



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Richmond Hill Special Rates Area Non-Profit Company held on Thursday 5 December 2024 at 18:00 at the Anchor of Hope Church Hall, Edward Street, Richmond Hill, Port Elizabeth.

Purpose of the meeting

The purpose of the meeting is to consider matters as set out in Section 61(8) of the Companies Act and to consider and, if deemed fit, to pass, with or without modification, the resolutions set out in the notice of the meeting.

Notice of Meeting

The notice convening the meeting was issued with the proper authority and for the requisite period prior to the meeting. Everyone has received a copy of the notice of the Annual General Meeting, by e-mail or delivered or collected from the SRA office. The meeting was also advertised in both the English and Afrikaans versions of The PE Express newspaper.

Quorum

The quorum required for the holding of this meeting, as well as for the passing of the resolutions set out in the circular (in terms of the company's Memorandum of Incorporation and the Companies Act), is present as indicated above and the Chairman declared the meeting properly constituted.

Business Plan and Budget

The Business Plan and Budget Have been uploaded on to the Richmond Hill SRA website and are open for viewing. These are valid until 30 June 2029.

1 Welcome

The Chairman, Scott Rollo, welcomed all present to the 10th Annual General Meeting of the Richmond Hill SRA NPC.

2 Attendance

Anthony Adams, Megan Bradfield, John Bryce, Cleone Cull, Louwrens du Plessis, Michael Eddy, Sharon Friedemann, Claerwen Hart, Karen Hart, Robert Hart, Jacques Hugo, Sonya Immelman, Rochelle Jordaan, Jason King, Deborah Kingsley-Hall, Viv Lisher, Shawn Lyon, Malcolm MacLean, Jonathan Mercer, Tembu Mpambani, Esias Nel, Yve Nicholson, Mawande Nkangala, Ed Richardson, Frances Richardson, Scott Rollo, Terri Stander, Marianne Terblanche, Jacques van der Westhuizen, Norman Visser, Eva Wagner, Clint Wild, Tarryn Wild, Pedro Roman.

Proxies : Grant Lindhorst (Eva Wagner), Rory Norton (Scott Rollo), Chris Parkin (Yve Nicholson), Jacky Varty (Rochelle Jordaan).

3 Apologies

Tony Bastos, BVDM Auditors, Bronwyn Nel, Rory Norton, Chris Parkin, Keith Prentice, Alison Tucker, Claire Warnecke, Trudie Wegner.

4 Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7 December 2023 had been mailed out to everyone. In addition, they had been posted on the RHSRA website for months, so everyone would have had a chance to peruse them.

The Chairman then asked that Minutes of the Previous Meeting be accepted as a true record of proceedings. This was proposed by Ed Richardson and seconded by Claerwen Hart. No questions were raised.

5 Chairman's Report

Welcome to the 10th AGM of the RHSRA NPC. We have successfully completed another year of service to our community and, notwithstanding the opinions of certain armchair warriors, we have continued to provide Richmond Hill with good quality services withing our means.

In July, we started our third 5-year term of operation in terms of an agreement with the Municipality. A big positive of this is that we have a significantly-increased budget, which is allowing us to roll out additional security measures, including cameras.

Our core function of preventing degeneration and decay, facilitating improvements and encouraging investment in the area is done by supplementing municipal services, enhancing safety and doing additional projects.

Our group of Directors, each of whom I must thank profusely for their ongoing support, dedication and hard work, continue to provide a balanced outlook on issues at hand.

The focal point of the SRA must be the office. A big thank you to Sharon Pretorius, who is doing a sterling job. Our office is still operating from 2a St Phillips Street, from Monday to Friday 09:00 – 16:00, but this will change at the end of this month when we move premises to 33 Irvine Street.

Our cleansing and projects team has reduced slightly, but we thank Alan, Anton, Mark, Thandabanthu and Morne for their continuing effort, which as resulted in one of the cleanest suburbs in the city.

John Bryce and Malcolm MacLean continue with their work on the new camera system. We now have a total of 45 monitored cameras up and running and it has made a major difference in the monitor of crime in the suburb.

Our outsourced security patrolling remains with HRG Security and we thank them for their efforts. To Freddie, Clinton, Lennox, Popo, Hem and Dyanti, a big thank you.

Malcolm MacLean continues to work closely with MES and other organization's in seeking solutions to the vagrancy and drug issues. MES has a Centre in Korsten and we have been trying to get another facility closer to Richmond Hill - unsuccessfully so far. MES averages 43 people per night in their shelter, with an additional 80% occupancy of their longer-term rehabilitation shelter. They run GRO Teams, which we have made good use of. Many thanks, Malcolm, for that extra mile you walk. If anyone can assist, please chat to Malcolm.

I wish to thank all those additional community volunteers who have stepped up whenever called upon. You know who you are and we thank all of you.

I want to address something that often comes up. There are various different WhatsApp groups, such as the "Concerned Citizens" group. These are small groups of people who stir each other up and create an 'us and them' situation. There are people in the suburb who think that we who serve on the RHSRA are a group of people benefiting from it. This type of thing causes a community to be divided. We need everyone to rather come on board, working together and offering solutions, instead of fighting against each other.

There are a couple of things I want to put on the table and they should involve all of you.

1. In terms of the municipality, if you want to make a difference, then vote. At the last municipal elections in 2021, only 30% of the country voted which means either that people don't care or they do not understand the value of voting. In Ward 5 (which includes Richmond Hill), 67% of people voted, which means one third of you didn't.
2. In terms of crime and the police, if you want to make a difference, then report crimes - every single time. If every crime in the suburb was reported, then the true stats would be reflected and we would end up with

- more police presence and visibility. By not reporting crime you are actually saying crime is not happening in our suburb.
3. In terms of the SRA viability, pay your rates. We have, for many months, been running at around 60 – 65% collection rate on municipal rates. We then get paid 60 – 65% of our budget by the municipality. We cannot operate fully on these terms.
 4. In terms of the suburb as a whole, we must all get involved. The more hands we have assisting us, the better for everyone concerned.

The SRA Directors are elected every year and you have the right to appoint different Directors at every AGM. Malcolm is moving to the UK and Rory is moving to Graaff-Reinet, albeit very slowly. This means that some of you need to start stepping up and taking over the reins. Not much is expected of you, only that you get vetted initially, get held accountable, rightly or wrongly, for all your actions, carry the very real risk of legal accountability on your shoulders, are subject to continuous gripes and moans, give up countless hours of your time every week and along with that, do not receive a salary.

A blessed Christmas Season to all of you. Travel safe and stay safe. We hope to see you all here in 2025.

6 Financial Reports

The Annual Financial Statements have been uploaded on to the RHSRA website for viewing. No questions were raised.

The Chairman proposed that the Annual Financial Statements be accepted at the next meeting. This was accepted by the majority of those present by show of hands.

7 Election of Directors

As per the MOI we have with the Municipality, all Directors retire every year, but may be available for re-election.

Malcolm MacLean is shortly moving to the UK and Rory Norton is moving to Graaff-Reinet.

Mike Eddy, Claerwen Hart, Rochelle Jordaan, Ed Richardson and Scott Rollo are available for coming year.

There had been no new Directors proposed prior to the meeting. The Chairman called for nominations of additional Directors from the floor. No new Directors were proposed.

It was accepted that the five existing Directors would continue in their posts and that they would actively seek new Directors to come on board.

8 Election of Auditors for 2024

The Board proposed that Bradley Van Der Merwe & Associates be appointed as Auditors until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting. This was adopted by show of hands by the majority of those present.

9 General

9.1 Russell Road Graveyard Wall

Robert Hart raised the issue of the graffiti on the walls, which is an eyesore for the area. He suggested that the SRA donates the paint and he would provide the labour to paint the walls. A project to address.

9.2 Wild Park

Residents complained about the vagrants nesting in the Wild Park. There is a huge mess around Estment Heights, which needs to be addressed. Norman Visser has offered his assistance in keeping an eye on the Wild Park. The Park needs the grass to be cut. The Municipality does a rough cut and the SRA Team assists with grass cutting and cleaning where possible. The Chairperson suggested putting up a fence at the bottom side of the Wild Park.

9.3 Cameras – monitory thereof- extensive discussion

Eva mentioned that this point must be put on the Agenda for the next Community Meeting. A survey will be done in the meantime to monitor any incident occurring where HRG security has not been alerted. John Bryce mentioned that the monitory alerts of the cameras will be rolled over to Telegram as WhatsApp does a lot of lagging.

9.4 85 Mackay Street -Problem Property

What is being done about 85 Mackay Street the problem property?

Issues raised :

Arrears Municipal Account - this was addressed at a meeting the previous week, where it was requested that the electricity and water supply be disconnected.

A social worker is also involved but the co-owner says she is the victim!

Tarryn Wild is monitoring cameras and footage is being sent to SAPS.

Several raids have been done and nothing has been found. There seems to be corruption taking place and they are definitely receiving tip-offs when raids take place.

A meeting was held with the co-owner from Cape Town. He had offered the co-owner living at 85 Mackay alternative accommodation, but she refused.

10 Close

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 19:00.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman

Secretary

Date