensland Council for LGBTI Health. We were pleased to welcome the space and note the genuine engagement that encouraged a greater sense of accessibility and connection for people with Disabilities.

### **Genuine Partnerships.**

A key factor across Brisbane Pride Inc partnerships is that they be genuine, meaningful and apply benefits specific to the needs and aspirations of LGBTIQ+ community events. Our partnerships enshrine equal respect; they commit us all (community organisations, media partners, support groups, government organisations and sponsors) to advancing the lived experiences and voices of LGBTIQ+ people. We acknowledge and thank the Queensland Government, Queensland Mental Health Commission and Suncorp Bank for their ongoing sponsorship for Brisbane Pride events. This sponsorship supported the delivery of the 60<sup>th</sup> Queens Ball and 23 Pride events during September 2021. Critical to the success of the Pride events was creating a safe platform for LGBTIQ+ people to experience community led events designed for and with them.

### **Growing a localised approach to Pride in Queensland.**

In addition to a successful 2021 Pride Festival, we launched the **Queensland Pride Network** and **Visible Connected Proud**; Queensland's first ever LGBTIQ+ Mental Health Symposium for the first time ever, Brisbane Pride Inc was a finalist in the 2021 Queensland Mental Health Achievement Awards. Our approach is to support local voices and initiatives across urban regional and remote communities of Queensland to build Pride events. In 2021 through our community grants we provided support to Cairns Pride, Rainbow on the Reef and Ipswich Pride. We note the growth of Brisbane Pride Festival, last year we welcomed 105 stalls at Fair Day, over 70 performers across three stages and a designated Disability space. The broad representation of stall providers increases opportunity for LGBTIQ+ people to access vital support services, programs and groups. I am committed to supporting and celebrating the growth, advocacy and promotion of localised Pride initiatives. While COVID19 has impacted our QLD Pride Network meetings we look forward to growing these connections this year.

### **Final comments.**

With multiple events planned for 2022, we are pleased planning and progress is on track. The next coming months will focus strongly on a spectacular Queens Ball, to recognise the Queensland Legends that work across our LGBTIQ+ communities. I encourage you to think about LGBTIQ+ individuals and who you may consider ideal for a Queens Ball nomination.

Lastly but not least, thank you! LGBTIQ+ people, elderly, youth, families and our Allies for your support and participation in all of our Brisbane Pride Festival major events.

*“Working together invigorates a shared journey of promoting LGBTIQ+ rights and fundamental freedoms, working together builds LGBTIQ+ events and spaces to gather knowledge and to ensure such events and spaces are, accessible and sustained for LGBTIQ+ people and families”.*\_

I reflect on the past 12 months, and recall the conversations and engagement that I have had with a variety of stakeholders and community reps from different backgrounds. I am a more aware human as a result of these conversations. Our objectives outline a commitment to amplifying the voices of our LGBTIQ+ Sistergirl and Brotherboy communities. Community Voices are important to me and are important to Brisbane Pride Inc. We look forward to a successful year of events and invite you all to join us!

**5.2 TREASURER’S REPORT** presented by Brisbane Pride Treasurer James McCarthy  
James presented the audited financial statements to the meeting and presented the Treasurer’s report for the endorsement of the members. The audited financial statements included;

Profit for the year being: \$34,466

Revenue for the year \$334,594

Expenses for the year \$300,509

James McCarthy moved that the audited financial statements for the financial year ending 31 December 2021 be accepted. Seconded by Robert De Roos.

15 For, Nil against. CARRIED.

Jessica Astrid requested that the financial report be made available prior to the AGM like all the other papers associated with the AGM such as proxy forms etc

### **6. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR**

James McCarthy moved that AB Services PTY LTD be appointed as the auditor for Brisbane Pride Incorporated for 2022. Seconded by Gabriel Martello.

15 For, Nil against. CARRIED.

### **7. ELECTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Rule 18 of the Brisbane Pride Incorporated Rules, the following positions were declared vacant;

- President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- 2 x General Committee (2 year term)
- 1 x General Committee (1 year term)

Dylan Barrett acted as the coordinator on behalf of the Secretary to make sure that the nominations were received in accordance with the requirements set out in the Brisbane Pride Incorporated Rules. Dylan confirmed that the nomination process was properly conducted.

By the closing date, 7pm Tuesday, March 15th 2022, the coordinator had received 1 nomination for the position of President, 1 nomination for the position of Treasurer, 1 nomination for the position of Secretary & 1 nomination for the position of General Committee member (2 year term) and nil nominations for the other General Committee positions (both the 2 year and 1 year term).

The nominations received were;

President: Rebecca Johnson

Treasurer: James McCarthy

Secretary – Dylan Barrett

General Committee – Naraja Clay

These appointments are uncontested, and candidates are elected to their nomination positions.

Continuing Committee Members:

Vice President – Chris Pickard

General Committee – Gabriel Martello

Nominations were called from the floor to fill the position vacancies for the remaining 2-year and 1-year terms.

Bradley Heilbronn was nominated by James McCarthy, seconded by Samuel Walker.

This nomination was uncontested, and Bradley was elected to the 2-year General Committee position.

Siyan Baxter nominated themselves for the remaining General Committee position (1 year term), seconded by Gabriel Martello. This nomination was uncontested and Siyan was elected to the 1-year General Committee position.

## **8. CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE TO MEMBERSHIP**

Brisbane Pride committee said they would add a concessional membership class during the 2021 Brisbane Pride AGM.

To carry out this commitment, a constitutional change to the membership classes needs to be added.

It is intended that the following resolution be proposed as a special resolution –

That Rule 5.01 of the Rules of Incorporation of Brisbane Pride Inc be amended to include a concessional membership.

Rule 5.01 is amended as follows:

The membership of the association consists of ordinary members, and any of the following classes:

(a) associate members

(b) life members

(c) concessional members

Robert De Roos moved that this motion be accepted and seconded by Rebecca Reynolds.  
15 For, Nil against. CARRIED

## **9. MEMBERSHIP FEES**

### **9.1 CONCESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

James McCarthy moved that the concessional membership fee for 2022 be \$15, which includes a ticket entry to Brisbane Fair Day. Seconded by Robert De Roos.

15 For, Nil against. CARRIED

### **9.2 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**

James McCarthy moved that general membership fee for 2022 be \$20, which includes a ticket entry to Brisbane Pride Fair Day. Seconded by Robert De Roos.  
15 For, Nil against. CARRIED.

### **9.3 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP**

James McCarthy moved that associate membership fee for 2022 be \$50. Seconded by Robert De Roos.  
15 for, Nil against. CARRIED

## **10. General business**

### **QPS marching in uniform during Brisbane Pride Rally & March:**

Wendell Rosevear wanted to acknowledge the pain within our communities when engaging with the Queensland Police Service in the past and believes that we all need to collectively (within QPS and the community as a whole) as part of a healing process. Wendell has been heavily involved with the training and support of cultural change within the QPS with their LGBTI Liaison officers.

Wendell acknowledged that many QPS Liaison officers had put their careers, personal lives and vulnerabilities on the line to speak out for change within QPS. When it was announced that QPS could not march in uniform, some officers were quite hurt by that response.

Wendell understands that there was a reason that QPS were asked to not march in uniform as to not retraumatise anyone and that an apology is required. Wendell would like to see those QPS officers who have been instrumental in change acknowledged whilst those who have been disrespectful, held accountable.

Wendell felt that when the decision was made regarding QPS officers marching in uniform, that even though he is a financial member of Brisbane Pride, that he didn't have a voice during the discussion regarding this.

Wendell would like a continued dialogue regarding QPS marching in uniform as is happy to be part of that process.

Rebecca Johnson thanked Wendell for raising this and acknowledged the complexity of this across many spaces and that Brisbane Pride is committed to an ongoing conversation regarding this with the Queensland Police Service Commissioner.

Samuel Walker raised that the categorisation of difficult dealings with QPS officers as historical is not the lived experience of many, many people within our communities and who currently have very, very negative interactions with QPS and for whom the QPS have greatly contributed to their trauma. There are contemporary issues impacting LGBTIQ+ community members today because of QPS interactions, this is especially true for First Nation's people and Transgender communities.

Rebecca Johnson reiterated that Brisbane Pride is committed to community consultation regarding QPS. There will be an opportunity for community voices to be involved in this.

Rowena Specht-Whyte wanted to acknowledge that what Wendell had said regarding community healing, that it is not appropriate for where we are right now but rather for the future when the systems and institutions have been revisited. The harms that individual QPS officers may have felt regarding not being able to march in uniform are not equal to the harms caused by the QPS as a whole on members of the LGBTIQ+ communities within Queensland.

## **11. Closure of meeting**

Meeting closed at 6.57pm