

**Friends of NERAM Inc (9885114)**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on**  
**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025**  
**at 4pm at the New England Regional Art Museum**

**1. Welcome**

Debra welcomed the members to the meeting and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land on which we are meeting and paid her respects to Elders past and present.

**Present;**

**Committee;**

Debra Kelliher (Chair), David Rose (Deputy Chair), Stephen Halliday (Treasurer), Lynne Walker (Secretary), Merran Pearson (Membership Secretary), Martha Saw.

**In attendance**

Rachael Parsons (NERAM Director)  
Paul Akon, Margaret Bain, Campbell Bastow, Richard Bird,  
Kaelem Burgess, Robert Clarke, Lou Conway, Kerry Dunne, Bill Dangar,  
Kerry Dunne, Adam Edwards, Liz Foster, Paul Gaddes, Ady Hallam, Sally Hardaker, Cathy & Ralph Hunt,  
Pam Koebel, Moira Lloyd, Rose McCarthy, Prue Melville,  
Elizabeth Niven, Angus Nivison, Gerri Perkins, Rosemary Randall,  
Elizabeth van Ekert, Wendy & John Wearne, Phillip Wright.

**2. Apologies**

Jack Bedson, Barbara Beynon, John Beynon Susie Dunn, David Hallam, Dacre King, Johann Kroucamp, Judith Laffan, Moira & Peter Lloyd, Rose & Bruce McCarthy, Nan Robertson, June Ross, Liz & Tony Spring, Graham & Helen Wilson, Alison Wright, Lucinda Wright.

**3. Declaration of Proxies**

Susie Dunn appointed Lynne Walker as her proxy

**4. Confirmation of AGM Minutes March 2024**

It was moved that the minutes of the Friends Annual General Meeting of 27 March, 2024 be confirmed.

Moved: Pam Koebel Seconded: Bill Dangar

The motion was passed

## 5. Chair's Report

Debra read her report and in doing so;

- committed to contributing to NERAM as a significant place of learning in the creative arts and as an iconic institution in the New England
- acknowledged Stephen Halliday's work registering FON as a charity and David Rose's work organising the FON High Country Autumn Printmaking Workshop as well as streamlining our communications systems
- acknowledged our committee member Trevor Edgar who died in December
- thanked the Fundraising sub committee for their catering and fundraising
- thanked the White Rhino Film Club sub group, Wendy & John Wearne, Mike Gibson, Paul Gaddes and Lynne Walker, for all their work in maintaining and growing such a successful club which has contributed so significantly to FON fundraising income, The International Film Festival was also a great success.
- acknowledged the success of the Adopt An Artwork programme and in particular the three restorations the FON funded at the AGM last year plus the funding of antique printing equipment for the Museum of Printing
- congratulated Rachael and her wonderful staff on the creativity and diversity of the exhibitions and activities at NERAM

Debra asked that her report be accepted.

Moved Pam Koebel Seconded; Kerry Dunne

The motion was passed

## 6. Treasurer's Report – Financial Year ending 31 December 2023

Stephen presented the audited report for the year prepared by Altitude Business Advisory.

He recommended that we continue to hold NERAMbles as a major fundraiser (approx. \$10,000 – 12,000 annually)

Stephen then moved that the report be accepted.

Moved: Stephen Halliday Seconded: Kerry Dunne

The motion was passed

**8. Appointment of Patron and Associate Members**

Debra advised that the following had agreed to continue appointments as Patron and Associate Members.

Director of NERAM – Rachael Parsons

Patron – Angus Nivison

Honorary Solicitor – Greg Moin

Honorary Accountant – vacant

**7. Election of Office Bearers.**

All office bearers vacated the chair with Debra handing over to member Robert Clarke who declared all positions vacant and proceeded to read out the nominations.

**Chairperson** – nomination of Debra Kelliher.

Nominated by David Rose & Kerry Dunne

With the Chair position filled Robert vacated the chair and handed the meeting back to Debra who then read out the other committee nominations.

**Deputy Chairperson** – nomination of David Rose.

Nominated by Debra Kelliher & Martha Saw

**Treasurer** – nomination of Adam Edwards.

Nominated by Kerry Dunne & Debra Kelliher.

**Secretary** – nomination of Lynne Walker.

Nominated by Richard Bird & Stephen Halliday

**Membership Secretary** – nomination of Merran Pearson.

Nominated by Debra Kelliher & Martha Saw

Continued over...

**Other Committee Members:**

Kerry Dunne

Nominated by Lynne Walker & Kaelem Burgess

Kaelem Burgess

Nominated by Merran Pearson & Kerry Dunne

As there were no other nominations Debra declared the nominees elected.

**9. NERAM Director's Report**

The chair welcomed Director Rachael Parsons who in her report:

- thanked the Friends of NERAM for all their support in all its capacities
- reported that 2024 had seen the highest number of visitors with 90,000 visitors through
- mentioned that the Adopt An Artwork appeal was now ten years old and that 120 works have been restored in that time.  
Exhibition/celebration planned next month to acknowledge the programmes success and also to encourage more donations
- the “white elephant” in the room is the master planning process for the building which is proving a long process but there should be more information available mid year.
- expressed regret that Belinda Hungerford had been “poached” by Orange Art Gallery and acknowledged her impact on NERAM.

Pam Koebel expressed gratitude to Rachael for all she does so effectively at NERAM.

Debra thanked Rachael for her report and expressed her thanks and gratitude for Rachael's leadership and creativity.

#### **11. Presentation of Oarsman Awards**

Debra then presented this year's Oarsman's Awards to the two recipients, Glenda Kupczyk Romanczuk and Merran Pearson amid great applause from the audience.

There being no further business Debra thanked everyone for coming, declared the meeting closed and invited all those present to stay for refreshments and to view some of the possible art works to be restored in memory of Trevor Edgar

**The meeting closed at 4.45pm.**

**Date of 2026 AGM t.b.a.**