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U3A Hobsons Bay/Williamstown Proposed change to constitution

Dear members

We have a motion to consider from a member that will be put to the annual AGM. This requires notice to members at least 21 days beforehand, hence the email sent now to all members. Please consider the motion and be prepared to listen to arguments for and against the motion at the AGM. If completing a proxy, please indicate to your proxy how you would like to vote on this motion. As always hearing the arguments for and against allows you to give a more informed vote on this motion. Rules referred to below are from the constitution which is available on the website.

The motion is as follows:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION - SPECIAL RESOLUTION

Proposed: Kerry Fowler

Seconded: Sandi Fallshaw

**Special Resolution that Rule 55 Term of Office, sub-rule 2
be altered as follows:**

from (2) A committee member of U3A Hobsons Bay/Williamstown may be elected to the Committee for a maximum of five consecutive elections.

to (2) A committee member of U3A Hobsons Bay/Williamstown may be elected to the Committee for a

maximum of five consecutive elections unless it is to fill a casual vacancy under rule 57.

Background: At the 2024 AGM, a special resolution was passed to limit the number of times a member may be elected *to the Committee for a maximum of five consecutive elections*, ensuring a rolling change-over of committee members.

However, it is unclear how soon after a former committee member who has served five consecutive terms is eligible to be considered when another member resigns or ceases to be a committee member, creating a casual vacancy under rule 57 (1) (a).

Furthermore, there may be occasions when insufficient nominations of eligible members are received at an annual general meeting, creating a casual vacancy under rule 57 (1) (b).

This proposed amendment to Rule 55 (2) provides clarity about the eligibility of members who have been elected to the committee at five consecutive elections. Also, it provides a 'safety net' for ensuring that there are sufficient committee members to share the workload by allowing all members over the age of 18 years to be considered when filling casual vacancies.

This motion will be put at the AGM. Please consider