

Freedom Christian Church AGM to the year ended 31.03.2022

The meeting opened at 12.18pm with a welcome and prayer from Pastor Ray.

Pastor Ray welcomed the people to the Annual meeting of Freedom Christian Church also known as the Waikato City Assembly of God Trust Board. Pastor Ray emphasised that we are required to do an Annual General Meeting as a necessary safeguard. We are part of the Assemblies of God in New Zealand. This year's meeting is a voting meeting so our voting strength was established by the signing of an attendance register of adults 18 and over. Our voting strength was established at 30 by the attached hand-signed sheet. Today we elect a Board which determines the day-to-day running of the Church. We have no major issues at present. This is "our" church and we are in this together and we do this together.

It was moved and seconded that JJ and Rebecca be appointed as scrutineers.

Ray Moxham /Grant Whitelaw

The Minutes of the previous meeting were available on the website and had been handed out.

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the previous meeting be confirmed.

Ray Moxham/Richard Leong

Matters Arising

There was no AGM last year, so matters from the Minutes of 2 years ago: the \$60,000 mentioned has been deposited with Christian Savings. (\$50,000 and \$60,000). They currently hold the mortgage on the building.

Ministry Reports

1 Worship - JJ

JJ presented the Worship report as Tamar has stood down. JJ and Eleanora are the co-Music Directors. Items mentioned as current were the wireless guitar system; the Worship Leaders Training Course – Eleanora and Carolien; and the various new people on the music team. There are 32 members at present. They intend to focus on the small workshops this year. Some items for replacement soon include the cordless mics and the multiple charging boxes. Current challenge – time management, especially for practices.

2 Youth Report - Bua

Bua acknowledged the Leaders: Jump Start – Dillon and Andrew and Sam; Risen - Royden and Antillea; Reflect – Lai and Torika and Connor. All the youth leaders are doing well. We have Youth Services twice a term and a Main Event once every couple of months. Bua and Magele fill in where necessary

3 Under 5 Alive - Sabrina

Sabrina thanked Pastor Ray and Carolien for putting her in the position of the Leader. She thanked the other leaders involved in the Under 5s and acknowledged that the Under 2s area is a bit of a challenge.

4 Kids' Church – Darlene

Darlene acknowledged that it has been a challenging year with the government restrictions. A new programme has been agreed – "The Big+ programme." The curriculum is easy to present and do alone with 2-4 hours of preparation time per weeks. The teams have been a real blessing. It has been a challenge at the beginning of each month. Darlene expressed her thanks to all the helpers and leaders.

5 Prayer Coordinator – Ritu

Pastor Ray presented Ritu's report. She was appointed at the beginning of the year, and the prayer ministry was started in February. On Wednesday morning and Sunday morning. There is a prayer team who are rostered to pray for people every week whether there is an altar call or not. Once every six weeks there is prayer through the building. A prayer group on WhatsApp has been started. The phone number for the prayer group is on the bulletin and is proving very effective.

6 Missions Report – Serina

Currently the church is supporting Peter and Helen in the Philippines; Jacqui and Hilary in Uganda; and Kids Church supports 2 children through Tear Fund. If you add what we do at home, this brings us up to 10% of our income.

7 Finance – Pastor Ray's report

"We are solvent"! Our assets are higher than our liabilities. An Audit has been prepared by PKF Hamilton, Foster Shek's firm. Foster himself was not involved personally in the audit. It was very expensive, but our Trust document requires us to do it annually. This is not a legal requirement. A review is a cheaper and simpler process. The congregation was asked to take a look at the report and questions were invited. Over the last 2 years with COVID and everything that entailed, our expectations were that income would drop. In the end the drop was very small. There are 90 families and individuals contributing to the running of the church. There are 2 big issues identified in the audit:

- i. Missing receipt for \$180 for Church Refreshments;
- ii. Ray approves all invoices but we have to start recording this with a policy in place;
- iii. Church has 2 loans on the building – we started with 5 loans - \$193,511 for this building with Christian Savings. Our last statement showed that over 8 years we have paid off \$185,000. The 2nd loan of \$200,000 provided by a couple in the Church. This has been fixed at 23% of this building's value, at \$870 rateable value, this loan is now \$278,400.
- iv. We have \$150,000 in savings.
- v. The Board has approved a repayment of \$90,000 to the private lenders, and we will continue to pay off over the coming years.
- vi. Trish has been doing the books for about 8 years. Thank you Trish. She is standing down at the end of the year. We will keep you posted.

It was moved and seconded that the financial statements be accepted

Trish Oh/Darren Reader

Elections 2022

The Board comprises 5 people. Pastor Ray chairs the Board. Trish is also on the Board but not voted in. There was a change in the government policy 3-4 years ago which stated that the Church Treasurer is automatically on the Board with full voting rights. At the moment the Board comprises Serina Sharma, Dennis Clement, Jean Woolston. Jean has been a long-standing member of the Board and she is standing down because of health issues. The Board is re-elected every 2 years, not the whole Board at one time. Voting is on a staggered basis. Serina and Dennis will come up for re-election next year.

This year we are voting for one person. The Church is a legal entity and the Board are the Trustees. Technically it is the Board who owns the building and employ the staff. The Board controls the finances of the Church and is responsible to the government for the local governance of the Church, privacy and health and safety. It is the Board's responsibility to establish Policy.

Eldership is the other group of leaders in this church, and they are responsible for the spiritual leadership of youth group, kids church and under 5 alive. The eldership decides these leaders.

There are three nominations this year to replace Jean – Don, Judith and Andrea and the voting papers have been handed out. Richard Leong then prayed that God would give people wisdom and Ray thanked the nominees for standing.

Pastor Ray's State of the Nation

All churches have struggled for the last 2 years. We have fared better than most. We have nothing to complain about. There is still a lot of fear in many churches. We hope that nobody got COVID from the services. It has appeared that the government and the media were out to get us (churches)!

Pastor Simpson and family moved to New Plymouth this year and left a big hole in the eldership. During the year we appointed new Elders in the church. The current eldership is made up of the following: Bua and Magele, Gaythri and Vivek, Rebecca and Darren, Elenoa and Samu, Carolien and Ray. This year has been an awesome time. Coming up with ideas, taking initiative, etc. An amazing time within the church. Every six weeks and 2 months, in between family meetings have been meeting for meals. In restaurants and homes. With a stable and healthy Board and the Eldership. Numerically, we are not where we were before COVID. But numbers are not everything. We are seeing people saved on a regular basis. There were 2 this month. People are getting healed. We have never been an "unhealthy" church. Never healthier than right now. We have planted a church in the Solomon Islands without intending to! John Zama planted the church. Freedom International. They have built a building, and they are part way through building a school. Carolien and Ray want to visit them in the near future.

Ray has been busy with Alphacrusis this year, but it will be coming to an end in the near future. Maintenance on the building has continued with a plan to repaint the outside soon.

The audit report indicated that there are processes and policies to update and to put into place. This coming year will be about putting those in place and bringing current policies up to date.

Election of Board

Andrea was elected onto the Board and Don and Judith were thanked for submitting themselves.

It was moved and seconded that the voting papers be destroyed.

Grant Whitelaw /Carolien Moxham

The meeting closed at 1.11pm and Heather Chamberlain said Grace before we had lunch together as a fellowship.