



HEART OF THE CITY Annual General Meeting

30 October 2023

Time: 5.30pm for a 5:45pm start

Venue: Rangitoto Room, Mövenpick Hotel Auckland
8 Customs Street, Auckland city centre

Minutes

1. Once a quorum of members was present, the Chairman Martin Snedden declared the meeting open at 5:45 pm

2. **Apologies**

The following apologies had been received prior to the meeting:-

- Matthew Cockram
- Chamanthie Sinhalage-Fonseka
- Chand Sahrawat
- Nirupa George

No further apologies were received at the meeting.
Confirmation that a quorum was achieved.

Moved: Celia Hay

Seconded: Paddy Stafford-Bush

CARRIED

3. **Confirmation of the Minutes from the 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

Resolved that the minutes from the AGM held on 19 October 2022 be approved.

Moved: Paddy Stafford-Bush

Seconded: Richard Hanson

CARRIED

4. **Chair's Report**

The Chair's Report was presented by Martin Snedden.

Martin acknowledged that the year had been a year of the post-Covid blues, where many people had thought that things would come back to 'normal', but in fact the business environment has still been tough. While pedestrian counts and spend are steadily on the rise, there is a still a gap, and that gap is often the profit for businesses.

Martin also outlined that safety issues and the perception of safety is a big concern for the city centre. Heart of the City links people to work together, combining resources to get best

'bang for buck' in terms of value. He emphasised that there are still so many difficult things to deal with and we need the collective force of many small things to add up to real impact.

Martin thanked the Chief Executive and Heart of the City team for their dedicated work and the Executive Committee for their time and commitment.

5. Treasurer's Report

Joel Gauntlett spoke to the meeting regarding the Financial Statements for the year ending 30th June 2023.

Resolved that the Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 be approved.

Moved: Richard Hanson

Seconded: Celia Hay

CARRIED

6. Draft 2024/2025 income and expenditure budget

Viv Beck spoke to the proposed 0% increase to the 2023/2024 Heart of the City Targeted Rate. Viv outlined that no increase was being sought as it is a tough environment for members and because Heart of the City currently has reserves accumulated through Covid. This enables us to fund the budgeted work programme, add additional security and implement projects that had to be postponed. She noted that the planned 2024/2025 workplan included a draw down on reserves to fund a Repositioning Campaign for the city centre and also to provide for investment in a significant Christmas asset to replace Santa.

Resolved that: the following financial year **2024/2025** draft budget which includes a BID targeted rate grant amount of **\$5,021,745** including a **0%** increase or **\$0** to the BID targeted rate grant of the 2023/2024 financial year, be approved. Further, we ask that the **Waitemata Local Board** recommend to the Governing Body the amount of **\$5,021,745** be included in the Auckland Council draft **2024/2025** annual budget consultation process.

Moved: Celia Hay

Seconded: Richard Hanson

CARRIED

7. Appointment of Auditor

Resolved that the Executive Committee be directed to reappoint RSM Hayes Audit to conduct the audit on the 2023/24 accounts.

Moved: Paddy Stafford-Bush

Seconded: Celia Hay

CARRIED

8. Retiring Executive Committee Members

As contained in Rule 14.5 of HOTC's Constitution, the following Board Members will remain on the Heart of the City Executive Committee as their third anniversary date has not yet been reached:

- Matthew Cockram

- Paddy Stafford-Bush
- Chamanthie Sinhalage-Fonseka
- Nirupa George
- Richard Hanson

At each Annual General Meeting at least 3 of the Executive Committee members shall retire from office but shall be eligible for re-election at that meeting. The following Executive Committee members retired as they had reached the end of their three-year term:

- Martin Snedden
- Celia Hay

Resignations were also received from the following Executive Committee members:

- Chand Sahrawat
- Daniel Lemkus

Martin extended sincere thanks to the departing Executive Members for their service to Heart of the City.

9. Election/confirmation of Executive Members

Martin Snedden stood for re-election, and nominations were also received from the floor for the following members.

- Edward Caughey
- Brett Sweetman

As there were sufficient vacancies on the Executive Committee, these nominees were all automatically elected.

Resolved that: Martin Snedden be re-elected, and that the nominees listed above be declared elected to the Executive Committee, for a three-year term ending at the conclusion of the 2026 AGM.

Moved: Celia Hay

Seconded: Paddy Stafford-Bush

CARRIED

10. Chief Executive's Report

Viv Beck presented an overview of HOTC's work during the reporting year, which was targeted at city centre Recovery and Rebuild, Transformation and Foundations.

Viv then outlined the Strategic Plan pillars that Heart of the City is working towards from 2023-2026: A Place that is Loved; Safe, Clean and Accessible; with More People; and Vibrant Places. And following this, the plan for the 2023/24 year – which is focused on two key goals: Restore the Reputation and Experience of Queen Street valley and Bring More People into the city centre – both of which will put HOTC in a good position to launch a Repositioning Campaign the following year.

Viv acknowledged the Chair and Executive Committee for their support during the year, HOTC's team, businesses and partners.

11. General Business

Martin opened the floor for general business and the following general matters were raised.

- A discussion around the Street Guardians programme and how it operated, including outlining how people are recruited to attend the programme.
- A discussion around daytime shelter in the city centre for those in need.

12. Meeting was declared closed at 6.43pm.