

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 7th December 2016

18h30 at Natal Canoe Club



1. Attendance and Apologies

See attached list.

2. Welcome and Introductions

The Chairman, Dave Still welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Minutes of the 2015 AGM were distributed and proposed for adoption by Trevor Gorven and seconded by Ian Bailey.

3. Chairman's Report – David Still

The Chairman reminded everyone of DUCT's mission, vision and modus operandi to achieve our goals.

Staff changes in 2016:

- Richard Clacey joined as Acting CEO (80% time)
- Noma Ntshangase was recruited to provide administrative support to Operations Manager and River Care Team (RCT) Unit
- Pandora Long stepped in to lead the Education Team and
- Lethu Mahlaba joined the Education team

2016 Highlights:

- The success of the Alien Invasive Plant clearing is now becoming evident in certain areas.
- Midmar Mile 16 Mile Challenge – 8 swimmers raised funds and generated high profile publicity for DUCT
- Turnover increased but profit margin still very slim

2016 Low-Lights

- Illegal dumping and ongoing war against trash
- Sewage pollution continues to increase – particularly in Pietermaritzburg
- Sand mining and soil erosion continues to escalate

Challenges successfully faced during the 2016 year

- Growing work force
- Durban Green Corridor's transition to an independent entity
- Improvement of DUCT's operational margins
- Increase the Board's involvement, corporate governance and building systems for sustainability
- Mvoti-Mzimkhulu Reserve Determination – DUCT made significant input

2017 Challenges

- Impact solid waste pollution at a strategic level
- Impact Dusi Water Quality
- Launch River Custodianship Programme
- Diversification of funding
- Tackle illegal sand mining
- Find new premises

4. Duct Management Report – Richard Clacey, Sithembiso Sangweni and Pandora Long

The Acting CEO, Richard Clacey reflected on the problems that DUCT is seeking to assist resolve, focusing on the growing trend of solid waste disposal and sewer contamination impacting on the Umngeni River system. With respect to the first problem, he indicated that a recent “State of SA Cities Report” (2016) indicated that Msunduzi Municipality’s waste management capacity had seen a decline from a weekly reach to 59,5% households in 2001 to 53,2 in 2011. Msunduzi Municipality was the poorest performer of the 9 cities in South Africa. Although Durban was much higher (87%), only 1, 99% of Durban waste was being recycled. On the issue of sewer contamination, he indicated that the monitoring and sewer access partnership project between DUCT and Msunduzi Municipality was identifying the problems, but that there was insufficient budget going into rehabilitation.

DUCT is 10 years old this year (from date of company registration but started the previous year).

DUCT has a 5 year strategy to 2020 – building resilience and reaching the long term goals which have not changed.

DUCT has four core competencies which it has developed and need to be built on going forward:

- River Care Teams – Alien Invasive Plant removal, solid waste removal, river bank stabilization
- Education Awareness and Capacity Building – Enviro Champs and Eco-Clubs
- Monitoring e.g. sewer leakages and river quality
- Institutional development and partnerships

Competencies requiring development and improvement

- Advocacy and lobbying: high impact
- Marketing, media and communications
- Organisational systems: strategic ,management, planning, fund raising, human Resource management and development, programme and project based performance management systems, contract management, monitoring and evaluation, financial and risk management Procedures

He emphasised the need for DUCT to develop proper monitoring and evaluation systems and to assess its programmes and projects against the criteria of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability.

Overall the above reflected the need for the organization to move to a higher level of “professionalism” now that it had grown from a small organization of committed individuals to an organization that was commanding significant levels of public funding.

Richard closed his report with a Project Portfolio and funding strategy overview.

Sithembiso Sangweni explained the DEA Land User Incentive achievements against targets. Staff training, including work and social issues, is a priority and ongoing.

Pandora Long introduced a short video on the Enviro Champs programme within the uMgungundlovu Municipal area.

5. Treasurer's Report – Trevor Gorven

DUCT has a duty to ensure that all funds received are properly spent on our priorities.

The project income does not cover all costs and last year's change in system to project based accounting makes it easier to see where the shortfalls arise.

Donations and fundraising are crucial to the continued running of DUCT and Trevor recorded DUCT's thanks to all those who give financially and of their time.

DUCT makes a very small surplus which is in line with NPO standards.

DUCT is committed to accountability and the Annual Financial Statements are audited and recorded and thanked Colenbrander for their support

Acceptance of the 2016 Annual Financial Statements was proposed by Hugh Raw and seconded by Dave Still.

6. Appointment of Auditors

It was proposed that Colenbrander remain as DUCT auditors and this was accepted by Mark Graham and seconded by Kirsten Oliver.

7. Election of Directors for 2016-2019 term of office

Terms of Office of Dave Still, Liz Taylor and Sandile Ndawonde expire in 2016 and as no new Nominations were received these Directors will continue in office.

8. Introduction of Guest Speaker – Mark Graham

Mark Graham introduced Dr Gordon O'Brien, Aquatic Ecologist specialising in fish and Ecological Risk Assessment.

9. Guest Speaker – Dr Gordon O'Brien

My journey in the service of fresh water fish – slippery customers

As indicated his talk was on fresh water fish in our rivers and was very interesting and informative and his love of fish was quite evident!

The work undertaken by Dr Gordon and his team can be seen on www.riversoflife.co.za

10. Chairman's Award and Closure

The Chairman's award went to Sphamandla Dlamini and he also handed a 10 Year Service Certificate to Sphamandla for his years of service to DUCT and the health of the Duzi and uMngeni Rivers. Sphamandla is the first person to achieve 10 years of service and we congratulate him on his dedication.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

AGM - 2016	
ATTENDANCE REGISTER	
Matthew Black (Colenbranders)	Nonhlanhla Mhlope
Trevor Goven	Colin Waterworth
Coral Gold	Nicholas Gumede
Sanele Vilakazi	Nonlonhipho Zondo
Mike Pace (Spraychem)	Olwthu Miya
Sibusiso Khanyile (PACSA)	Londa Nxumalo
Hlengiwe Nxele	Fresh Ngubo
Babothele Cele	Ndumiso Mvikathi
Paolo Candotti	Nkosinathi Nene
Judy Bell	Phakamani Dlamini
Doug Burden	John Oliver
Sue Walker	Gordon O'Brien
Jane Bain	Pandora Long
Dave Still	Sithembiso Sangweni
Slindile Maduna	Mbali Xaba
Gary Behn	Lindiwe Mkhize
Gill Graaff	Cebo Xaba
Ryan Brudwig	Siphiwe (Duzi Productions)
Sajieda Bayat	Lee D'Eathe
Richard Clacey	Sipho Mtolo
Bruce Baxter	Kirsten Oliver
Mark Dent	Hugh Temple
Nomathemba Ntshangase	Mlu Ntuli
Colin Burden	Easterboy Mkhize
Ian Bailey	Tsakkile Radebe
Sibusiso Ntinga	Falakhe Shozi
Wendy Ngcobo	Mandia Buthelezi
Lethu Mahlaba	Cyprian Ntuli
Zakhele Mdunge	Colin Everson
Hugh Raw	Mark Graham
Gordon Borain	Bart Fokkens
Dennis Mncwabe	Graham Jewitt
Lucky Gumede	Luvono Thandanani
Sphamandla Dlamini	
APOLOGIES	
Steve Terry	
Rod Bulman	
Merrill King	
Duncan Paul	
Liz and Jim Taylor	
Wayne Riddin	
Melanie Veness	
Les Willows	
Nontutuzelo Gola	

John Butler	
Francois Talbot	