

Medact AGM – Minutes (DRAFT)

Saturday 15th July 2017 - St. Lukes Community Centre, 90 Central St, London EC1V 8AJ

11:00am – 12:30pm

Present: June Crown (Chair), Ruth Stern, Sridhar Venkatapuram, Alice Bell, Frank Boulton, Frank Arnold, Paul Cotterill, Carlos Grijalva Eternod, Elizabeth Waterson, Rajeka Lazarus, Robert MacGibbon, Penny Milsom, Frank Rugman, Frances Bradley, Gillian Ballance, Chris Freudenberg

Apologies: Elisabeth McElderry, Marion Birch, John Middleton, Joyce Leeson, Mary Holdstock, Nick Maurice, Judith Anderson, Sonya Baksi, Richard & Cath Dyer, Ian Grant

In Attendance: David McCoy (Director), Benjamin Walpole, Carla Stephan

June Crown [JC] welcomed all those present and invited everyone to introduce themselves.

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was approved as proposed.

2. Approval of minutes of Annual General Meeting 2016

a) Approval

The minutes of the AGM in 2016 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting, subject to correcting the proposal for Resolution 5 to list the correct Proposer and Seconders.

b) Matters arising

None.

3. Director's Report

Medact's Director, David McCoy [DM], delivered a short talk to introduce the 2016-17 Annual Report.

At the end of his presentation, DM expressed thanks to:

- all those organisations Medact has worked with over the past year, including the Faculty of Public Health, Doctors of the World, Medsin/Students for Global Health, the People's Health Movement, IPPNW and Medecins Sans Frontieres.
- all the staff in the Medact office
- all the volunteers who have worked in the office, in groups, or in other ways furthered Medact's missions this year

4. Treasurer's Report

Paul Cotterill [PC] presented a short Treasurer's report.

Whilst first reflecting that the latest accounts cover the period before his becoming Treasurer, PC was happy to present accounts showing an overall increase in income and expenditure reflecting a general increase in Medact's charitable activity over the past year.

At the same time, PC noted that the majority of income growth is in restricted funds, tied to particularly activities or projects; and there was an overall deficit on unrestricted funds in the period. As part of ongoing financial development, therefore, we should look to grow our unrestricted income, through a combination of membership growth; generating income from events where possible; deriving income from spare capacity (e.g. tenants in spare office space); and building in increased cost recovery measures with grant applications.

5. Resolutions

a) Resolutions

The following resolutions were proposed by Paul Cotterill, seconded by Frank Arnold, and passed by the AGM with a clear majority:

1. *The AGM agrees to reappoint Judith Brookfield of Brookfield Accountants, London SW2, as Independent Examiner*
2. *The AGM agrees that to fixing of the remuneration of the Independent Examiner at no more than £3k*
3. *The AGM agrees that final approval of the 2016/17 accounts is delegated to the Board of Trustees*

6. Election of Trustees

Sridhar Venkatapuram [SV] reported to the meeting on another successful Trustee recruitment process undertaken by the Board this year, which has returned the following six candidates for new Trustees:

Dr Penelope Milsom MD MPH is a doctor with experience working in NZ, Cambodia, Samoa and Liberia. Since completing a Masters of Public Health (Columbia University) in 2014, she has worked across the disciplines of applied global health research and health system strengthening project implementation. Penelope has worked as a Research Associate at Harvard University's Program in Global Surgery and Social Change conducting preliminary research contributing to the evidence base for the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery. In 2015 she worked for the International Rescue Committee in Liberia on a health system recovery project during the Ebola outbreak. In 2016 Penelope worked as a Research Assistant for Anthrologica where she was the in-country lead in Sierra Leone and Guinea for a UNICEF post-Ebola maternal and child health system strengthening research project. She has also been a Module Coordinator for the BSc in Global Health at Queen Mary University of London. In 2017 Penelope commenced a PhD in Public Health and Policy in the Department of Global Health and Development at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine as a Wellcome Trust Studentship awardee. Her research aims to investigate the health impacts of contemporary trade and investment agreements in developing countries and to inform the

development of strengthened national and regional governance strategies for trade and health.

Jeremy Wight is a 'retired' public health doctor, having worked in hospitals in Derby and Sheffield, before specialising in public health. He was Director of Public Health for Sheffield from 2006 to 2015, and subsequently worked for the National Institute of Clinical and Health Excellence (NICE). In addition to being a Medact Trustee, he is also a Trustee of the Sheffield Hospitals Charity, as well as being a non-executive director at the Chesterfield Royal Hospital. He lives in the Hope Valley, in the Derbyshire Peak District, and spends as much of his spare time out of doors as possible.

Jonathan Cunliffe studied medicine at Sheffield, and also holds a masters degree in public health. As a student, he was involved with Students for Global Health (formerly Medsin), and helped to organise their national conference on health inequalities. He now works as a junior doctor and has academic interests in public health, global health and mental health, as well as working in medical education to help students engage with these topics.

Guppi Bola is an organiser, trainer, researcher and writer. She has a passion for supporting groups in meaningful transformative work. Her academic background is in public health, and she formally worked for Medact as the Climate and Ecology programme manager. Some many years ago Guppi co-founded Healthy Planet and was a founding coalition developer for the UK Youth Climate Coalition.

She's also worked with Oxfam, 38 Degrees, Global Campaign for Climate Action, NEON and most recently at Quakers in Britain. Her work on economic justice is focused on bringing systems change practices to campaigning strategies and group organising.

Daniel Flecknoe is a specialty registrar in public health (ST4) and a registered nurse, with a background in emergency/trauma nursing, expedition medicine and humanitarian aid work. He has worked extensively overseas in South East Asia, Darfur, Israel & the West Bank, and most recently in Iraq with Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders. Daniel is the founder and co-chair of Global Violence Prevention Special Interest Group for the Faculty of Public Health, an interdisciplinary working group whose main objectives are to strengthen the research evidence and raise both public & professional awareness of the health impacts of armed conflict. His interests include global health, human rights, conflict prevention and social determinants. Daniel is currently based in Nottingham, UK.

Dr Yannis Gourtsoyannis is a working junior doctor (specialising in Infectious Diseases). He has been active in NHS campaigning for several years; having been an active trade-unionist in the British Medical Association. He was a key member of the BMA Junior Doctors Committee and helped organise industrial action on both a local and national level.

He hopes to bring his experience of grassroots campaigning to Medact and to help foster increased participation of fellow health-professionals in the fight for health justice.

Unfortunately, Jeremy, Jonathan, Guppi and Dan were unable to make the meeting, but gave their apologies.

The AGM approved the election of all to the Board of Trustees.

AOB

JC thanked Frank Boulton and Ruth Stern for their years of exceptional service as Trustees on the Board.