**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2014 AT 14.30 HOURS AT CRESSET HOUSE, 141 HAMPTON ROAD, GLEN AUSTIN , MIDRAND**

**PRESENT: 45**

**APOLOGIES: 21**

Glenn Sheppard (Chairman) welcomed all present and announced that this would be a very casual AGM for a change. No slides and intense talks but more of a Question and Answer Session after the two Guest Speakers.

The Agenda was changed to allow Colonel Moodley to give his presentation on The Dangerous Weapons Act.

This was a most interesting topic. If an intruder is facing you with a weapon, be it a gun, knife, screwdriver etc., you are entitled to defend yourself. If he is turned away from you or running away – you are not allowed to fire your gun. He is no longer threatening you. There has to be proof of intent to kill by the intruder.

A weapon should always be kept in a secure place. Steven Vosloo described when in the dark a person is coming towards you within your property with? a weapon. What do you do? You are entitled to defend yourself. There had been examples where the gun was a toy but they look very realistic. The example of a police officer following an erratic driver who was pulled up and asked to get out of his car. The police officer drew his weapon to find the driver also pointing a gun at him and threatening to use it. The police officer fired and killed the driver. It was then found that the driver was diabetic and the gun was a toy one.

Glenn thanked the Colonel for his most interesting talk.

The Agenda was then followed.

The Minutes of the AGM held on 26 January 2013 were adopted by Carl Winter and Seconded by Shirley Winter.

Glenn thanked his Committee for all their hard work during the year. We said goodbye during the year to Adri Van der Veer (Vice Chairman) who moved to pastures new. Thanks to Andre Christos for providing top soil to the plot on the corner of Donovan and Allan Roads to make a park. To Theo Antonides for providing posters free of charge during the year. Thanks to Sandra Valente for operating the Radio Network call ups each week. Also to Ilsa for allowing Isisango Convention Centre to be used for all the GARA, and Sector 1 CPF Meetings and providing lovely sandwiches and tea and coffee.

**FINANCIALS**

Balance GARA as at 31.12.13. R72051.01 Balance Patrol Glen Austin R10402.77.

Again there was the request of how this money should be spent. We need ideas please.

**MEMBERSHIPS**

As at today’s date – 144. Last year it reached 267. This is still a poor response. Talk to your neighbours about the benefit of being a member of GARA.

**ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**

Glenn agreed to stand again as Chairman if the members wished. The responses was unanimous. “Yes Please”. A new Vice Chairman was needed and someone to deal with Illegal Signage. Andriette Ferreira who designs the Newsletter and website had found the pressures of family and job and can no longer do this. She will continue with the Website but the Newsletter will be sent out in the old format for the present. The Committee meet once a month, usually the second Tuesday.

Christine and Patsy had to officially resign according to the Constitution and be proposed again. This was done. The rest of the Committee agreed to stand for a further year.

Steven Vosloo brought to the attention of the meeting the benefits of being a member of GARA as he had had a sewerage tanker depot develop next door to him. He thanked Christine for all her assistance pointing him and the neigbours in the right directed to get this illegal business closed down very quickly.

**TALK BY ROB FOWLER (CHAIRMAN) GLEN AUSTIN CONSERVANCY**

Rob outlined the pressures on Glen Austin with illegal buildings and businesses. The Glen Austin Bird Sanctuary is looked after by the Conservancy Committee – which is mainly three people and more volunteers are required. Trevor Stacey had been in charge of Education but his work takes him out of Glen Austin a lot. There were social events during the year. A Gluwein Evening on a cold winter night was enjoyed by about 30 residents. There was also a Dog Walk.

We need to do a Wildlife Database and decide what we can do to maintain the Sanctuary. The project in the memory of the late Laurie Kay, who always cut the grass around the Sanctuary is still to go ahead. It was hoped to have concrete benches installed before the anniversary of his death. These benches needed to be sourced and Mr Thorpe offered to help with this.

By Laws need to be implemented. Jan van Kroonenburg mentioned the Glen Austin Spatial Development Plan and a document called “Think”. He will liaise with Rob.

Mr Morris mentioned general tidiness and recycling. There was litter at the Sanctuary and a few

Clean Ups’ had been done but education was needed. Perhaps the erection of “Fine for dropping Litter” signs would help. It was also requested that each resident ensure that the pavement area in from of their plots be kept free of litter which will help. We all need to do our bit. Pikitup had provided small round concrete bins throughout Glen Austin, but the schedule to empty them had not been arranged as yet.

Shirley Winter suggested a visit to Lory Park Zoo, which is on our doorstep. Also Conservancy talks on the birds and animals there.

**JRA**

JRA are contacted by Angie Swain on a regular basis regarding speed humps and potholes. However JRA are not happy about installing speed humps due to the damage to the road before the speed hump.

Speeding – it was suggested that JMPD be involved in stopping speeding in the internal roads. Ian Measures thought that corruption would be the main problem with this.

**QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

A complaint that Pitzer Road had been left incomplete with the road repairs. Again constant reporting to 011 375 5555 Option 5 for JRA is the only way to complain. Always get a reference number.

Potholes – take a photograph and again report to JRA.

Other issues must be reported to Council on the same number but press the appropriate Option.

Sally Thorpe asked if the Dump on the Olifantsfontein Road was legal. Christine confirmed it was but it does not come under Johannesburg, but Ekurhuleni.

There being no further business Glenn thanked all those who attended and the meeting closed at 1600 hours.