Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2017

of the Firebird Foundation, convened on 7 March 2017, in the FFMembers forum

A roll-call was taken, to which 31 voting members (a quorum) and one non-voting responded as present. The

fifteenth Annual General Meeting of the Firebird Foundation Inc. was convened at 15:40 GMT 15 March 2017,

with Steve Summers in the Chair.

Apologies

The following members tendered apologies for absence:


Scrutineer for ballots

was C. Pirtea.

Minutes of the Previous AGM

The

Minutes of the 2016 AGM

were tabled. There were no Matters Arising.

AGM2017-01 :: It was moved from the Chair, "that the Minutes of the 2016 AGM be

accepted." Carried unanimously.

President’s Annual Report

The President, Steve Summers, presented his

annual report on the activities of the Foundation.

Ernst Bin (Syntess Software, Platinum sponsor) expressed thanks to Steve for being president in the last

year and commended his analyses of the Firebird Project. He asked other sponsors to consider raising their

contributions and expressed the hope that new members and sponsors would come forward.

AGM2017-02 :: It was moved from the Chair, "that the President’s report be accepted." Carried unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report for 2016

For

the period 1 January to 31 December 2016.

All figures were shown in Australian dollars.

AGM2017-03 :: It was moved from the Chair, "that the Treasurer’s report be accepted". Carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

Ballot scrutineer was C. Pirtea.

The following members were elected to the committee for the 2016-7 year:

President: Pavel Cisar (nom. S. Summers, sec. H. Borrie)

Vice-President: Steve Summers (nom. B. Latte, sec. E. C. Bin)

Treasurer: Raymond Cléroux (nom. T. Vedel, sec. L. Franzen)

Secretary: Helen Borrie (nom. F. Codebue, sec. S. Heymann)

Committee:


General Business

Fund-raising

(S. Summers)

The outgoing president, Steve Summers explained that, although our financial situation was not

"dire", it was not good. In response, Ernst Bin of Syntess Software had offered to raise their

sponsorship to TRIPLE the normal Platinum level, and Consic Software Engineering (Stefan

Heymann) had just become a Bronze sponsor.

Steve offered his sincere thanks to these long-time friends of the foundation for their generous

contributions and asked the rest of our non-sponsor members to consider whether their companies

were receiving enough benefit financially from using Firebird to consider helping further.

Discussion followed, with Pavel Cisar suggesting the possibility of enhancing the "business model" to

offer enhanced versions in return for higher levels of support. He considered it would make sense to

form a sub-committee that included current sponsors to work out what might be feasible and

achievable.

Ernst Bin thought the right way would be for the president and maybe a funding committee to make

contact with sponsors and members and ask them to contribute more. The current scheme, he

thought, made it too easy to sit back and let others pay. A direct, personal approach would have a

different impact. Ernst was willing to be part of such a funding committee.

Some raised the possibility of forming a commercial arm. Ernst and others considered commercial

activities to be alien to the Firebird Foundation and would not bring in money in the short term.

There being no further matters, the outgoing President, Steve Summers thanked the scrutineer,

Calin Pirtea, and handed the Chair over to his successor, Pavel Cisar. Pavel thanked Steve for his

service as President and the Committee for their service. He closed the formal business of the

meeting at 10:18 a.m. GMT on 17 March, 2017.

Helen E. M. Borrie

Secretary

This site and the pages contained within are Copyright © 2000-2019, Firebird Project and Firebird Foundation.

Firebird® is a registered trademark of Firebird Foundation Incorporated.