

GLEN AUSTIN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION AGM MEETING 2025

Minutes

01 MARCH 2025

14:50

CHAIRPERSON	John Mphatsoe
VENUE	Cresset House, 141 Hampton Road, Glen Austin
SCRIBE	Nicoliene Badenhorst
PRESENT	In terms of the GARA constitution an AGM requires that a quorum of 20% (twenty percent) of voting members be present in person or by proxy. Total proxies were 6 (six) with 69 (sixty-nine) members represented by persons physically present and online. The members present at this meeting in person or by proxy therefore achieve a quorum. Many more unpaid members were present in person but not eligible to vote. A register recorded all those present.
APOLOGIES	Bruno van den Borre; Norman Venn; Stefan Niemiec; Jess Prinsloo, Henré Prinsloo; Marion Fowler; Ottelie Fourie; Paul Ecoignard
INVITED	Sphiwe Masilela, journalist for Midrand Reporter

AGENDA TOPICS

ITEM 1 & 2: WELCOME BY GARA CHAIRMAN JOHN MPHATSOE & APOLOGIES

DISCUSSION		
John Mphatsoe welcomed all present. The items of the agenda were proposed by Marzanne Lennox and seconded by Karen Gerhardi.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

ITEM 3: ACCEPTANCE OF GARA AGM 2024 MINUTES (PREVIOUS MINUTES)

DISCUSSION	
The previous AGM minutes of 2024 were accepted as true and correct, proposed by Angela van Antwerpen and seconded by Hillery Magrobi.	

ITEM 4: GARA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT & FINANCIALS

DISCUSSION	
<p>JM gave a brief report of the activities of the GARA committee since March 2024. He gave a summary of the roll out of the streetlights, grading of certain Glen Austin (GA) roads and the severe subsidence of Hampton Road intersection with George Road in particular. He summarised the challenges impeding JRA but that the GARA committee were paying specific attention to the situation. He made mention of the GA Precinct Plan that CoJ had put out to tender. He encouraged all in attendance and the residents of GA to take part and to submit their input when the time comes. He said the project would require public participation meetings. The Precinct Plan would redefine Glen Austin and dictate how the area would be developed. He said that residents would be able to have a say in the type of development they would like to see in our area and indicate what is not wanted.</p> <p>JM said that GARA was also in discussions with the MMC of the Department of Development and Planning, he said</p>	

illegal businesses and construction were problematic in the area.

He also encouraged residents to report any attempt or successful breaking and entering or other breaches of security.

FvZ reported on the financials as shared on the screen and promised to circulate on request. He indicated that the subscriptions collected had decreased in 2024. He said that the state of finances was not critical as the reserves were healthy. He reported that the most expensive items were the GARA membership gate signs and the "Burger at the Pan" community event. He reported a minimal surplus for the financial year, without dipping into the reserves.

No further questions raised.

ITEM 5: JOBURGCAN AND ITS BENEFITS TO GLEN AUSTIN (JULIA FISH)

DISCUSSION

JM introduced Julia Fish, the General Manager of JoburgCAN, an initiative of OUTA. She reported that the City of Joburg was a significant metropolitan municipality of South Africa and that its downfall and decline would significantly impact the country. She outlined the purpose and mission of JoburgCAN which essentially was to address similar issues faced by many communities. She highlighted that JoburgCAN was very aware of the GA conservancy as well as other conservancies within the City of Joburg, which all need to be protected against encroachment of illegal developments. JoburgCAN planned to hold the municipality accountable as dictated by the Integrated Development Plan (IDP). She highlighted wins for communities which JoburgCAN, resident associations and OUTA had achieved. She said that JoburgCAN/OUTA had raised specific issues including budget allocation specifically to water, electricity and roads. She discussed the necessary reporting challenges.

Residents raised questions regarding rate increases and the appeals. Julia Fish said that JoburgCAN were challenging the methodology of the rate calculations.

A big thank you to Julia Fish, JoburgCAN.

ITEM 6: VOTING ON PROPOSED NEW MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION OF R50 PER MONTH

DISCUSSION

Voting for increasing membership fees to R50 per month was accepted by the majority of members, including a suggestion from Ian Measures for a discount for annual payments. Judy Bird clarified that there would be a pensioner monthly rate. The meeting agreed the following amounts of R600.00 per year for members. R 480 per year for pensioners. Members that wish to pay monthly into the GARA account will be R 50.00. Payments can be made by Credit card on the web site www.glenaustin.co.za or direct to the GARA account. Invoices can be requested from the treasurer. JM reminded the attendees that the copies of the GARA financials were available on request or from the website.

ITEM 7: ACCEPTANCE OF GAC 2024 AGM MINUTES

DISCUSSION

Proposed by Trevor Stacey and seconded by Sharon Tiepelt.

No questions or amendments raised.

ITEM 8: GAC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT & FINANCIALS (Dave Allanby)

DISCUSSION	
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Dave Allanby reported on the activities of the GAC and summarised the GAC financials, with specific note made that membership fees had dropped by 40% and that GAC expenses were more than its income. He encouraged residents to become members, particularly now that GARA and GAC had teamed up with JoburgCAN.

GAC minutes had been circulated separately.

ITEM 9: COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS & VOTING – GARA

DISCUSSION	
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JM gave a special thanks to the committee.

Ashley Naidoo and Ashena Naidoo had previously volunteered themselves for the Committee and Judy Bird introduced them to all present. She mentioned that they had previously been heavily involved with the community at Country View but recently moved to Graham Road.

Lizl Snyman nominated JM to rerun as Chairperson. This was accepted, without any objections.

The current committee indicated their willingness to stand for the upcoming year. It was accepted that the current committee continue to serve with the additions of the Ashley Naidoo and Ashena Naidoo. No objections were raised from the floor or from those online.

Chairman: John Mphatsoe,

Vice Chairman: Trevor Stacey

Treasurer: Frans van Zyl

Secretary: Nicolienne Badenhorst

Supported by Judy Bird, Angela van Antwerpen, Katherine Bezuidenhout and Kiren Pillay.

Judy Bird encouraged the floor to join any sub-committee or working groups for items or projects of special interest to them.

ITEM 10: COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS & VOTING - GAC

DISCUSSION	
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The current committee indicated its willingness to stand for another year. There were no objections from the floor. The committee was therefore re-elected as follows:

Chairman – Dave Allanby

Vice Chairman – Judy Bird

Treasurer – Christiene Morris

Secretary – Angela van Antwerpen

Others – Lesley Allanby, Jasmyn van Heerden, Olivia Bamford, Theo Heymans,

Consultants: Cedric Bessit, Lizl Snyman

Separate minutes have been circulated separately by GAC

ITEM 11: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DISCUSSION	GENERAL
<p>A resident asked what the consequences would be of GARA joining JoburgCAN. JM explained that GARA would be paying 10% of its membership fees to JoburgCAN to be eligible for JoburgCAN member benefits.</p> <p>The floor discussed various complaints, issues and views.</p>	

ITEM 12: CLOSURE

DISCUSSION	Refreshments courtesy of Cresset House Bakery
<p>With thanks to all who attended and nothing further to discuss, the meeting was ended at 15H25.</p>	

Chairman Signature

Date