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**Minutes of Keratoconus Australia Inc Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 3 December 2005, 9:30am  
La Colussi Cafe, 792 Burke Road, Camberwell**

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Meeting opened at 9:40am

**Attendance**

*Members present*

Larry Kornhauser – President  
Belinda Cerritelli – Secretary  
Liz Bray – Treasurer  
Sharon Torney – ordinary committee member

*And*

Jennifer Barnes, Marisa Cerritelli, Pat Fitzgerald

**Welcome**

The president took the chair and welcomed everyone present.

**Apologies and Proxies**

The secretary reported that 4 apologies and 5 postal or proxy votes were received.

**Business**

1. Minutes of Annual General Meeting, 10 November 2004

The confirmation of the minutes of the previous AGM:  
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 10 November 2004 had been made available for members to read on the internet.

It was resolved:

That minutes from the Annual General Meeting held 23 October 2003 be adopted.

Motion: Liz Bray  
Second: Jennifer Barnes  
Carried

2. Reports

Office bearer reports from the Committee of 2004

a) President's report

Larry Kornhauser reported to the meeting:

- ♦ Support provided to people with keratoconus and their family increased by 20% from 2003-4 to more the 190 separate requests
- ♦ KA held 3 information seminars with an average attendance of 60 participants. Topics included living with keratoconus (presented by eye-carers and members); being informed about consenting to a corneal transplant; "good eye days and bad eye days" wearing contact lenses
- ♦ Progress was made in developing support groups outside of KA's main area of metropolitan Melbourne
- ♦ KA worked closely with the Centre for Eye Research Australia to again support National Organ Donation Awareness Week in 2005

- ◆ KA's mid year fundraiser raised almost double the funds compared to 2003-4 (almost \$12,000)
- ◆ In December 2004, KA president and secretary met with private health insurance fund managers to discuss higher rebates for rigid gas permeable lenses: a key point made was that a survey of our members showed that 92% are dissatisfied with current rebates
- ◆ KA assisted a study into the genetic origins of keratoconus by contacting all Victorian members to express their interest in participating in the study
- ◆ KA was also asked to support an Australian trial of the new German-developed C3-R collagen crosslinking treatment
- ◆ Hits on the KA website has increased by 25% compared to 2003-4
- ◆ KA produced the first edition of its newsletter "*KA Contact*"
- ◆ At June 30, 2005 KA membership stood at 613 Australia-wide, a 47% increase from 2003-4
- ◆ KA committee still has a shortage of volunteers, members were reminded that the committee operates on a volunteer basis and most its members have other full- or part-time occupations. New committee members are urgently required.

Larry ended by extending a vote of thanks to all who assisted the Association, in particular ophthalmologists and optometrists who helped in the support work. The Victorian College of Optometry and the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists were thanked for use of their facilities for KA seminars. Larry acknowledged KA secretary for allowing the committee meeting to be held at her house.

#### b) Treasurer's report

The report for the financial year 2003/4 by Treasurer Liz Bray had been available for members to read on the internet and is attached to the minutes.

It was noted that income for the 2004/5 financial year dramatically increased from \$7,568 to \$11,531. The total expenses were \$5,285, \$1,726 more than the previous year. At 30 June 2005 the total funds were \$22,267, an increase of \$8,521 during the year.

It was resolved

That the Treasurer's report for the Financial Year 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 be received.

Motion: Sharon Torney  
Second: Marisa Cerritelli  
Carried

#### C) Secretary's report

Belinda Cerritelli reported to the meeting:

- ◆ Given the shortage of volunteers the Association focussed on only its core functions: support work, seminars; campaign for greater rebates for rigid gas permeable lenses and supporting research into the causes of and treatments for keratoconus.
- ◆ In the absence of a vice-president, no additional fundraising activities took place other than the mid-year fundraiser.
- ◆ KA has maintained interactions with Vision2020 who have expressed interest in supporting the work of KA.
- ◆ In co-operation with the Lions Sorrell Club in Hobart, a Tasmanian supporter is assisting in development of a pamphlet to distribute across Tasmania in an effort to increase the awareness of keratoconus and promote better treatment.



# K E R A T O C O N U S AUSTRALIA

- ◆ There is much interest Sydney for a support group, Belinda is very optimistic that the presence of Keratoconus Australia will be more prominent in New South Wales in the coming year.
- ◆ KA has been unsuccessful in advancing a support group in Queensland with committee member Helen Rizvi as the Association has been unable to contact Helen. As a result Helen will not continue as an ordinary committee member. Belinda was grateful to Brunetti, Carlton who kindly donate pizza for KA seminars. She concluded by thanking the committee for their contribution to KA, especially Larry for his tireless contribution to the increasing amount of support work, maintenance of the website and production of the newsletter.

### 3. Motions of notice

#### Nomination for Office and Ordinary Committee Members

As only one nomination for each office bearer position was received by 27 November 2005, the committee were elected unopposed.

The Committee of Management for Keratoconus Australia Inc 2005 was declared:

#### **Office bearers**

Secretary - Belinda Cerritelli  
Treasurer – Elizabeth Bray  
President – Larry Kornhauser

No nomination was received for vice president and that position remains vacant.

#### **Ordinary Committee members**

Sharon Torney

#### **Meeting Close**

Meeting closed at 10:20am

Attachments: