

**LOCATION | TIME:** Maitland Regional Art Gallery | 8 March 2018, 5-7pm

**PRESENT:** Holly Fisher-Bidwell, Leeroy Chapman, Olivia Sophia, Sally Denmead, Sui-Linn White, Andrea Pugh, Alasdair Smart, Kim Blunt

**APOLOGIES:** Brigette Uren, Ben Whiting

**ITEM 1 Minutes of the previous meeting: 8 February 2017**

**Motion:** The minutes from meeting 8 February 2018 are accepted as a true and accurate record, following two adjustments.

**Moved:** Leeroy Chapman. **Seconded:** Holly Fisher-Bidwell

**Carried**

**ITEM 2 Business Arising from the minutes**

**Action:** Sui-Linn White to arrange meeting with Shahrzard Gronehout regarding cross-promotion with Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery Society.

The Treasurer confirmed the Committee's cash position at the end of December 2017 was \$70,245.

Sui-Linn White and Brigette Uren met with the Repertory Theatre, who are keen to pursue the ticketed soup event in August. The Committee is viewing the event as a pilot for future collaborations between MRAG and the Repertory Theatre.

**ITEM 3 Correspondence**

Out: None

In:

**ITEM 4 MRAG Update from the Gallery Director**

Presented by Kim Blunt on behalf of Brigette Uren. MRAG has just finished installing two new exhibitions, the *Doug Moran Portrait Prize* and the *Maitland International Salon of Photography*. The opening launch will be held on Saturday 17 March. Kim Blunt suggested

that the Committee might like to have a presence at the opening, for example a table set up with Membership information. Sui-Linn White and Olivia Sophia volunteered to attend the opening on Saturday.

Discussion of the 'Hunter Red' suite of exhibitions, which MRAG is involved in with the exhibition *Razzmatazz*. Other participating institutions are Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, Maitland Regional Art Gallery, Newcastle Art Gallery, Newcastle Museum and The Lock-Up Contemporary Art Space. Each institution will present an exhibition that responds to the theme of "Red" in the Hunter region. MRAG will host the closing party, which will also be a fundraiser for MRAG Members. The fundraising aspect of this event has been flagged as a potential conflict of interest.

**Motion:** The Cultural Director's Report is received and accepted: **Moved:** Kim Blunt. **Seconded:** Olivia Sophia **Carried.**

#### **ITEM 5 Financial Report**

5.1 The Treasurer Alasdair Smart tabled the following documents: *Final Statement of Receipts and Payments to 31 January 2018* and the *Draft Statement of Receipts and Payments to 28 February 2018*. In February there was an increase in membership income.

The MRAG Members' position at the end January 2018 was \$67,531.

The MRAG Members' position in the Draft Statement for February 2018 is \$67,547.

The Treasurer will begin the process of setting up a separate bank account for the Members Committee. This will avoid confusion with multiple financial statements and 'draft' reports. It will also allow for more detailed information on expenditure items.

**Motion:** The Treasurer's report is received and accepted.  
**Moved:** Alasdair Smart. **Seconded:** Andrea Pugh **Carried.**

**ITEM 6      Membership Report**

6.1 The Vice-Chair Leeroy Chapman tabled the *Membership Report to February 2018*. Report shows Membership is generally in a strong position.

6.2 The Committee was asked if a second Membership Renewal Reminder email should be sent to 6 members expired in December 2017, and if a third reminder email should be sent to 174 members who lapsed in June 2017 and haven't renewed. It was unanimously agreed that membership renewal reminder emails should be sent to both groups.

**Motion:** The Membership Report is received and accepted. **Moved:** Olivia Sophia. **Seconded:** Andrea Pugh.

**Carried.**

**ITEM 7      Art Sale**

7.1 Leeroy Chapman and Olivia Sophia updated the Committee on discussions with artists and suppliers for the Art Sale, including Dominik Mersch, Bruce James, Nell, Gavin Vitullo, Brad Snape, Nicole Chaffey and Nick Barlow.

The Art Sale Sub-committee will submit Guidelines for the Selection Artists at the next Committee meeting for review and approval.

**Motion:** The Art Sale Sub-Committee Report is received and accepted.

**Moved:** Olivia Sophia. **Seconded:** Leeroy Chapman  
**Carried.**

**ITEM 8      ARTEL Magazine Secretary's Report**

8.1 The ARTEL Secretary Sally Denmead has met with Brigitte Uren to plan the Winter issue, and is hoping to have Wendy Sharpe on the cover. It is proposed that the feature article will be an edited extract from the Wendy Sharpe exhibition catalogue. Sally will be away during production time for the Winter issue.

8.2 The MRAGM Surveys were posted out with the last issue of ARTEL. Sally Denmead will report back to the Committee in June with the results of the survey as well as her other findings in relation to the review of ARTEL Magazine.

**Motion:** The ARTEL Magazine Secretary's Report is received and accepted.

**Moved:** Sally Denmead **Seconded:** Sui-Linn White  
**Carried.**

**ITEM 9      Event Coordinator's Report**

The Event Co-ordinator Andrea Pugh has been working on the invitations for the Matinee Fundraiser. The event is coming together nicely – Maitland High School will make sandwiches for the event, and Hunter Valley Grammar School will support with musical performances.

The Members Survey has been emailed to all members. Andrea will report back with findings in due course.

**Motion:** The Event Coordinator's Report is received and accepted.

**Moved:** Andrea Pugh **Seconded:** Leeroy Chapman  
**Carried.**

**ITEM 10      MRAGM Constitution**

The Chairperson Sui-Linn White tabled the *MRAGM Management Plan 2009* (forwarded by Ben Whiting) and the *Draft MRAGM Outcomes for 2018*. Sui-Linn asked Committee Members to review and suggest goals for 2018. Discussion noted fundraising targets, membership targets and online signup for membership.

**Action:** The Secretary, Olivia Sophia, to upload to Google Drive and circulate the *Draft Outcomes for 2018* so that Committee Members can add their suggestions. Olivia to also upload and circulate historical MRAGM protocols.

Discussion around the MRAGM constitution noted that historically, MRAGM fundraising has been for the purpose of facilitating education and access programs at MRAG, as there was no budget for education programs when the MRAGM constitution was first drafted by Kim Blunt in 2005. Discussion noted that the constitution needs to be revised, as some Committee Member roles do not reflect current situation and other changes may need to be made. This should happen in advance of the AGM in October.

Sui-Linn White also met with Maitland Council's General Manager, David Evans who flagged structural changes happening with Council.

**ITEM 11      General Business**

**Motion:** That the MRAGM Committee meetings commence with an Acknowledgement of Country.  
**Moved:** Andrea Pugh. **Seconded:** Olivia Sophia  
**Carried.**

**ITEM 12      Announcements**

Next ordinary meeting:  
Thursday 12 April 2018 at 5pm