



MINUTES of GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON Sunday 24 November 2019 at Rockingham Navy Club.

1. Opening Remarks and one minutes silence for those still on Patrol
The President opened the meeting at 1107, thanked the members present and called for on minutes silence in memory of those on Eternal Patrol.
2. Apologies
(12) - Ian Marks, Ash Davis, Ted Curr, Chris Rienke, Greg Shimmen, Peter Watt, Guy Burton, Dave Colman, Dave Reid, Bob Trotter, Andy Marsden, Steve Thomas
3. Attendees
(16) -Peter O'Donohue, Peter Donovan, John Rana, Tony Masters, Jack Warner, Buster Keating, Sid Czabotar, Slinga Wood, Richard Stegenga, Perry Holland, Terry Rowell, David Bell, Terry Baker, Bob Apps, Jim Stainton, Chris Anderson
4. Endorsement of Minutes of last meeting –
Previous minutes were not available for review but as there was no pressing business, the minutes were accepted as a true record of proceedings.
Proposed – Buster Keating
Seconded – Terry Baker.
Motion carried, minutes accepted into record.
5. Actions completed/Outstanding
Remembrance Day organisation activities – **CLOSED.**
The President thanked SUBFOR in particular CHAP Franco Siani and WO Justin Moore. He also thanked Sid Czabotar and Tony Masters for their part in the organisation and running of the ceremony.
6. Presidents Report, previously emailed to members
The President added to his report by addressing his concerns regarding social media and some members using the Association Facebook page as a personal “venting” platform. POD advised that he has been in contact with certain parties regarding recent events posted to the Facebook page in an attempt to calm the waters with some degree of success. He cautioned that personal attacks may end in legal action by the aggrieved parties and that members should use a measure of civility when posting to social media.

Proposed – Sid Czabotar

Seconded – Jim Stainton
Motion carried, report accepted into record.

7. Secretary Report

Tony Masters provided a brief verbal report outlining the Remembrance Day activities. Two new members have joined the Association and are attached to the WA Branch. WOEWSM Kevin Murphy and CPOMTSM Nick Cowey, both still serving.

Proposed – Perry Holland
Seconded – Peter O'Donohue
Motion carried, report accepted into record

8. Treasurer Report, previously emailed to members

John Rana reports that as a branch, we are financially sound. He read through the statements and figures that form his report.

Proposed – Jack Warner
Seconded – Peter Donovan
Motion carried, report accepted into record.

9. SAA WA Welfare/Sick List

Buster Keating reported he and Bob Apps work from LEEUWIN every Tuesday to deal with Tri-Service cases. There is a new Training Package for advocates called ATDP (no definition supplied) and Bob Apps is undertaking this training. Serving and ex-serving submariner claims are progressing with some success. Reported a Victorian member being turned in to Heidelberg Repat Hospital for PTSD issues. Said member is in the process of becoming a spokesperson from those afflicted with PTSD. Buster closed by re-iterating that if anyone needs help with claims, contact either Buster or Bob Apps for assistance.

Bob stated that using an advocate is very important for DVA claims and that the Veteran White Card should be applied for if not held already. Bob and Buster can also assist members to obtain their ADF medical records which can save substantial time on the process.

There was discussion regarding the Governments APOD "Covenant" initiative and the White Card for which every member of the ADF is eligible. Details of the Covenant and how to apply for the White Card have been emailed to the membership by the Secretary.

10. Formation of planning committee for SUBCON 2022 in WA

The President called for expressions of interest from members and partners to form a planning committee for our SUBCON in '22. Names and ideas to Tony at wa.secretary@submarinesaustralia.com

Of particular interest in these early stages is suggestions for paraphernalia and contacts for friends or family for embroidery or laser-cutting/engraving.

Preference for venues to be Rockingham centred.

11. Rum Ration

Due to "Pussers" Rum being no longer available and its replacements cost, the President called for a gold-coin donation (per tot) for future tots to offset cost.

It was decided at the meeting that the gold-coin donation would be voluntary.

12. ONSLOW Incident Ombudsman submission.

Terry Baker spoke on Terry Parsons official complaint to the Ombudsman regarding the ONSLOW incident and the speed of which the BOI was completed and missing or ignored evidence, with a view to overturning the decision. The Ombudsman finalised a report, no other details were given at the meeting.

13. The Friends of Holbrook Submarine Museum

Terry Rowell spoke on a newly forming Unincorporated Association that will support the Submarine Museum by attempting to bring together all submarine museum related entities. No other details were presented at the meeting.

14. SAA WA Christmas Party

The Christmas Party will be held at the Rockingham Navy Club at Point Peron, commencing at 1100 on Sunday 08 December 2019.

15. The President shut the meeting at 1158, up spirits and BBQ Lunch.



Peter O'Donohue
President SAA (WA Branch)
25 November 2019



Tony Masters
Secretary SAA (WA Branch)
25 November 2019