

**Maitland Regional Art Gallery Members Committee
MINUTES**

Date: Thursday 13 April 2017 **Time:** 5pm **Location:** MRAG

Present: Jan Noble, Alasdair Smart, Sue Groom, Andrea Pugh, Holly Fisher-Bidwell, Brigette Uren

Apologies: Catherine Kingsmill, Loretta Baker, Sui-Linn White (work related issue)

Item 1: **Minutes of the previous meeting** 9 March 2017

Item 2: **Business Arising**
See Progress Reports & General Business

Motion: The minutes of the meeting 9.3.17 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: A. Pugh Seconded: B. Uren

Item 3: **Correspondence**

Out:

- To General Manager MCC re incorporation for MRAGMC
- Email to Judy McQueeney, secretary of Lake Macquarie City Gallery Society, to provide information re Bus Trip invitation.

In: From Lynn Morton, MCC, re follow up for move to Incorporation for MRAGM. Content of letter is under review and discussions will be resumed at future mutually convenient time & date.

Item 4: **Financial Report**

4.1 Treasurer's Report
Presented by A. Smart

Final Statement of Receipts and Payments for February 2017 – Once all expenses are entered the year to date profit is \$2,574.00
Draft Statement of Receipts and Payments for March 2017 – The year to date profit is \$620.00.

It is anticipated that there will be a negative balance this financial year.

Motion: Final Statement of Receipts and Payments for February 2017 and Draft Statement of Receipts and Payments for March 2017 – be accepted.

Moved: A. Smart Seconded: A. Pugh

Preliminary information was provided regarding opening an MRAGM bank account for EFT payments of membership fees. Commonwealth Bank suggested as preferred option because of low fees. Further details will be provided next meeting.

4.2 Business Papers

Presented by A. Pugh

2017-01 MRAG branded feather flags – Total cost \$486.18

2017-02 Printing of MRAG membership application forms - Total cost \$167.00

2017-03 MRAGM branded tote bags – Total cost \$1722.78

Item 5: **Membership Report**
5.1 Current Membership – 758
4 new memberships in March.
Membership income is lower than last year (Same time last year - 799).
Discussion highlighted need to increase membership as well as the importance of other fundraising activities to maintain funds and to support art gallery activities.

Item 6: **Progress Reports**
6.1 Incorporation – Nothing further at present.
6.2 Draft protocols – Protocol for bus Trips still to be done.
6.3 Events Coordinator’s Report

- Events Calendar 2017
 - ‘Art Trail’ planning progress report. After investigating details of costs (possible profit only \$200 - \$300), insurance and liability issues, this event may not proceed.
 - Max & Nola Tegel visit.
Tentative dates 9 – 14 October.
Event will include travel by bus for 45 people; a visit to garden and private art collection; a picnic lunch can be arranged.
Action: Andrea & Brigette to make further enquiries about catering.
- MRAGM Promotional materials - Tote bag – main discussion points as follows:
 - Totes to be sold initially as a fundraiser (\$10 each) e.g. at Olive Tree Market, openings and other events. MCC policy may prevent the tote to be sold in art gallery shop. This needs further investigation.
Once MRAGM is incorporated tote could be offered as a gift with 3 year membership.

6.4 ARTEL Magazine Secretary’s Report

- Duncan Hartly is currently overseas so it has not been possible to speak to him about his advertising commitments and invoices. This will be resolved by the next meeting.
- Copy for the Winter ARTEL is being collated from this week, with a due date of 21 May for presentation to the printers and mail out on 28 May.
- 12 copies of the Autumn ARTEL was delivered to Hunter Boutique Escapes in Morpeth. Proprietor Clint Marquet, hosts an average of 250 guests per month to Maitland and will place the ARTEL in his holiday residences.

Other discussion highlighted the high cost of printing and postage of the ARTEL and whether this is viable and sustainable. It may be necessary for members to provide an email address to receive a digital copy only. Further discussion to occur next meeting.

Item 7: **General Business**
7.1 2018 Bi-centenary of European Settlement in Maitland – no ideas considered appropriate for a celebration of this event.

7.2 Hunter Red Project – no further information available yet.

7.3 MRAGM Committee Support Group. Only one person has contacted Jan or other members about this.

7.4 Judy McQueeney, secretary of Lake Macquarie City Gallery Society, contacted MRAGMC to invite members to participate in a fundraiser trip to Canberra. A social media post and e-newsletter was sent to MRAG members with the invitation and information about the trip. Brigitte and Kattie were acknowledged for assisting with this.

7.5 MRAGM Committee lunch at Largs: possible dates Frid 21st April or Frid 28th April. Jan to follow up with email.

7.6 Garden Seating. Brigitte has made initial enquiries to purchase some seating for the garden from Heritage Gardens Nursery, Maitland. The seats are made from teak and will have a plaque to acknowledge the MRAGM donation. Brigitte suggested the following configuration of seats: 4 large benches, 4 backless benches, 2 tables & 5 single seats.

Motion: That Bridgette proceed with the purchase of the seating in the configuration suggested.

Moved: A. Smart

Seconded: H. Fisher-Bidwell

Item 8: **No Other Business**

Item 9: **Announcements**
Next Ordinary meeting: 11.5.17

Item 10: **Close 6.30pm**