



# AIMS Ireland

## Minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting

Held at the Teachers' Club, Parnell Square, Dublin 1

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2013

### **1. 2012-2013 Committee Annual Report ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2012**

The Treasurer's report stated that the financial statements had been approved by the Revenue Commissioners and no tax was due.

The 2012 accounts were approved

### **2. Proposed Motions and Business**

The following three motions were proposed, seconded and unanimously carried.

#### **Motion 1: Full support for all women in their right to autonomy of choice**

*"Aims Ireland as an organisation is committed to supporting all women in all choices in maternal health, autonomy for women, and evidence based care practices in issues surrounding maternity services. Maternal health and maternity services covers a wide spectrum of care and care options from fertility, reproductive health, pregnancy, labour, birth, postpartum and beyond.*

*AIMS Ireland firmly believes that in order to offer full support to women and campaign for improvements in maternity services, we must recognise all women in their right to autonomy of choice. The 8th Amendment of the Constitution, Article 40.3.3, affects all pregnant women - their birth choices, their right to accept or refuse a test or treatment, their right to individual assessment, their right to be pregnant or not.*

*The committee asks its members to ratify AIMS Ireland's stance to support all women in their right to autonomy of choice and to call for the repeal of the 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment to ensure women's human rights in childbirth in Ireland."*

#### **Motion 2: Women's Information & Legal Support Charter**

*"The committee asks its members to approve its new women's information and legal support charter to provide a framework for the services that AIMS Ireland offers women and to ensure that both AIMS Ireland and women who are supported by the organisation have a mutual understanding of our remit and the limitations of the services we provide.*

## *Women's Information and Legal Support Charter*

*AIMS Ireland is a rights based organisation that gives information and support to those who contact us.*

*AIMS Ireland is not in a position to give legal advice.*

*AIMS Ireland cannot give specific advice on an individual case. Individuals should seek their legal counsel from a solicitor on their specific case.*

*In legal actions, AIMS Ireland has the following policies:*

- *Funding – individuals are responsible for all legal costs incurred in their individual case*
- *Legal Contact – individuals are responsible for making their own legal arrangements*
- *Media – AIMS Ireland will issue information relevant to the case and has a right to publish evidence and information relevant to the case and insofar as it is possible, AIMS Ireland will collaborate with individuals to share relevant information and evidence with the media.*

*AIMS Ireland is not in a position to fund medical reports but the Board can make decisions on a case by case basis to offer conditional funding. This would be a donation as opposed to funding a legal action and it is not considered a contract.”*

### **Motion 3: New elected position to the committee**

*The position of “Women’s Aid” should be changed to “Women’s Support and Information Officer” and made an elected position.*

### **3. Election of Committee Members**

The positions of Co-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Women’s Support & Information Officer were elected. The positions of Membership Officer and Minority & Migrant Women’s Support Officer were appointed.

The AIMS Ireland 2014 committee are as follows:

Co-Chair:	Jene Kelly
Co-Chair	Krysia Lynch
Treasurer	Helen McCormack
Secretary	Sylda Langford
Women’s Support & Information Officer	Barbara Western
Membership Officer	Breda Kerans
Minority & Migrant Women’s Support Officer	Lucy Paprah

### **4. Any Other Business**

There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting.