



Pyrmont Cares Inc.
Recycling furniture and whitegoods to those who need them the most in the inner city
Ph: 0423 751 903 | Email: mail@pyrmontcares.org.au | www.pyrmontcares.org.au
Post: PO Box 240 Pyrmont NSW 2009

PYRMONT CARES AGM 2023

Held at 5:00pm on Monday 17 July 2023

ATTENDEES: Peter Devoy, Muriel Chen, Anne Morphett, Michele Jackson, Howard Houliston, Paul Limmer, Pam Houliston, Vic Dorsen, Eric Hensley

APOLOGIES: David Rice, Carol Limmer

1. **Minutes of the 11th AGM of 5 September 2022** were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Paul Limmer and Seconded by Vic Dorsen. The meeting resolved to adopt those minutes.
2. **President's Annual Report** – Peter Devoy addressed the meeting, referring to his written report which is appended to these minutes.
3. **Operations Annual Report** – Michele Jackson addressed the meeting, referring to the written report which is appended to these minutes.
4. **Thanks to the outgoing Committee** was proposed by Peter Devoy, President and recorded
5. **Election of Committee Members** - Nominations were called for positions in advance, in accordance with the Constitution, some nominations were received as indicated below and further nominations sought from the floor. All positions have been filled as follows:
 - a. President – Peter Devoy (nomination received in advance)
 - b. Vice President – Muriel Chen (nomination received in advance)
 - c. Treasurer – David Rice (nomination received in advance)
 - d. Secretary - Michele Jackson (self-nominated at the meeting)
 - e. Ordinary Member – Paul Limmer (self-nominated at the meeting)
 - f. Ordinary Member – Howard Houliston (nomination received in advance)
 - g. Ordinary Member – Anne Morphett (self-nominated at the meeting)
 - h. Ordinary Member – Pam Houliston (nomination received in advance)
 - i. Ordinary Member – Vic Dorsen (self-nominated at the meeting)

j. Ordinary Member – Eric Hensley (self-nominated at the meeting)

6. **Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements** – were tabled and (The full financial accounts are available upon request) the Treasurer's Summary follows. It was proposed to accept these minutes and report by Vic Dorsen and Seconded by Howard Houliston. The motion was carried.

Treasurer's Report

for the Year Ended 30th June 2023

Balance Sheet

Cash at Bank of \$106,077 is very healthy, but is some \$8,000 below the June 2022 Year-End. This is despite the receipt of a \$10,000 bequest during the year. This is because cash expenses (i.e. excluding Depreciation) continue to exceed Income. This is of concern, and is explored further below.

The written-down value of Motor Vehicles is \$31,540, as a result of several years' accounting depreciation.

This generates a very strong Total assets figure of \$137,617.

Income & Expense Report

Income of \$38,325 reflects \$20,000 continued sponsorship from Raine & Horne, a bequest of \$10,000 from The Estate Of The Late R R George, and income from generous donors including Michele Jackson (\$2,000) and the GFCBW (\$4,000).

Expenses of \$55,369 include non-cash Depreciation Expense of \$8,734. Cash Expenses of \$46,634 comprise mainly rent of the depot \$23,800, Motor Vehicle Expenses \$11,116 and Insurance \$3,127. It's gratifying to note that Mattresses continue to be sufficiently well-managed in that the \$(516) deficit is very modest compared with some previous years.

The net result is a Deficit for the year of \$(17,043). Extracting the \$8,734 non-cash Depreciation Expense means that Pymont Cares has gone backwards by \$(8,309) during the year.

Financial Notes

- the continued monthly Sponsorship from Raine & Horne is a highly-important to Pymont Cares' finances;
- other donations, sponsorships and bequests will doubtless continue to occur - and contribute greatly to Pymont Cares' finances - but cannot be relied upon;
- it is therefore vital to cultivate the relationship with Raine & Horne as well as to seek other recurring sponsorship arrangements in other sectors;
- while cash expenses always need to be controlled, over \$35,000 comprises fixed costs, and the remainder offers little scope for reduction;

- the major expense of \$23,800 for rent should be viewed in the context of the current depot arrangements being the most efficient and safe that we've had for many years;
- if we do not generate Annual Income of around \$46,000, we will continue to go backwards financially.

The meeting resolved that:

The Accounts and Treasurer's Report for the Year Ended 30th June 2022 were tabled and are approved.

7. Selection of date for 2024 AGM.

8 July 2024 – 5pm

Meeting closed 6:24pm

Michele Jackson
Secretary

President's Report for 2023

Pymont Cares has been operating for over 14 years now and as co-founder of the organisation, it has been a wonderful journey seeing the operation grow to what it is today. Last count we have 161 members and 61 active volunteers. Whilst we have been active and successful in recruiting new volunteers, we always need more as we cannot allow the workload to be on those who come forward volunteering most weeks.

Since the end of Covid, we like all charities, have been busy in satisfying all the agencies we supplying furniture and white goods to those who need them most in the City of Sydney. We have been under-taking extra deliveries in order to keep up with demand.

Our services are in high demand and we are a well-known as a charity in the area we service and beyond. With PC providing services to those who need it in the City of Sydney we lift the self-esteem of those who are desperate for furniture and white goods.

Recently, we have had to exit a few agencies particularly those that get support from other organisations. This has assisted us in meeting demands from the remaining agencies.

This is a reflection in the ever-increasing cost of food and furniture. It's been reported that people are trying to manage on cutting down on essentials just to supply food.

Its pleasing to see that we always fill our roster for the truck and van and I acknowledge the hard work of our roster person who puts so much time in chasing volunteers if we are short of a crew for the truck or van.

We have a wonderful active committee who work tirelessly and donate their time to insure the effective running of the organisation. Our Treasurer and Secretary are important

members of the committee and ensure that the committee complies with the various regulations associated with a registered charity.

It would be remiss of me if I did not acknowledge the hard work that the operation volunteers put in week to week organising the collection of furniture and white goods and the turnaround for delivery to those that are fortunate enough to have accommodation. They have a challenging job liaising with donors of furniture and white goods and in particular with the agencies who represent their client's seeking assistance. The operation team provide an enormous amount of the workload and do so without any financial reward as do all of our volunteers.

All of our donated electrical equipment must be inspected and tested by a qualified person to identify damage, wear and detect electrical faults before delivery. We are most fortunate to have two volunteers who give their time up each Tuesday to tag and test the equipment. We currently have a truck and van which are ably overseen by the keeper of the keys who ensures that the vehicles are serviced and maintained by qualified mechanics. The truck has an annual parking sticker that allows us to park the truck in John Street. However, despite repeat representations we have been denied the same facility for the van by The Sydney City Council.

Whilst we have a suitable storage depot in Leichhardt, we understand that the building is under a DA for demolition sometime in the future, so we are actively looking for suitable alternative premises in the vicinity of the City of Sydney. This is proving to be difficult as the rent for anything that is suitable is well in excess of our budget. Thankfully, we receive a discount on the rent of the depot which assists us with limited cash flow. By far the rent is our biggest expense followed by insurance costs. We have been told that The City of Sydney has some vacant buildings suitable for our furniture depot however we have been unsuccessful in securing premises.

We continue to have support of our wonderful sponsors, Raine and Horne City Living, Main On Constructions, Pride Electrical and Christmas in Pymont. We are most grateful for their ongoing support most of them have been with us for many years. Last year we again had our Christmas Party at the Blue Eye Dragon which was attended by around 40 volunteers. The event was partly sponsored by the restaurant.

Finally, Helen and I will be leaving Pymont at the end of the month to take up residence on the Northern Beaches to be near our children. This has come about due to my wife having a medical condition. With the approval of the committee, I will stay on as President until we find a suitable replacement.

I wish you all good health and happiness and look forward to a successful year next

Yours faithfully

Peter Devoy OAMS

PYRMONT CARES OPERATIONS REPORT 2022-23.

IT improvements have continued throughout 2022/23 including further automation of the Deliveries process and refinements to the membership system. Significant changes were made arising from a review of the Privacy Policy and retention of personal data. We have now minimised the holding of personal data, removing full addresses and have reduced specific birth dates in favour of year ranges. We no longer hold Driver's License details, though a Committee Member sights the document before we allow a volunteer to join our Truck Driver list. Thanks to Howard Houlston for the constant focus on improvement.

PREMISES remain a focus. Our current location and facility has proven ideal, specifically because of the ease of access, layout and available space to store and load. Unfortunately, the site is slated for development which may happen anytime in the next 12-24 months. Our rent has increased a number of times in the last year and is our most significant overhead. Despite the best efforts and especially Muriel Chen our Vice president we have been unable to identify suitable, affordable alternative premises. This will be a major focus in the coming year.

PROCESSES are continually improved and the team at the Depot on Tuesdays operate with great efficiency. We have had minimal need to dispose of items this year and have avoided disposal fees. In part this is due to relationships with washing machine and fridge supplier, John Luwi and relationships with other furniture sellers and charities. Our Tagging and Testing team of Howard Houlston and Paul Limmer are there weekly to ensure that we have a ready supply of tested electrical appliances to meet to scheduled deliveries. During this financial year the team has made 151 deliveries and 207 pickups.

VOLUNTEERS - a further 10 volunteers have joined our ranks this year. They have moved into roles in the Deliveries team, the depot team, Administration and the Truck Roster. We continue to look for a volunteer with IT skills to assist Howard Houlston with our systems maintenance and development.

COMMUNICATION - regular Facebook posts have continued and have proven very successful in providing items eg, televisions, when we have a specific need. One new volunteer has joined the group to improve our communication and frequency of postings. We have continued to nurture relationships and have forged a strong relationship with a similar charity – Relove. Relove operate from premises in Botany area and are a large-scale provider of similar items to us. We have shared information, ideas and swapped furniture where one has excess and the other a deficit.

Of course, none of this is possible without the continued generosity of our volunteers and donors. We are thankful for their ongoing support.