

**PRESENT:** **Sui-Linn White, Brigette Uren, Olivia Sophia, Ben Whiting and Sally Denmead**

**APOLOGIES:** **Leeroy Chapman, Holly Fisher-Bidwell, Alasdair Smart and Andrea Pugh**

Moved: Sui-Linn White | Seconded: Brigette Uren

**ITEM 1 Acknowledgement of Country**

Sui-Linn White acknowledged the traditional owners of the land on which the Committee meets, the Wonnarua people, and the Indigenous leaders, past, present and emerging.

**ITEM 2 Minutes of the previous meeting:**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 November 2018 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Ben Whiting | Seconded: Olivia Sophia

**ITEM 3 Business arising from the minutes**

Following extensive discussion regarding the parameters of Business Membership in the context of sponsorship opportunities at the Gallery, the Committee observes the following protocol:

- Businesses within the Maitland Local Government Area offering sponsorship support greater than \$1000 (cash or in-kind services) may be offered free Business Membership for not longer than 12 months at the discretion of the of the Gallery Director or nominated representative

Moved: Brigette Uren | Seconded: Olivia Sophia

The Magazine Secretary reported the decision made in an external meeting: not to pursue further quotes for ARTEL Magazine or the outsourcing of a bank of images.

**ITEM 4 Correspondence**

Out: None

In: A letter dated 22 November 2018 from Group Manager Bernie Mortomore endorsing the reappointment of the MRAGM Committee at the AGM was tabled.

Verbal correspondence: Sui-Linn White had a conversation with James Marshall, who has offered to do a workshop with the Committee on Social Value and Social Impact, to enable us to better advocate in the community.

The Chair seeks approval to continue the conversation and book a workshop with James Marshall to coincide with the second Committee Meeting of the year on 13 March 2019.

Moved: Brigette Uren | Seconded: Ben Whiting

**ITEM 5 ARTEL Magazine Secretary's Report**

Sally Denmead presented two re-design concepts for ARTEL Magazine, prepared by Jaime Pritchard. In both designs the new format will be A5, which will make the magazine thicker, and also better for viewing digitally. Artworks from the Gallery's collection will be used as motifs throughout the new design. Discussion noted that of the two design concepts offered, the first appeared friendlier and more in line with MRAG's identity.

Motion: The Committee proceeds with Concept One as presented by Jaime Pritchard.

Moved: Sally Denmead | Seconded: Ben Whiting

Sally Denmead reported to the Committee that the Autumn/Winter 2019 issue is on track and progressing well. Genevieve Graham, one of the Gallery's art educators, is writing a piece about her experience for the issue. Discussion of a new ARTEL cover price noted the importance of offering an exclusive benefit to current financial members, while also keeping the price low and accessible to a wider audience.

Motion: The Committee will submit to Council's Fees and Charges Department a cover price of \$4 for Artel in 2019, with the exception that the first issue will be 'by donation' until the cover price is verified by Council. A fee of \$250 for advertising in ARTEL Magazine will also be submitted to Council for approval. Discussion of the number of complementary community copies will be carried over to the next meeting.

Moved: Sally Denmead | Seconded: Brigette Uren

**ITEM 6 Financial Report**

The update from the Treasurer will be carried over to the next meeting.

**ITEM 7 Business Papers**

The presentation of Business papers 2018.14, 2018-03 and the Acquittal of 2018-06 will be carried over to the next meeting.

**ITEM 8 Membership Report**

The update from the Vice-Chair on memberships will be carried over to the next meeting.

**ITEM 9 Event Coordinator's Report**

The post-event reports for *Sculpture on the Farm* and the MRAGM Christmas Party 2018 will be carried over to the next meeting.

The Draft Strategic Marketing Communications Plan will be carried over to the next meeting.

The Committee discussed the MRAGM Draft Events Calendar for 2019.

Motion: the Draft Events Calendar is endorsed until the end of the Financial Year, with the recruitment drives at Olive Tree Markets subject to the continuation of the Markets in 2019. The Christmas Party and 10 Year Anniversary Cocktail Party are supported in principle, subject to further event development.

Moved: Brigette Uren | Seconded: Sally Denmead

**ITEM 10 MRAG Update from the Gallery Director**

The Gallery may have oversubscribed our Learning Team's capacity to deliver the additional self-directed program within Free Art Sunday from February to June 2019. It has been a been difficult sell for the front of house team, however it may be more more successful during the school holiday period. The pick up is not currently enough to warrant the additional investment. Free Art Sunday will continue as normal, as will the monthly Free Art Studio.

Brigette Uren announced her resignation from the role of Gallery Director, and will leave the position on 15 January 2019. She will commence a new position with Health Infrastructure NSW as Director, Arts & Health. City Librarian Keryl Collard will be interim caretaker until such time as a replacement is appointed as Director of MRAG.

On behalf of the MRAGM Committee, Sui-Linn White extended sincerest congratulations to Brigitte on her new role, and immense thanks for her tireless work with the Gallery, the Committee and the community over the last five years. The Committee thanks Brigitte for her generous contribution to, and collaboration with the MRAG Committee and wishes her the absolute best in her well-deserved, new role. Brigitte thanked the Committee for the invaluable contribution the members make to the Gallery, and for the Committee's support and collaboration with MRAG during her tenure.

**ITEM 10      Announcements**

Next Meeting: Wednesday 13 February 2019, 5pm

**Meeting closed** at 6.15pm