



25TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD

PRETORIA INSTITUTE FOR ARCHITECTURE
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON

Thursday, 19 November 2020 @ 14h00

VIA

ZOOM

WELCOME

Maureen welcomed all to the Annual General Meeting. Special welcome was made of Isia Ortner (PIA President), Mthembeni Mkhize (Recently appointed CEO of SAIA), Dave Nemeth (Guest Speaker), Weich Lippert (PIA Auditor), PIA Committee Members, Members of the PIA, other guests and staff of the PIA. All in attendance were informed that the PIA Annual Financial Statements together with the PIA Annual Report was forwarded electronically to all.

SHORT ADDRESS BY MTHEMBENI MKHIZE

Mthembeni introduced himself to the attendees and briefly discussed some pertinent matters at SAIA and the industry. Mthembeni also expressed the high regard he has for the PIA and the way matters are prepared for and handled.

Maureen thanked him for his time and his kind words.

PRESENTATION BY DAVE NEMETH

Dave presented a very interesting and insightful presentation covering trends in the industry "What the future holds for architectural professionals". He offered to present more on the topic and also offered to present to architects how they can market their services going forward.

Maureen thanked him for an enlightening presentation and confirmed to contact him with regards the presentations.

PROCEDURES – DUE NOTICE AND QUORUM

There were 64 attendees present. In order for a quorum to be established, 27 voting members were required to be present at the meeting. With 58 voting members, a quorum was established and the meeting could continue.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Maureen informed all that there was only one apology, received from Marinda Bolt, for the meeting.

OBITUARIES

Attendees were informed that in the past year, the PIA also suffered the loss of 3 very renowned architects within our midst. They were indeed stalwarts and great mentors to the profession.

Mr Ronald Remmers

Mr Henk Bakker

Mr Errol Pieters

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Maureen informed all that the Minutes of the previous AGM (included in the annual report) were sent out to all the PIA members, together with the financials of the 2019/2020 fiscal.

The acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Len Verdoorn and seconded by Chris Malan. The meeting approved and accepted the minutes.

FINALISATION OF AGENDA

The meeting accepted the agenda of the AGM. No further items were added to the proposed agenda.

FINANCIALS AUDITORS REPORTS

Auditor's Report

Weich Lippert presented the report for the 2019/2020 Fiscal. The report is also included in the Financial Report forwarded.

Membership Fees and Budget

Maureen informed all present that the PIA membership fees were not increased due to the trying circumstances the profession finds itself in with COVID and lockdown's dire effect on an already suffering industry. All were also informed that it was the most challenging of all budgets since the start of the PIA as there were so many unknowns to be considered.

Approval of Budget

The approval of the budget was forwarded to all members on 25 June 2020. The PIA received 26 approval and 1 dispute from the membership.

Attendees were asked to offer any objections to the proposed budget which was sent out. No objections were raised.

Claire McCusker approved the budget and Gerd Bolt seconded the budget.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

All present were informed that Isia will be addressing the members later in the meeting.

The Presidents Report is included in the Annual Report. Attendees were encouraged to please read her report.

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

Maureen asked members to please also read the respective reports as included in the Annual report sent out and contact the PIA offices for any queries. Maureen thanked the committee for all their

effort and time they commit to their respective portfolios. This gives a very comprehensive overview on work done by the committees on behalf of the profession.

VOTE AND INTRODUCTION

Members were reminded again that the institute will not exist if it was not for the volunteers who avail themselves and generously give their time and input for the benefit of all our members and the profession. They were also reminded that it is a handful of people who tirelessly work to keep the profession relevant and ensure that the PIA has a voice.

Existing committee members and re-nominated members were introduced to all.

Nominations have been received for Marinda Bolt, Jan Hugo, Karlien Thomashoff and Dewar van Antwerpen.

The Members present accepted the respective nominations to the committee.

Gerald Steyn remains co-opted as part of the CPD Accreditations Committee.

Committee members who are unable to serve another term or have resigned are Faan Nel, Naana Bediako and Anneke Schriek.

Mauneen again thanked the committee and the staff for all the time and effort invested to make the PIA what it is, especially during the last year.

Committee structures were explained to all and members were invited to volunteer to assist on the sub-committees.

MOTIONS

The motion received was read out to all present.

“MOTION TO WAIVER THE PIA ANNUAL FEES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND A 50% DISCOUNT ON THE PIA ANNUAL FEES FOR THE CHAIR PERSONS/CONVENERS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES AS OF THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR (2021-2022) FOR THE DURATION OF THE TERM OF SERVICE IN THE ABOVE MENTIONED CAPACITY

The expectations and demands on these volunteers have increased immensely over the years. As volunteers they may not be financially rewarded for any of their time, but it has become increasingly evident that we, as an institute, need to ensure that we retain their valuable service – if only through this very small gesture.

All SAIA fees will still be payable.”

This motion received full support from all present and thus the motion carries.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Mauneen thanked Isia on behalf of the PIA committee, staff and members for the past two years served as president. She also thanked her family for their support and handed over the “virtual” Certificate of Recognition for her Term of Service as President of the PIA. The real certificate will be handed over to her at a next event.

PRESIDENT’S AWARD

Isia presented the President’s Award to Faan Nel for his selfless contribution to the PIA committee and the architectural profession. Faan responded that he is honoured to receive this reward

knowing how many worthy recipients there are and thanked Isia. The certificate will be handed over to him at a next event.

INAUGURATION FORMALITIES

Isia addressed the membership and spoke about why she joined the PIA and committee, her time as president, the need for VAs and volunteers to step up for the profession and the crucial role played by the members of the committee and VAs on behalf of the profession. She concluded with "Make architecture great again. We can't offer any remuneration, but we promise you loads of personal and professional growth and experience."

Isia thanked Gerd Bolt, the immediate Past President for his service of 6 years on the executive committee and also thanked him for his willingness to remain on the committee to further serve the members and the profession.

Isia also introduced Claire McCusker, the nominated and elected Vice President of the PIA, for accepting the position. She wished her well for her term of service on the executive committee.

Lastly, Isia introduced Jeremie Malan to the members present as the President Elect. She thanked him for his support during his term as Vice President and wished him well for his term as President of the PIA. Isia also reiterated that he has the support of the committee and staff and congratulated him.

Jeremie addressed the meeting and thanked all for the confidence and trust they have in him to be the one elected to serve in the position as president. Jeremie delivered his speech to the meeting which is attached to the minutes of this meeting .(Annexure A)

Jeremie will be presented with the President's Chain at a next event.

VIDEO SCREENING

A video was put together containing photos from events which happened in the first part of the fiscal 2019/2020, lockdown images and ZOOM meetings, videos of some committee members. This was screened and enjoyed by all.

THANKS AND CLOSURE OF MEETING

Maureen thanked all for attending the AGM.

The Meeting was adjourned at 16:45.

Proposed

Seconded

President

The above minutes are an accurate record of the procedures and discussions.

Annexure A

Pretoria Institute for Architecture – Inauguration Speech – President Elect Jeremie Malan – **19 November 2020**

Thank you to the members of the PIA for entrusting me with this new role as President of the PIA.

I regard this as an honor but also as a privilege to serve the members.

I also trust that the Covid-19 pandemic will be controlled in the coming year and that we can at least return to perhaps a new normal.

I have served as vice-president for the past two years and worked closely with the outgoing President, Isia Ortner. I got to know her well during this time and she always represented the members with the highest of professional conduct.

Her personality is quiet and reserved but she considers the challenges posed and always came up with a well thought out answer or response.

As Past-President she will continue to serve on the PIA Executive as Treasurer and her valuable insights, comments and directions will continue to be not only an invaluable contribution to the PIA but also to myself.

The new Executive also sees Gerd Bolt leaving and he has served as Treasurer / Past-President during this time. Gerd is a university colleague of mine and we completed our studies together in 1983 at University of Pretoria – his dry sense of humor and sharp wit has always remained. We often reminisce about our student days, reflecting on Boukunde, Prof. Alewyn, Swannie's watercolours and how long is a piece of string? Nonetheless Gerd will continue serving on the Committee and we won't lose his insights, deliberations and experience.

The Executive also consists of our CEO, Maureen van Wyk who has the momentous task of keeping us properly informed and coordinated. She tirelessly works to serve the PIA members and remains a library archive of PIA matters. She leaves no stone unturned and continues to do so – thank you Maureen. We also recognize your staff who works tirelessly i.e., Ishara, Marlize and Evelyn.

My congratulations to the incoming Vice-President, Claire McCusker who will also be joining us on the executive committee. Claire has a clear and present mind for precise outcomes, is patient and supplements this with good understanding of the topic and then undertakes to resolve challenges – welcome!

The committee welcomes various new members and all are most welcome to offer their undivided attention and time discussing matters which if left untouched will have a negative impact on our profession and members. At times I have become exasperated at the topics, politics and emotions but these must all be addressed in a professional format with positive outcomes. Rest assured you will not be rested for long..... Welcome to the new committee members, Dewar van Antwerpen, Karlien Thomashoff, Jan Hugo and Marinda Bolt.

The committee also consists of highly regarded members of long standing and who continuously provide professional inputs way past the requirements to serve the members. These members are champions of the profession and serve us all without compensation or reward and we are indebted to them without knowing it. All protocol reserved thank you to Colin Scott and Faan Nel. A special

“au revoir” to Faan who has unselfishly contributed to the profession over the past ± 12 years, all of which has been at a very high standard.

Our committee consists of sub-committees with various responsibilities and they are required to attend meetings, preparing reports / minutes, making decisions and advising the committee on a variety of matters. Sterling work is also recognized by Heleen, Arthur, Dries, Len, Camilo, Adriaan, Mostert, Maryke, Emile and Erna who last but not least represents us at the NDPW.

As an example of unrelenting but crucial service to our profession the late Ronald Remmers set the parameters and documentation in place for our professional indemnity policies. This was done over many years during the 1990's and early 2000's. This is the type of dedication with a no name work ethic that the committee members are required to do to serve the profession.

Often we are asked what does the PIA do for its members and the answers are mostly of administrative content and seemingly uninteresting but without the dedication to resolve matters as a group we won't be able to serve ourselves better as individuals. Our functions and events with CPD courses are our highlights which are well received and attended. Nonetheless the additional highlight in the coming year will be our bi-annual merit awards programme which traditionally provides high excitement and interest. We look forward to receiving high quality projects which are meaningful, resourceful and sustainable besides being beautiful. The entries will be exhibited at Boukunde and possibly at other public facilities to maximize exposure for our entrants. Furthermore, our Practical Practice Programme courses are of the highest standard and will continue to be so with excellent programmes lined up by Maureen and her team in the new year.

We also trust that other functions in the coming year will be possible again and look forward to the President's breakfast's, IDEA: Design Conference, speakers forums where prominent architects can highlight their latest work and visits to particular buildings, districts or towns of architectural interest. These would include bus tours, JAM sessions and wine evenings. We are also investigating architectural movie evenings.

We also continue to liaise with the City Council regarding the administration of SDP's, building plans and rezoning. The success of these deliberations lies in the unrelentless positioning of our case for better and efficient service from Council and we continue to work for a proper electronic submission and tracking system with more architects at Council to deal with our complicated issues. Nonetheless the past year has been the most challenging yet as their offices were closed for a long time due to the lock down. The PIA represents our members at the Tshwane Public Development Forum where we use the opportunity to state your case regarding building plans, SDP's and all issues of Council dissatisfaction. One of our present challenges is to comment on the new Green Building local legislation.

We have had many heritage challenges during the past years and sadly we see the steady demise of historic suburbs such as Brooklyn, Arcadia, Clydesdale, Hatfield, west of the CBD and Marabastad. Shanty towns are springing up at will along old Church Street west and also between Mamelodi and Rietvlei Dam. The PIA has voiced concerns regarding the Council's approach to heritage or lack of it which has led to many buildings demolished for no good reason and replaced with high rise flats. The historic suburbs seem to take the brunt of new aggressive rezoning and in the long term we are all the poorer for it. Nonetheless we have a heritage committee who has set a course to provide electronic documentation and a database of buildings in Tshwane considered to be of value. This is an undertaking in cooperation with the University of Pretoria and the City Council.

We have sub-committees responsible for considering and / or liaising regarding transformation, practice matters, members benefits, education (TUKS and TUT), events and marketing. These committees put in sterling work and long hours to arrange, plan, execute and then start all over again. Too much to say and not enough time....

One of the duties of the President is to liaise with SACAP and SAIA. The PIA President is a board member of SAIA and also deliberates the massive challenges the profession faces seeking solutions and finance. We have a good working relationship with SACAP and trust this will continue in the new year with various challenges regarding a new MOU. We are concerned though with a proposed new code of conduct from SACAP and have forwarded our concerns to them awaiting reply.

Our Website will be undergoing changes and we look forward to a fresh new look and easy access in the new year.

The PIA undertakes to address all professional matters of our members in the best and most suitable manner given the context and possible outcomes. Don't hesitate to correspond with our secretariat on any matter you may deem to be of importance and mutual benefit. We can't resolve all matters but surely will try our best. We also urge you to grow the PIA by firstly paying subscription fees and encouraging other architects to join our membership circle.

I trust that the coming year will be less stressful and that our members' contribution to architecture in Tshwane will be of the highest standard to which we have become accustomed. Noting that the origins of the PIA was conceived with the foresight and leadership of Norman Eaton who also laid the foundations of a modern style in Southern Africa and which is also referred to as Pretoria Regionalism as part of the Third Vernacular Style.

I sincerely trust that the PIA will continue in the proud footsteps of many excellent and celebrated architects who have preceded us.

The PIA is the members and the members is the PIA.

I therefore accept the nomination as President of the PIA.

Thank you.

Jeremie Malan