



Community Garden Ocean Grove Inc.

Annual General Meeting 2015

6 October 2014, 6.30pm

Ocean Grove Senior Citizen's Centre, 101 The Terrace

Attendees

Alice King, Vin McKay, Russell Neville (by phone), Brenton Peake, Alanna Halsall, Gaynor Powell, Jim Ricchini, Kerrie Ricchini, Andrew Scott, Pat Scott, John Bowman, Jeffrey Harwood, Draga Palstra, Leigh Collins, Kerry King

Amelia Hagger (proxy provided to Alice King)

Apologies

Chris Balaam, Graeme Hiller, Amelia Hagger, Vicky McKay, Viv and Dave Kershaw, Alex and Edwina Harris

Resolutions and decisions

Annual report and future plans (Andrew Scott - President) - see President's report copied below

Financial report (Russell Neville - Treasurer)

Financial status of Community Garden Ocean Grove Inc. as of 30 June 2015 - see Profit and Loss Statement included below.

The Treasurer reported that:

- Although the P&L statement shows losses for the year to 30 June 2015 year, we are in fact in a good financial situation due to positive balances from the previous financial year.
- He is still working with the OG Neighbourhood Centre to finalise grants that were managed through our previous auspicing arrangement. This is likely to result in additional monies being available for infrastructure work at the Garden (possibly around \$8000).
- Memberships have not yet been processed for this financial year

All committee positions were declared vacant.

Nominations were received as follows:

- President: Andrew Scott
- Vice-President: Vin McKay
- Secretary: [no nomination received]
- Treasurer: Russell Neville
- Ordinary members: Alex Harris, John Bowman

Election of committee

Andrew, Vin, Russell, Alex and John were duly elected to the above positions. Congratulations to all!

Discussion resulted in committee members also agreeing:

- Vin to support Russell as Treasurer
- Committee to seek someone to fill the role of Secretary [Rules require role to be filled within 14 days - by 20th October 2015]

Membership fees and plot rental fees for 2015-2016 financial year

Members voted to approve fee changes. Fees for the 2015-2016 financial year will be as follows:

- Membership (single, family, group) - \$10 p.a.
- Membership + plot holder - large \$40; small \$25 p.a.
- Second plots (if available) - large \$30; small \$15 p.a.

*Note: members with second plots will be asked to give up one as soon as we have additional demand from new members for plots.

Timing of AGM for future years

Members agreed to the following schedule for the AGM, in order to assist with management of fees and renewals

- AGM to be held in July each year
- Date of payment for annual memberships - 1 August (from 2016)

Additional items raised for action

Tasks and responsibilities required to run the Garden

- The need to share out the workload was identified - Role of Secretary not attractive due to perceived/actual volume of work
- All members and friends of the Garden are encouraged to consider whether they have a small amount of time available to assist with managing aspects of Garden activity
- Committee will meet to discuss the breakdown of tasks and responsibilities, and open this for discussion among the membership

Provision of power for Garden use:

- Andrew to get quotes for mains power, solar powered pump, and to discuss option to access power from the Seniors - for consideration by committee and members at future meeting

Options for replacing or decorating front fence:

- Gaynor to follow up her contact re options and potential costs
- Need prices for options to see if they fit within budget - for consideration by committee and members at future meeting

Communication

- List of available plots to be shared on white board in case people receive queries on site
- List of shared/market plots is already on the white board; members can take produce but preferably not prior to Farmers Market weekend (3rd Saturday) so that we can sell spare produce
- Share market dates (white board and regular newsletter)
- Send out October reminders; include reminders about Van Loons workshops on 17th and 18th Oct.

Thanks were given to Alice King in recognition of the work she has undertaken for the Garden over the past 4 years.

Follow-up meeting of committee and members would be valuable in the next couple of weeks.

Meeting closed at 7.45pm

President's Report for the Ocean Grove Community Garden AGM 2015

The last year has been one of consolidation and progress, building on the completion of the major infrastructure for the Garden.

The highlights include:

- Registration of the Garden as an Incorporated Association. This means that we can now make our own bids for grants, pay our own accounts etc without having to go through an auspice body. It also means that we have to keep our own accounts, arrange insurance and prepare an annual return but these are not major issues.
- Membership has grown to the point where we only have a few beds left for those wanting one. Several beds have been retained as community beds where we grow produce for sale at the markets. You will see our asparagus in one such bed coming along well.
- We have begun staging regular events as part of the continuing monthly working bees. These events have been well attended. For example, our most recent one saw a Bunnings representative come along bringing several trees and seedlings as donations. An earlier session was on preparing wicking boxes which have proved very effective in raising seedlings for the spring growing season, as you can see in the greenhouse.
- We have continued to staff a stall at the Ocean Grove market. This allows us to spread the word about the garden as well as selling excess produce. Funds from this help to pay our ongoing bills.
- The shed and glasshouse have continued to be refined to suit our needs. The glasshouse now has reflective shades which, in conjunction with the automatic vents, help to keep the temperature to an acceptable level even on hot days such as today. The shed and gazebo storage are being fitted with improved racking to provide more orderly storage for our tools.
- We are extending our communications with members. In addition to Alice's regular emails, Gaynor is making use of our notice boards now mounted on the shed to list coming events and seek input for future projects. Our regular garden tips, developed by Viv Kershaw, have proved very popular. Viv is expanding and updating these.

We have acquitted the grant from the State Government but despite our best efforts we are still working to finalise the grant provided by the City of Greater Geelong. We are keen to get this finished but it does mean that we still have a small amount of funds left for other works. One idea is putting electricity on the block to allow us to power pumps, mulcher, kettle and other occasional needs that we have. Another is to improve the front fence to something more attractive.

An ongoing issue is finding members who are willing and able to help with the running of the garden. At present, this falls on a small group of people. If you can provide even a little time to help your Garden, please let the Committee know. You will be very welcome.

Andrew Scott
President
Community Garden Ocean Grove Inc.
6 October 2015

Financial Report for the Ocean Grove Community Garden AGM 2015

	12 Months to 30 June 2015
Income	
Membership	1,670
Sub-Total	1,670
Petty Cash - Income BCFM	204
Total Income	1,874
Expense	
CoGG Rates	175
Insurance	150
Hall Hire AGM	50
Garden Straw	250
Purchases - A.Scott	182
Sub-Total	807
Expenses Reimbursed Petty Cash	296
Total Expense	1,103
Net Profit / (Loss) - Sub Total	863
Petty Cash	(92)
Total Net Profit / (Loss)	771