

Scottish Older People's Assembly
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 7 August 2019 11.00 - 12.30
Eric Liddell Centre, 15 Morningside Road,
Edinburgh EH10 4DP

Note of Meeting

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Alan Spinks, Samuel Gibson, Nancy Bryson, Betty Milton, Diana Findley, Caroline Clark, Eileen Wallace, Elaine Thornton-Nicol, Maureen Findlay, Christine Wilson, Keith Guy, Jimmy Miller, Patricia Eason, Carl Bow, Jim McBrierty, Maureen O'Neill, Graham Reece, Avril Crossley, Christine Wilson, Mary Laing, Laura McVay, Jim McMahon, Bella Kerr, Anne Wellman, Anne Munro, Gordon Fraser

2. Apologies

Alison Clyde, Matt Hamilton, Alan Sidaway, John Thompson, John White, Sandra Wilson, Brian Rapley, Jo Cowan, Michelle Caruthers, Chris Grant, Gerry Kiernan, Janis McDonald, Sandra McGregor, Anne Munro, Penny Morriss, Anne Rendall, Rohini Sharma-Joshi, Narayan Shrestha, Lesley Stevenson,

3. Draft Minutes of AGM on 26 July 2018 and Matters Arising

Minutes of AGM on 26 July 2018 approved by Jimmy White and Betty Milton seconded.

Members Resigned - Bill McDonald and Donald Bulloch

4. Trustee's Report

Discussion around the highlights of the year including the engagement activity – Identity, Connection and Choice – 422 responses, report fed into the Scottish Government's development of the Older People's Framework.

SOPA Reception – March 2019, Older Peoples Champions – call out to rest of Scotland, still recruiting more champions as members of SOPA, we have 4 so far.

The Voice of Veteran Event with Unforgotten Forces was a well-received event. Around 40 older veterans, presentation from Unforgotten Forces, increased information for veterans. Many people said it was the first time asked their views in an engagement session, new voices not heard before, positive feedback.

Assembly – preparation for 5/10/19, to be held in the Scottish Parliament, with 6 workshops and MSP Panel, busy recruiting MSPs to come along. If we can all take the booklet with our MSPs within, face to face encouragement.
Meeting yesterday with the Parliament, 8 weeks to go.

Ongoing work new partnerships and new members, 14 new full members and 7 associate, 4 more to approve today. Vibrant and interested membership.

Sam Gibson approved and Eileen Wallace Seconded report.

5. Annual Accounts

Ceri Jackson is our external examiner and prepared the accounts for the AGM. There was discussion around the accounts, main grant is received from Scottish Government via Impact Funding Partners (previously VAF).

Betty Milton approved and Alan Spinks seconded

6. Election of Trustees

There are currently 8 Trustees, the minimum required by the constitution. The four longest are standing down and standing for re-election as per the constitution, Eileen Wallace, Alan Sidaway, John White and Diana Findley. **Re-elected by a unanimous vote.**

It was decided at the last Trustee meeting to have 10 Trustees, Chris Grant from Ability Net provided a written application and was **approved as a new Trustee.**

Elaine Thornton- Nicol applied at the meeting, she had not been able to apply under the timeline as was on annual leave, spoke to the meeting of her experience and abilities and how she could contribute to SOPA. Business and 3rd Sector experience, hearing loss and dementia training and experience.

Discussion around any potential for conflict as Elaine holds a political position, when at SOPA representing older people. Elaine noted that in 2 years and 3 months as an older people's champion, there has been no conflict within meetings. Elaine was nominated as an older people's champion, the full council nominate to this role, not any political party. There was a show of hands, **all in agreement.**

Also discussed our use of technology, ability to dial in to meetings, Highland Forum, unable to do today, but in future looking to accommodate. Skype for business is an option, able to have multiple dial ins. Caroline to include in a funding bid.

7. Motions for resolution

None

8. Any other Business

Jimmy Miller, talked to campaigning for free licences for over 75, big protest in Irvine 2 weeks ago, it has been put in front of government. Samuel Gibson – Lord George Ferguson, raising in the House of Lords. Guided through the age discrimination legislation previously. Jimmy praised North Ayrshire, they have been 100% behind this.

Quiet Scotland – Anne Wellman introduced the work of the charity. Discussion around music in public places and their activities, older members, hearing disabilities, and younger people with disabilities such as autism, free to join.

Anne Munro – asked about the how the findings from the February consultation event have been progressed. The Older People's Framework was launched in March, no meetings of OPSAF since then, next meeting is in September. In the report, members of OPSAF will be asked to implement the framework but the level of involvement expected is not yet known. It is held under the Equalities Unit, one action that has been delivered - The Festival of Ageing held in Glasgow. People within Anne's area have been asking as they responded to the initial request.

Sighthill – 80 years since school and church has been built. Celebration of 80 years. Happening in September. Betty will report back to SOPA

Elaine – asked if any Silver Sunday events taking place in their areas, national events for older people on the first Sunday in October. Silver Sunday – started as part of City of Westminster started and recognition of older people, called it Silver Sunday, to encourage every community to have a celebratory event for older people, Elaine to send round details.

International Day of Older Person will be 1st October, a lot of events going on that week.

9. Film showing from Voice of Veterans event

Showed short video available on YouTube on the event held. Available on SOPA's website homepage.

End of meeting