

Australian Museums and Galleries Association Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 6 June 2018

1.45 – 2.15

Meat Market

North Melbourne

2018 Draft Minutes

1. Welcome and acknowledgements

President, Robin Hirst, welcomed members and visitors to the AGM

2. Attendance, Apologies and proxies

Attendance

Emma Bain	Padraic Fisher	Craig Middleton
Christen Bell	Mariea Fisher	Robert Mitchell
Julian Bickersteth	Bridget Forbes	JD Mittman
Kim Biggs	Regan Forrest	Melinda Mockridge
Margaret Birtley	Nina Frichot	Jessica Moore
Paul Bowers	Cressida Goddard	Bernice Murphy
Shane Breynard	Des Griffin	Kitty Owens
Jonny Brownbill	Janette Griffin	Michael Parry
Eddie Butler-Bowden	Trinity Gurich	Richard Perram
Luci Callipari-Marcuzzo	Sarah Haid	Susan Pilbeam
Janet Carding	Stephanie Hamilton	Rebecca Pinchin
Carol Cartwright	Jackie Healy	Wendy Pryor
Alec Coles	Rowan Henderson	Anna Rivett
Emily Constantine	Mirna Heruc	Ricki-Lee Robbie
Steven Cooke	Robin Hirst	Katrina Ross
Belinda Cotton	Beth Hise	Mary Ryan
Mark Crees	Andrew Hiskens	Lee Scott
Suzanne Davies	Frank Howarth	Cindy Seeberger
Lucinda Davison	Lynda Kelly	Joanne Smedley
Robyn Daw	Jane King	Debbie Sommers
Geoffrey Dobson	Louis le Vaillant	Phillipa Tocker
Ellie Downing	Stephanie Lindquist	Matt Trinca
Nina Earl	Rebecca Lush	Soula Veyradier
Aileen Ellis	Carina MacPherson	Chris Winter
Belinda Ensor	Amelia Marra	Jessica Winters
Lana Epstein	Alex Marsden	Elsbeth Wishart
Simone Ewenson	Janie Mason	

Apologies and proxies

Peter Abbott	Claire Lees	Sarah Murphy
Margaret Anderson	Tsung-Yuan Liu	Melinda Rankin
Amy Bartlett	Kaileana Lund	Tanya Robinson
Pauline Cockrill	Kylie Macey	Patricia Sabine
Diane Gardiner	Pip McNaught	Kylie Winkworth
Roger Garland	Dolla Merrillees	Linda Young
Josef Hextall	Richard Mulvaney	

3. Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2017

MOTION: That the minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting be accepted as a true and correct record

Moved: Katrina Ross

Seconded: Mirna Heruc

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

5. Annual Activities Report (President: Robin Hirst)

The President tabled the 2017 Annual Report

Key points:

- Active in advocacy
 - co-chair of GLAM Peak
 - focus on digital access to collections and Indigenous engagement
- Strong representation by members at national awards
- MLP running in 2018
- Facilitating and supporting branch-level activities
- Strategic review
- Modest growth in membership

MOTION: That the 2017 Annual Report be accepted (as distributed electronically, and available on www.museumsaustralia.org.au)

Moved: Margaret Birtley
Seconded: Paul Bowers

6. Treasurer's Report

Report given by Secretary, Carol Cartwright for Treasurer, Margaret Lovell.

The 2017 total income was \$1.769 million with total expenses of \$1.714 million resulting in a \$54,759 surplus which is a significant improvement on the 2016 results of a \$26,903 deficit. The net equity for 2017 was \$423 thousand.

In accordance with clause 14 of the Museums Australia Constitution the Treasurer advises that, to the best of her knowledge, the Association:

- a. Collects and receives all moneys due to the Association and makes all payments authorised by the Association; and
- b. Keeps correct accounts and books showing the financial affairs of the Association with full details of all receipts and expenditure connected with the activities of the Association.

The 2017 accounts have been audited as required.

MOTION: That the audited financial reports for the year 2017 be approved for lodgement with the ACT Registrar-General Office

Moved: Carol Cartwright
Seconded: Robert Mitchell

7. Appointment of Auditor for the Association for 2018

MOTION: Consistent with item 37 of the Museums Australia Inc. Constitution, that Anthony Wilson be appointed as Auditor for the Association for the year 2018

Moved: Carol Cartwright
Seconded: Craig Middleton

8. Resolutions

Dr Desmond Griffin addressed the AGM regarding the proposed resolution:

Members of Museums Australia Inc, meeting in annual conference on 6 June 2018 in Melbourne, express their support for Indigenous Australians in their aspiration for a 'Voice to the Parliament' as proposed by the meeting at Uluru in May 2017 in the Statement from the Heart and endorsed by the Referendum Council, and urge all museums to familiarise themselves with the Statement and its background since establishment of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation in 1991, and engage their audiences to promote understanding of the Statement.

We further note and support the significant request in the Uluru Statement, in particular the call for a Makarrata Commission, to supervise 'the coming together after a struggle' through a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations involving truth telling about history, to meet aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and "a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination".

In adopting this resolution, we note the following:

- the many appeals for self-determination advanced by Indigenous peoples over the last more than 100 years have failed to produce adequate recognition or response;
- that Indigenous peoples had no voice in the framing of the Australian Constitution – indeed, were not recognised as Australian citizens at the time of its adoption;
- that the 1967 Referendum gave the Commonwealth powers (in Section 51(xxvi)) "to make laws with respect to people of any race", thereby including Indigenous peoples; and
- that the Australian High Court's Mabo decision of 1992 repudiated the doctrine of terra nullius, or the land as unoccupied prior to British colonisation, and recognised Aboriginal peoples' continuing connections with, and ownership of, their land.

We further note:

- that a period of almost a decade has now passed since such processes were launched to consult with both Indigenous people and a broad cross-section of the Australian community on a desired form of Indigenous recognition in the Australian Constitution;
- that the organisers of the meetings at Uluru and the Referendum Council (established jointly by the current Prime Minister and Opposition Leader) conducted extensive consultations concerning constitutional recognition of Indigenous people;
- that the National Constitutional Convention meeting at Uluru in May 2017 empowered First Peoples from across the country to form a consensus position on the form constitutional recognition should take; and
- that in reaching its conclusion, a 'minimalist approach' involving merely a statement of recognition included in the present Preamble to the constitution, and moderation of the race power/s, was considered unacceptable to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

Read the full resolution and background information at www.amaga.org.au/indigenous

MOTION: That Members of Museums Australia Inc meeting in annual conference on 6 June 2018 in Melbourne express their support for Indigenous Australians in their aspiration for a 'Voice to the Parliament' as proposed by the meeting at Uluru in May 2017 in the Statement from the Heart and endorsed by the Referendum Council, and urge all museums to familiarise themselves with the Statement and its background since establishment of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation in 1991, and engage their audiences to promote understanding of the Statement.

Moved: Dr Des Griffin AM
Seconded: Bernice L Murphy
Carried without dissent

9. Any other business

There was no other business.

10. Meeting closed at 2.15pm