

Friends of NERAM Inc (9885114)

Annual General Meeting Minutes

28 June 2020

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of NERAM was held at 4:00 pm on Sunday 28 June 2020, in the Mazda Room, NERAM, Kentucky Street, Armidale, and via Zoom.

1.0 Welcome

Lucinda Wright welcomed members attending in person and via Zoom. She commented that she had been asked to Chair the meeting, given the Chair, Carol Mackerras was attending via Zoom due to illness.

Present: Lucinda Wright (Acting Chairperson): David Hallam, Peter Lloyd, Julia McCosker, Andrew Murray, Genevieve Noone, Merran Pearson, Richard Purssey (from 4:20pm) Lynne Walker: Sarah Johnstone (Secretary) **By Zoom:** Campbell Bastow, Phil Bookallil, Robert Clarke, Debra Kelliher, Pam Kobel, Ady Hallam, Moria Lloyd, Peter May, Carol Mackerras, Ro Randall, Martha Saw, Kim Taylor, Graham Wilson, Helen Wilson, Alison Wright

In attendance: Belinda Hungerford, Rachael Parsons

2.0 Apologies

Paul Akon, Richard Bird, Owen Croft, Johann Croukamp, Patricia Elkin, Sally Hardaker, Margaret Newsome, Richard Sheridan, June Ross, Malcom Ross, Pamela Watson,

3.0 Declaration of Proxies

The Chair, Lucinda Wright advised that the following proxies had been received.

- Margaret Newsome appointed the Chair;
- Richard Bird appointed Lynne Walker;
- Patricia Elkin appointed Moira Lloyd;
- Sally Hardaker appointed Andrew Murray;
- Paul Akon appointed Debra Kelliher;
- Richard Sheridan appointed Julia McCosker; and
- Pamela Watson appointed Julia McCosker.

4.0 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Friends Annual General meeting of 26 March 2019 were confirmed, subject to the removal of the second entry of 'David Hallam' in the members present.

Moved: Lucinda Wright **Seconded:** David Hallam

5.0 Chairperson's Report

The Acting Chairperson, Lucinda Wright commented that she would not read the Chairperson's Report in full, as it had been posted and available for all to read for the last three months. However, she highlighted the following points.

- There is a sense of change with a number of longstanding members standing down from the Committee in the last year. Their commitment has been highly valued, and it is hoped that this can be acknowledged at a future event;
- It has been a challenging year for both the Museum and Friends, with the drought and bushfires causing events to be rescheduled or cancelled. However, the 2019 Neramble was highly successful in terms of fundraising, along with nine exhibition openings and the running of the bar at the BlackGully Festival;
- The Friends donated a total of \$33,000 to Museum over the last 12 months, plus \$4000 for restoration of the painting *Still Life* by Ernest Buckmaster. This great record is only possible given the dedication of the Fundraising Sub-Committee and associated members, plus the strong support the Friends receive from the Director and staff at the Museum.

Moved that the Chairperson's Report be accepted.

Moved: Lucinda Wright **Seconded:** Julia McCosker

6.0 Treasurer's Report – Financial Year Ending 31 December 2019

The Treasurer, Genevieve Noone, drew the members' attention to the Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2019, and highlighted the following points.

- The overall income for the year was \$9000 less than the previous year, and Friends had ended the year with a deficit of \$4648. However, \$37,000 had been transferred to NERAM which was \$12000 more than the previous year; and
- With no fundraising opportunities in the recent months, the future funding of NERAM, beyond the \$10,000 already committed would be difficult.

Moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Genevieve Noon **Seconded:** Lucinda Wright

7.0 Election of Office Bearers

The 2019 Committee stood down from their positions, and Belinda Hungerford agreed to act as Returning Officer. From the unopposed nominations received she declared the following positions.

Chairperson: Carol Mackerras

Treasurer: Genevieve Noone

Secretary: Sarah Johnstone

Committee Members: David Hallam; Merran Pearson (Membership Secretary); Julia McCosker; Lynne Walker; Lucinda Wright

Moved: Merran Pearson **Seconded:** Julia McCosker

The Deputy Chairperson being vacant, Belinda called for nominations from the floor. Julia McCosker was nominated by Lucinda Wright and seconded by Ro Randall. There being no other nominations, Julia McCosker was declared elected as Deputy Chairperson.

The election of Julia McCosker to the position of Deputy Chairperson therefore created a vacancy on the Committee, and nominations to fill that position were called for. Richard Pursey was nominated by Lucinda Wright and seconded by Martha Saw, and given no further nominations were received, was declared elected to the Committee.

8.0 Appointment of Patron and Associate Members

The Committee was advised of the following honorary positions.

Patron: Angus Nivision had agreed to continue as Patron;

Honorary Accountant: Meagan Playford had agreed to continue as Honorary Accountant;

Honorary Solicitor: Greg Moin had not responded, so should he not be interested in continuing, he will be thanked and other solicitors will be approached; and

Associate Member: Rachael Parsons, Director of NERAM.

9.0 Other Business - General Meeting

In response to a query regarding the holding of the General Meeting, the Chair, Lucinda Wright, reminded members that advice had been forwarded to members, indicating that the General Meeting and award of Service Awards would be held when members could physically gather in large numbers.

The Chair thanked members for attending via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 4:30 pm