

5th Annual General Meeting and South African Launch of SIDE BY SIDE Secretariat.

Thursday 30th September 2021, 11h00-13h00

Venue: Zoom

Minutes

Attendees:

93 persons registered to attend the AGM, with at least 46 attending (though the actual number attending varied throughout the meeting)

Apologies:

Zanele Makombe – ACT Ubumbano

Rosalie Manning – Anglican Church of Southern Africa Safe and Inclusive Church Commission

Selina Palm – Unit for Religion and Development Research, Stellenbosch

Bishop Purity Malinga – Presiding Bishop, Methodist Church of Southern Africa

- 1. Welcome**, Moment of Silence for our Chairperson, Rev Phumzile Mabizela-Zondi
Bafana Khumalo welcomed all to the AGM and requested a moment of silence for Rev Phumzile Mabizela-Zondi, he then asked Rev Storia Seitisho to open in prayer
- 2. Opening Prayer** – Rev Storia Seitisho
Daniela noted that Rev Seitisho had apologized that she would be late for the meeting, but that Esperande Bigirimana from Phephisa Survivors Network would open the AGM in prayer.

BUSINESS:

3. Acceptance of Minutes:

- 3.1. AGM 20th February 2020 and
- 3.2. SGM Minutes 12th March 2021

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Daniela noted that not everyone may have had a chance to review the minutes as they were sent to late registrations last night, and asked the meeting if all were happy to accept the minutes as read or would prefer to review them briefly during meeting.

No one asked to review minutes. No corrections were noted.

Simon Read proposed acceptance of the AGM minutes, Saydoon Sayed seconded this.

SGM minutes – Simon Read proposed acceptance, Amy Benn seconded this.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

4.1. How can WWSOSA collaborate with the NSP and government?

To be dealt with as part of the Coordinator's Report.

5. Annual Report

5.1. Chairperson's Report

Bafana gave his chairperson's report. Bafana noted the period under review at the AGM in characterized by mixed emotions (ecstasy and pain). This include WWSOSA growing from strength to strength and 'punching above our weight', and pain in light of the continued scourge of GBV in South Africa, the impact of Covid-19, and the loss of Rev Phumzile Mabizela-Zondi, among other serious matters.

Bafana noted highlights for the last year, including:

- Winning the bid to host Side by Side's International Secretariat as of 2021.
- Successful training of faith leaders (6-month pilot project – Faith Leaders Gender Transformation Programme)

Bafana noted challenges faced by WWSOSA, these include:

- Lack of resources to do work and advance goals
- Overworked staff
- Continued management of good relations in the sector
- Growing the WWSOSA brand
- Sustaining the energy of our current members, and growing membership

Bafana noted the following recommendations in light of the challenges noted, these include:

- Enhancing our resource mobilisation efforts
- Reviewing the issue of the staff complement

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- Engaging more strategically with partners
- Improving marketing of our brand and management of membership
- Improving communication

Bafana closed on a note of gratitude

- Thanking members who support the work
- Thanking staff who so often go the extra mile with limited resources
- Partners - willing to share their expertise
- Funders – who trust WWSOSA to provide much needed GBVF resources and training
- The Almighty

5.1.1. Acceptance of the Chairperson's Report

Bafana requested the adoption of the report.

Amy Benn accepted the report, Xana McCauley seconded.

5.2. Coordinator's Report

Daniela shared the WWSOSA annual report from which she presented her coordinators report. Daniela noted that her report echoes much of what Bafana had noted in his Chairperson's report, in that the last year was an incredibly difficult and challenging year.

Daniela noted that for the year reported on we had three main objectives. These were noted as:

1. Survivor movement growth

This included completion of the Amplify Change funded project, to continue to accompany Phepisa Survivors Network as they grew into a fully-fledged NPO.

- Daniela noted that in 2019 the work done here was incredibly successful and, in many ways, overachieved on intended outcomes. In 2020 this was impacted heavily by restrictions related to Covid and meant the Phepisa survivors network leaders had to do significant work to re-strategise.
- Daniela gave Nompilo Gcwensa an opportunity to speak further to the work of Phepisa, which she did briefly, expressing her gratitude for WWSOSA's support.

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- Daniela displayed image 8 on the annual report to show the immense growth of the Phephisa over the period.
2. Faith sector Mobilisation
To scale up WWSOSA work of conscientizing, mobilizing, and equipping faith sector to address GBV
- Work was done here at provincial, national, and an international level. Details on these initiatives are noted on the annual report.
3. Advocacy and network building
To increase the advocacy work of WWSOSA, to influence the shape of the national strategic plan and implementation
- Daniela noted that WWSOSA has been working at a national and provincial level to increase our involvement and work here
 - Noted the valuable partnership with KZN Network on Violence Against women in bringing the faith sector and broader civil society actors working to end GBV more closely.

Daniela closed by echoing the thanks that Rev Bafana Khumalo expressed, and noted in particular, the work of the management committee and Rev Bafana Khumalo as he picked up the work of the chairperson during a very difficult time.

5.2.1. Acceptance of the Coordinator's Report

Bafana thanked Daniela for her report, and asked if any members had any questions of clarity for Daniela. Nothing was raised.

Lyn van Rooyen motioned to adopt the report, Xana McCauley seconded this motion.

6. Financial Report:

6.1. Annual Financial Report (1 August 2019-31st December 2020)

Simon Read presented the annual financial report. He commended the reporting of the coordinator and all those involved in reporting to funders and stressed the rigorous requirements of funders.

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Simon noted that funding has been up and down over the reported period, but despite this work has not stopped, and some valuable funding has still come through over the year. Simon noted an ongoing issue is access to core vs programmatic funding, and the hope to access or build up a core funding to fund operational requirements that many funders do not always fund.

Simon noted that throughout we have had great financial management processes in place and have stuck to budgets throughout all programmes.

Simon asked if there were any specific questions on the financials reported in the annual report, and noted the full financial report is available to those who want to view them.

Bheki Buthelezi asked a question related to project income dates. Simon clarified that there was a process of changing the financial year, to fit with a calendar year, and as such the financial report covers 17 months vs the normal 12 months in order to achieve this (1 August 2019 to 31 December 2020).

6.1.1. Acceptance of the Annual Financial Report

Bafana asked for the meeting to accept the financial report.

Simon Read motioned to accept, Nompilo Gcwensa seconded this motion.

Desmond Lesejane motioned for acceptance of the Summary audited report, and was seconded by Saydoon Sayed. It was noted that the full audited financials for August to December 2020 were still to be finally signed off on by the Management Committee and signed by the Acting Chair.

Rev Bafana Khumalo thanked Simon Read for his work and asked that Simon extend our thanks to the Simon's team as well.

6.2. Confirmation of Auditors for 2021 financial year

6.2.1. Acceptance of the proposal

Simon motioned to accept proposal of remaining with the same auditors, Xana McCauley seconded this motion.

7. Future Plans

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7.1. Update WWSOSA's Current Work and invitations to collaborate.

International:

- Daniela noted the need to strengthen links with SBS

National:

- Solidarity Fund – Daniela noted that WWSOSA had been asked to act as Project Holder for funding for work done by the national FBO Collective Faith Action to End GBV.
- 6-month Faither Leaders Gender Transformation Programme – completing Pilot 1 in 2021 and moving on to pilot 2 and 3
- Trauma response training – invitation to send representatives

Provincial:

- Partnership with KZN Network on Violence Against women – invitation for faith leaders to come on board, work with eThekweni Safer cities unit to create violence free zones – an invite for faith leaders to partner here
- Provincial Advocacy and Partnership – WWSOSA is part of a technical working group here and support blocked cases to move these forward. Daniela noted this channel is available for those who need it and members and partners in KZN with challenges should contact her to take their report to the meeting for high level intervention

Local:

- Local church gender transformation/GBV Teams – invitation to request support where it is needed and WWSOSA will support to link to appropriate space or person

7.2. Discussion and input from all those present

Rev Bafana Khumalo asked if there were any questions of clarity or comments. None were raised.

8. Management Committee Elections:

4 Vacant Positions and 2 new Survivor Representatives mandated by Phephisa Survivors Network

1. Rev Bafana Khumalo moved to the management committee elections. Daniela gave a brief explanation of the requirements placed on the management committee. In particular Daniela requested for support for her proposal that all those who have been nominated for ManCom but are not elected (since there were seven nominations of high-quality and only three ManCom vacancies) agree to form part of one of one of four sub-committees reporting into the management committee. Daniela noted the four mancom

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sub-committees as **Finance and Fundraising, HR, Advocacy and communication, and Theological Foundations.**

Xana McCauley explained the voting process and listed each of those nominated (full outlines of their experience and expertise are available through the coordinators office), these include:

- Rev Mathethele Lucas Morena – adds benefit as faith leader and HR rep
- Rev Desmond Lesejane – adds benefit as faith leader and a technical partner rep
- Ms Sixolile Ncgobo – adds benefit as HR, finance, technical partner rep
- Rec Seipatii Ncgobo – adds benefit as youth and faith leader rep
- Rev Storia Seitisho – adds benefit as a faith leader rep
- Ms Pontsho Segwai – adds benefit as Youth rep and experience in faith leader training
- Mr Vedhan Singh – adds benefit as youth and Communications rep

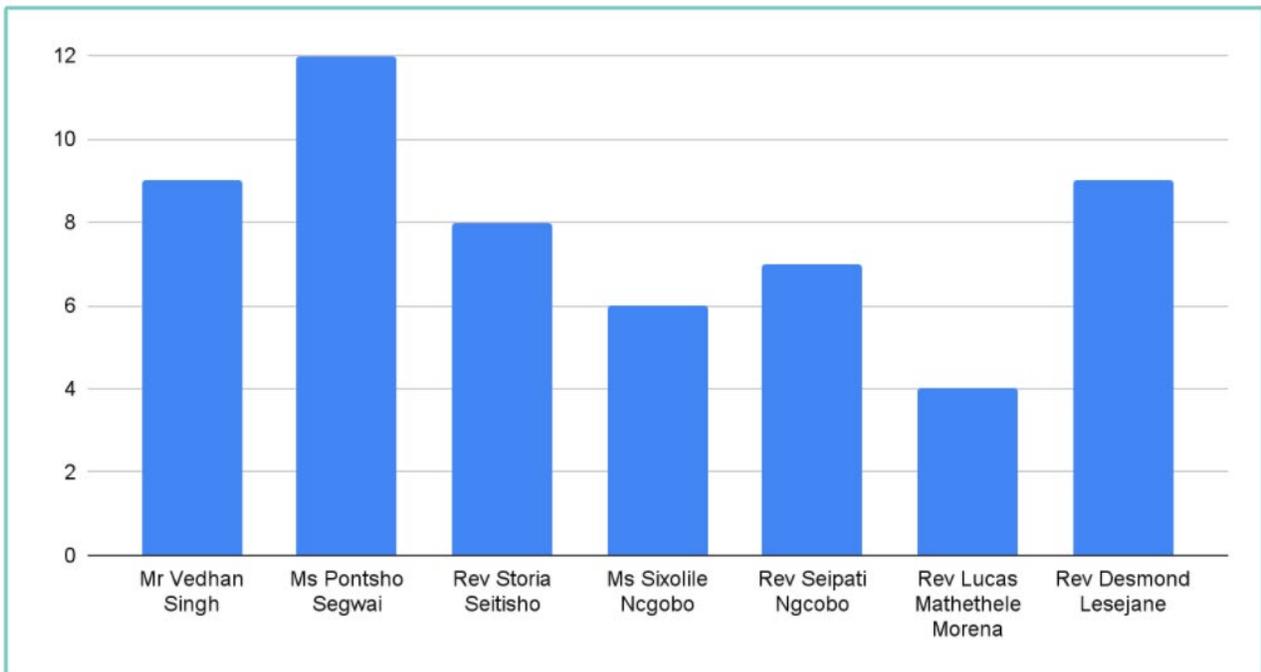
After detailing experience etc. of all nominees Xana McCauley opened the voting process. Daniela shared the link with all in the meeting in order to vote electronically.

Daniela shared the results and noted the following three nominees were elected to ManCom

- Rev Desmond Lesejane
- Mr Vedhan Singh
- Ms Pontsho Segwai

The results of the poll are shown below

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Daniela then asked again if those not elected to the main body were comfortable to join the sub-committees as a means to continue to support the work of WWSOSA

Sixolile Ncgobo, Lucas Morena and Seipati all expressed that they are happy to join and serve on of the appropriate subcommittees.

LAUNCH OF THE NEW SIDE BY SIDE SECRETARIAT: – Chair Daniela Gennrich

9. Introduction and Welcome to Side by Side – Rev Bafana Khumalo

Rev Bafana Khumalo gave a brief explanation of Side by Side and the work that is done internationally, as well as the resources and tools available. Rev Bafana Khumalo noted the history of WWSOSA applying to host Side by Side, as well as introducing Dr Nontando Hadebe who is running the South African chapter.

10. Message of Support - Clare Morgan, Christian Aid

Rev Bafana Khumalo noted that unfortunately Clare Morgan was unable to join the AGM after taking ill, and the other Co-Chair of Side by Side was also unable to attend. But he noted that he

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is also a member of the Global Steering Group and was thus representing the leadership body in this space.

11. Keynote Address: *Liberating Faith Through Gender Justice: Weaving Global Networks Locally.* - Dr Nontando Hadebe

Dr Nontando Hadebe delivered her keynote address, a recording of which is available on the WWSOSA website.

12. Participant Engagement with Dr Hadebe's paper and Side by Side

Various engagements followed Dr Hadebe's presentation, particularly via the Chat due to time constraints.

Daniela Gennrich, as chair of this session, proposed that WWSOSA host a follow-up consultation and deep reflection process based on this prophetic paper, and asked if Dr Hadebe would be open to repeating her paper in such a space. Dr Hadebe obliged, and there was general agreement to this proposed way forward to engage deeply with the paper, to be led by the ManCom Subcommittee whose work will focus on deepening and communicating WWSOSA's theological position regarding gender justice, equality and GBV.

CLOSURE

13. Closing Prayer – Vedhan Singh

Vedhan Singh offered a closing prayer in Sanskrit.

14. Vote of Thanks and Closure – Saydoon Nisa Sayed

Saydoon Sayed gave a vote of thanks and formally closed the meeting