



# EESTI ABISTAMISE KOMITEE

Estonian Relief Committee Limited

ACN 091 457 911



Chairman: Mart Rampe 0408 677709 [mart.rampe@harvestscientific.com.au](mailto:mart.rampe@harvestscientific.com.au)

Secretary: Dr Juho Looveer (02) 9653 2871 [Juho.Looveer@gmail.com](mailto:Juho.Looveer@gmail.com)

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## MINUTES

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Taara Gardens Community Hall, Thirlmere

#### 1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting commenced at 11:00 a.m.

The Chairman, M. Rampe opened the meeting by welcoming the members.

A minute's silence was observed as a sign of respect to members who had passed during the year.

#### 2 ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: 20 people plus eight proxies as per Attendance Book

APOLOGIES: Dr Peter Muttik; Tiina Alvre; Madis Alvre

**Paid up membership** as at the time of the meeting is 36 members.

##### 2.1 Vote Counters

The following were appointed: Trevor Ford; Kai Panov; Hedda Moll

#### 3 AGENDA – ORDINARY BUSINESS

3.1 To confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Company, held on Sunday, 28 October, 2018

3.2 Annual Accounts and Records

3.3 Election of Auditors

3.4 Election of Directors

3.5 General Business

## 4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 28 October 2018

4.1 These had been circulated via email, and were read out by Secretary Dr Looveer

**Correction:** Omission from Minutes circulated for AGM 28 October 2018; Tiina Alvre was advised at the AGM held on 22 October 2017 that the number of financial members was 56. This correction has been made to official records.

**MOTION:** Moved Maie Barrow; seconded Trevor Ford

**That the Minutes of the previous meeting (28 October 2018) be accepted as a true record of that meeting**

**AGREED**

## 5 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### 5.1

- This had been circulated with the meeting papers.
- M Rampe read his report to the meeting

### 5.2 COMMENTS

- Mara Maasepp asked who Aksel Haagensen was (recipient of a grant). Aksel is a young man of Estonian heritage (grandson of ?? Pihlak). His project is to propose to visit from Eesti to interview refugees and produce a documentary film. A worthwhile project, especially in light of the mass deportations. Whilst the final documentary film would be housed in Eesti, it could be used around the world. ERC has stipulated that a copy be deposited with the Estonian-Australian Archives
- Trevor Ford asked about the electronic communication and website – what about people who have no access to computers? Agreed that we need to provide hardcopy to such members. Hedda Moll suggested a general mail-out to members to find out who would need such hard-copy.
- Hillar Ranniko stated that he disagreed with the comments in the report re the Future Options forum held by the Sydney Estonian House Co-Op.

**MOTION:** Moved Trevor Ford; seconded Ülle Slammer

**That the Chairman's Report be accepted.**

**AGREED**

## 6 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS

### 6.1 Annual Accounts

- The accounts summary had been circulated with the Notice of Meeting (see attached)
- Treasurer Kaili Ford highlighted that:
  - Total Income received = \$ 79,581.43
  - Grants awarded = \$ 18,845
  - Total expenses = \$ 28,138.85
  - nett profit = \$ 51,422.58
  - Total Equity = \$905,185.48
- The profit for the year is mainly due to the bequeath of \$50,000 from Hans Ots

### 6.2 Auditor's Statement

This had been circulated with the Meeting Papers (see attached).

The Auditors have given their approval for the accounting for the Company.

**MOTION: Moved Pamela Rampe; seconded Aino Loit**

**That the Financial Report be accepted**

**AGREED**

## 7 ELECTIONS

### 7.1 Auditors for Coming Year

- MR proposed that Rick Fitzpatrick & Co be again appointed as auditors

**MOTION: Moved Mara Maasepp; seconded Kai Panov**

**That Rick Fitzpatrick and co. be appointed auditors for the Estonian Relief Committee Ltd for the following year**

**AGREED**

### 7.2 Directors of the Board for ERC Ltd

- MR explained that according to the current Constitution, the current Directors would be continuing for another year. Hence, there would be no elections this year.

### 7.3 Change of Company Name

- The Board had proposed that the ERC change its name to:  
The Estonian Cultural Foundation in Australia (ECFA)  
(Eesti Kultuuri Sihtasutus Austraalias - EKSA)
- The purpose of this is due to the changed nature of the work and functions of the company.
- Trevor Ford: A good idea – the new name will explain what we are and what we do.
- Maie Barrow: times have changed , as have our functions
- Juho Looveer: this also signals basic changes and the new directions which we have proposed

**MOTION: Moved Mara Maasepp; seconded Kai Panov**

**That the Estonian Relief Committee Limited (Eesti Abistamise Komitee) change its name to:**

**The Estonian Cultural Foundation in Australia Limited**

**Or in Estonian,**

**Eesti Kultuuri Sihtasutus Austraalias**

**27 votes for, one against  
MOTION CARRIED**

## 8 GENERAL BUSINESS

### 8.1 AESL and ERC merger and cooperation arrangements

- At the 2018 AGM, it had been agreed to propose a draft agreement, look at necessary restructures, changes to constitution, etc ERC had undertaken all of this work and was in a position to move forward.
- However, there has been little movement from the AESL (Austraalia Eesti Seltside Liit)
- Juho Looveer: from recent emails and AESL minutes, it appears that AESL has not moved re incorporation, and does not appear to be moving in any direction. They have, however, mentioned that they will serve a proposal during November 2019
- Maie Barrow: Lembit Marder may have changed his mind, since it was explained to him that Australia needs an overarching body like SESL to maintain its presence at the Estonian world council (i.e. ÜEKN.)
- A major stumbling block is that Liit (AESL) still operates with a n Executive which operates on a rotational basis; this may have been appropriate when Liit was formed in 1952, however it makes for an ineffective body these days.
- Juho Looveer to prepare a draft paper for the next ERC Board meeting, to then be circulated to AESL members for consideration

## 8.2 Future Options process for the Sydney Estonian House Co-Operative

- Annual General Meeting was held on the previous Sunday. There have been some significant changes to the Board.
- ERC may hold discussions with them in this regard
- Hillar Ranniko: The Future Options program is dead and buried .
- Maie Barrow: The AGM was firmly of the opinion that they should refurbish the current premises; no other options were considered.

## 8.3 Other Matters

- Ulle Slammer asked if a short note with key points from this meeting could be provided to residents of Taara gardens

## 9 CONCLUSION

- M Rampe thanked RSL Lifecare for the use of the facilities for this meeting.
- M Rampe also thanked the Ford family for their organisation and support on arranging this meeting and the ensuing refreshments

The meeting closed at 11:25 p.m.

The above minutes are a true reflection of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

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Mart Rampe  
Chairman

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Dr Juho Looveer  
Secretary

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

# **The Chairman's Report**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019**

The Board has met on seven occasions in the past year.

This year we believe marks a turning point for the Company's future. The Board is strongly of the belief that if Estonian culture in Australia is to survive, we must look to our youth to engage with and promote the Estonian "story". As a result, it is felt that the Company's name now reflects an era that has long passed and is not in keeping with our current and future objectives.

To that end, we are recommending that the Company changes its name to:

### **The Estonian Cultural Foundation in Australia (ECFA)** **(Eesti Kultuuri Sihtasutus Austraalias - EKSA)**

This recommendation will be tabled at the AGM for discussion after which, members will be asked to approve or decide otherwise the recommendation.

As you may recall, since our divestiture of Taara Gardens, we have been active in promoting Estonian culture in Australia by way of financial grants to appropriate individuals and organisations. It is intended not only to maintain this activity, but to substantially expand our reach. To that end, a number of measures have been undertaken to facilitate this approach and include the following:

- Upgrading our administrative systems by nominating a Finance Committee (of 4 directors) to review our financial position and report to the Board on a regular basis.
- Rationalisation of our banking facilities. This year, we transitioned to the Commonwealth Bank's NetBank facility, enabling all financial transactions to be made on-line. Appropriate security protocols have been adopted at the same time.
- We have engaged the services of Common Cents Financial Services Pty Ltd (CCFS) to advise the ERC on an appropriate investment strategy going forward. You have no doubt noted that income from bank term deposits have been gradually decreasing over the past few years to a point where income from these sources has almost become negligible. This year, several of our long term deposits have matured and so we were faced with considering new sources of income. As a result and with the assistance of CCFS, the ERC has commenced investing in a range of funds that will deliver returns in excess of 4% - and in some cases up to 12% per annum. At the time of writing, the ERC has invested up to \$600,000 in the following funds:
  - La Trobe 12 month
  - Trilogy Monthly Income
  - AMP – Core Infrastructure
  - AMP – Core Property
  - AMP – Corporate Bond
  - Cromwell Direct Property

We believe that this strategy will increase our annual income significantly from current levels, enabling us to fund a greater range of individuals and organisations that promote Estonian culture in Australia. A financial summary for the 2018-2019 year was also attached with the Notice of Meeting. It is noted that the operating profit for the financial year ending June 30, 2019 amounted to \$51,442.58. Our cash position for the same period increased slightly to \$905,185.48. This

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significant improvement in our financial position from the previous financial year was largely due to a very generous bequeath from Hans Ots, a long time resident of Taara Gardens. In honour of this bequeath, the ERC has initiated the Hans Ots Grant, funds from which will be made available on annual basis.

In June 2019, we received a number of applications for funding for the 2019-2020 financial year. Following an assessment of all applications against the funding criteria, a total of \$17,382.00 was allocated to the successful applicants. Our limit on funding for this period was set around \$20,000 and matched that available from previous years. Organisations that have received funding for this period include the following:

- Sörve (\$10,000)
- Sydney Mudilasring (\$2,250)
- Lõke (\$3,632)
- Aksel Haagensen (\$1,500)

Whilst considerable efforts were focused on a possible collaborative effort with AESL in 2017-2018, very little activity on this front has occurred during the past financial year. We are waiting for a formal response to the proposal put to AESL, which we understand will occur after their next AGM in early 2020. In the meantime, ERC will continue with business as usual.

Other notable events during the course of the reporting period included the following:

- A Memorial Commemoration was held in honour of Sir Arvi Parbo who passed away in May, 2019. The Commemoration was held at the Melbourne Town Hall on Monday 27th May and was attended by many people from the Estonian community as well as the Australian Mining Industry.
- In June 2019, we attended a Forum that was conducted at Estonian House in Sydney regarding the Estonian House "Future Options" process in our capacity as a significant shareholder in the Society which owns the building. Unfortunately, the Forum failed to generate any meaningful result.

We are also initiating the following activities for the coming financial year, viz:

- Our website will be updated to include a link to a "Births, Deaths and Marriages" page. With the demise of the Estonian newspaper, "Meie Kodu", a number of people have expressed the desire to have an alternative outlet available to enable the registration of a family and/or personal event. We will be formalising this over the coming months, outlining a schedule of costs amongst other things.
- We have decided to shift the collection of membership fees to the commencement of the financial year. Hence, from July 1, 2020, we will be notifying all of our members of the fees payable. At the same time, we will provide details of our bank account, so that members can pay by EFT.

Please refer to our web site ([www.erclimited.com.au](http://www.erclimited.com.au)) for more detail regarding the above news. Otherwise, please contact the following:

Mart Rampe: [office@harvestservices.com.au](mailto:office@harvestservices.com.au)

Dr Juho Looveer: [Juho.Looveer@gmail.com](mailto:Juho.Looveer@gmail.com)

Kaili Ford [kailiford@yahoo.com](mailto:kailiford@yahoo.com)

Please note that we will be serving some light refreshments after the AGM.

## PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019

	June 2019	June 2018	June 2017	June 2016	June 2015	June 2014
<b>INCOME</b>						
Membership fees	395.00	455.00	520.00	837.76	455.00	235.00
Interest received	26,128.66	27,219.34	28,233.44	24,750.32	24,938.64	15,438.60
Donations received	52,545.01	295.00	3,130.00	2,390.45	77.00	35.00
Refund from ASIC	0.00	266.00	-	-	-	-
IAG Dividend	512.76	307.36	235.04	352.56	352.56	343.52
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>79,581.43</b>	<b>28,542.70</b>	<b>32,118.48</b>	<b>28,331.09</b>	<b>25,823.20</b>	<b>16,052.12</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Accounting Fee	-	220.00	-	-	-	-
Audit fees	990.00	935.00	935.00	1,115.00	880.00	825.00
AGM expenses	-	139.95	141.80	1,893.29	501.61	238.25
ASIC Fee	220.00	323.00	-	-	-	-
70th Anniversary celebrations	-	-	-	692.96	-	-
Postage	-	70.00	86.60	42.00	54.75	-
Printing	250.00	255.75	343.10	181.10	-	-
Legal fees	5459.85	729.30	2,406.80	1,078.00	-	-
Meie Kodu notices	161.00	161.00	50.00	55.00	210.00	55.00
Meie Kodu Grant	2000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	3,000.00
Sõrve Grant	-	5,000.00	5,000.00	4,660.00	5,000.00	3,000.00
Lõke	-	-	-	-	260.00	-
AESL	-	-	-	-	1,000.00	132.00
Rent	-	500.00	-	-	-	-
Eesti Archives	1000.00	-	-	3,250.00	-	2,500.00
Sydney Estonian Playschool	3450.00	2,700.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	-
Brisbane Estonian Playschool	2450.00	3,900.00	4,000.00	3,500.00	-	-
Virtualized	-	-	1,600.00	-	-	-
Cultural Prizes	-	-	700.00	-	250.00	-
Eesti Co-op	40.00	40.00	40.00	120.00	-	-
Eesti RSL	-	-	-	1,080.00	-	-
Sorve Sobrad - Sydney Estonian Parents & Friends	5000.00	-	-	-	-	-
Loke Sydney Estonian Singers Group	2600.00	-	-	-	-	-
Eesti Societies Australia	-	5,000.00	-	-	-	-
Estonian Society of Sydney	2345.00	-	-	-	-	-
Esto Artists Grant	660.00	-	-	-	-	-
Estonian Handicraft Assoc ERCGrant	500.00	-	-	-	-	-
ERC Ltd Website	165.00	-	242.00	1,276.00	919.00	215.00
General expenses	200.00	-	230.99	681.09	223.00	327.00
Office Expenses*	648.00	-	90.85	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>28,138.85</b>	<b>23,974.00</b>	<b>20,867.14</b>	<b>24,624.44</b>	<b>13,298.36</b>	<b>10,292.25</b>
TES Koit Donation received					290,370.53	
<b>NET PROFIT (LOSS)</b>	<b>51,442.58</b>	<b>4,568.70</b>	<b>11,251.34</b>	<b>3,706.65</b>	<b>302,895.37</b>	<b>5,759.87</b>

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT JUNE 30, 2018

<b>ASSETS</b>						
Petty cash	577.35	577.35	566.05	518.28	315.27	126.22
Cheque account CBA	71222.15	39,508.23	55,770.17	16,381.08	26,032.04	25,483.46
Cheque account NAB	-	-	-	0.01	3,079.86	-
Public Trust account CBA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	-
Term Deposit 50066254	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	210,703.78
Term Deposit 50066262	365,596.82	349,155.73	334,761.01	320,923.49	307,692.70	295,007.38
Term Deposit NAB 839202644	-	-	-	-	296,996.34	-
Term Deposit NAB 489039604	267,689.16	264,401.59	257,976.97	300,000.00	-	-
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>905,185.48</b>	<b>853,742.90</b>	<b>849,174.20</b>	<b>837,922.86</b>	<b>834,216.21</b>	<b>531,320.84</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>						
	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>EQUITY</b>						
Members' Equity	515,330.00	515,330.00	515,330.00	515,330.00	515,330.00	515,330.00
Retained Earnings	338,412.90	333,844.20	322,592.86	318,886.21	15,990.84	10,230.97
Current year's earnings	51,442.58	4,568.70	11,251.34	3,706.65	302,895.37	5,759.87
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>905,185.48</b>	<b>853,742.90</b>	<b>849,174.20</b>	<b>837,922.86</b>	<b>834,216.21</b>	<b>531,320.84</b>

\* Travel to Melbourne to attend Parbo memorial and Esto Festival Album Greeting

19 September 2019

**ACCOUNTANTS STATEMENT  
RE: ESTONIA RELIEF COMMITTEE LIMITED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

The Attached Income and Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet (accounts) have been prepared from information and records provided to me by your organization.

The books and records have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. I believe the accounts to be a true and accurate reflection of income and expenditure for the year.

Whilst all care and diligence has been taken in the preparation of the accounts no responsibility will be taken for any errors or omissions however caused.

Should you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact our office on 1300 780 191

Yours faithfully  
W A Fitzpatrick



Director

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*Building  
Better  
Businesses*

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