

**HỘI THÁNH TIN LÀNH VIỆT NAM TẠI ÚC (MELBOURNE)**  
***Vietnamese Evangelical Church in Australia (Melbourne) Inc.***

Reg. No A0007199H

45 Pickett Street Footscray Vic 3011

**EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING (EGM)**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** 25 September 2022

**Venue:** 45 Pickett Street, Footscray VIC 3011 and  
Via Zoom: 845 945 1045

**Attendees:** Church members (in person and ZOOM)

**Chairperson:** Senior Pastor Dung Huu Duong

**Minutes Taker:** Deacon Huu Hien Le

**AGENDA**

1. Opening Prayer and Welcome
2. Nomination of Minute Taker
3. Voting eligibility
4. Confirmation of Quorum
5. Highlight of proposed new Rules
6. Special resolution
7. Closing Prayer and Ending AGM

## **12:00PM EGM COMMENCED**

### **1. Opening Prayer and Welcome**

Senior Pastor Duong Huu Dung gave an opening prayer and welcomed the meeting

### **2. Nomination of Minutes Taker**

Senior Pastor Duong Huu Dung nominated Deacon Huu Hien Le to write the meeting minutes.

### **3. Voting eligibility**

Senior Pastor Dung Huu Duong stated the criteria for voting eligibility:

- be a current Church member and;
- be at least 16 years of age and;
- have participated in Church activities on a regular basis for 3 months or more prior to this meeting

### **4. Confirmation of Quorum**

Senior Pastor Dung Huu Duong requested the quorum to be checked.

- The voting admin team including Deacons/Deaconesses Phuoc Le, Thai Huynh, Wendy Do , Chi Nguyen, Hoa Tang, and Phuc Pham to count members that are in person.
- Deacon Thanh Pham requested the attendees on Zoom to have their full name and video on, and counted members attending on Zoom.
- Total number of eligible members for quorum:
  - 98 in person at the Church
  - 17 on Church ZOOM
  - Total: 115 members attending the EGM
- Senior Pastor Dung Huu Duong declared that a quorum ( $115/143 = 80\% >50\%$  given the Membership Register has 143 eligible members) was present at the meeting.

### **5. Highlight of proposed new Rules**

Senior Pastor Dung Huu Duong stated that the proposed new Rules:

- were reviewed and settled by Barrister Mr Anthony Lang of Counsel who is a specialist in this area of Incorporated Associations in Victoria. In his opinion, they are compliant with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the Model Rules.
- are taken to constitute the terms of a contract between the Church and its members.
- consist of 7 parts and 78 rules.

The notice of the EGM was sent out to all members on 3 September 2022. It includes the proposed new Rules as Attachment A, and a summary of key features of the proposed new Rules in Attachment B. The notice encouraged members to raise any question or query about any aspect of the proposed new Rules by sending an email to the Secretary, before the close of business on 23 September 2022. To date, the Committee had not received any question or query about these rules.

The Statement of purposes states that the Bible is our guide for belief and the instruction on how a church should function. These Rules are intended, under the authority of Scripture, to deal with specific situations.

Senior Pastor Dung Huu Duong presented some examples of differences between old and proposed new Rules.

| <b>Old Rules</b>                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Proposed new Rules</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Article XIII – Section 5. The Committee may withdraw the membership of any member of the Church and may restore the membership for those who are worthy of membership | <p>Part 3 – Division 1. Rule 17. A member is taken to have resigned if ceases attending the Church service for a continuous period of three months without giving a written notice of absence to the Senior Pastor or the Secretary; or the Secretary has sent a written request to the member to confirm that he or she wishes to remain a member and the member has not, within one (1) month after being sent that request, confirmed in writing that he or she wishes to remain a member.</p> <p>Division 2 provides the procedures for taking disciplinary action against a member and appeal rights.</p> |
| Article XIII – Section 2. The term of Committee members (not the Pastor) shall be one (1) year.                                                                       | Part 5 – Division 3 – Rule 50 (2). A committee member... holds office... two (2) years                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Article IX. The Church is connected with and subordinate to the Vietnamese Evangelical Church in Australia (VECA Australia), the parent Church.....                   | <p>This rule was invalid and excluded in the new Rules because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VECA Melbourne has always been independent, and does not have any connection with or subordination to VECA Australia as a “parent Church”;</li> <li>• VECA Melbourne only had fellowship with VECA Australia</li> <li>• VECA Melbourne did not become a member of any organisations;</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

## 6. Special resolution

Senior Pastor Dung Huu Duong put forward the following special resolution to be passed by vote by show of hands:

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Repeal of Constitution: | 1. That for the purposes of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (VIC), the existing Constitution and Statement of Purposes of Vietnamese Evangelical Church in Australia (Melbourne) Inc. be repealed in whole. |
| Adoption of New Rules:  | 2. That new Rules in the form set out Attachment A to the Notice of Extraordinary General Meeting be adopted as the new Rules and purposes of Vietnamese Evangelical Church in Australia (Melbourne) Inc.                  |
| Authority to Committee: | 3. The Secretary is authorized to apply to the Registrar of Incorporated Associations to register the new Rules at the appropriate time.                                                                                   |
|                         | 4. The Committee of Vietnamese Evangelical Church in Australia (Melbourne) Inc. are authorized to do all such acts and sign all forms to give effect to the above resolution.                                              |

The number of members voted for the special resolution to be passed by showing their hand as below:

- 98 in person at the Church
- 17 on Church ZOOM
- Total: 115

Senior Pastor Dung Huu Duong declared that the special resolution has been passed with an absolute majority of 100%

Senior Pastor Dung Huu Duong also stated that due to the current court proceeding, the old Rules continues, and the new Rules can only be registered with the Registrar of Incorporated Associations after the court proceeding is concluded.

## **7. Closing Prayer and Ending EGM**

Senior Pastor Dung Huu Duong closed with prayer and ended the EGM at 12:30pm.

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## **Appendix 1 – Notice of the EGM**