

## CANBERRA REPERTORY SOCIETY

Minutes of 67<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, Theatre 3, Tuesday 2 April 2019

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The meeting opened at 7:30pm – Chaired by Michael Sparks (President) present with Malcolm Houston (Company Secretary).

**In Attendance:** Jeanette Brown, Russell Brown, Geoffrey Borny, David Bennett, Sandra Cuthbert, Peter Dark, Liz de Totth, Joel Edmondson, Fay Ellyard, John Gieroszynski, Jennifer Houston, Wolfgang Hecker, John Klingberg, Antonia Kitzel, Tina Lynam, Neil McLeod, Rowan McMurray, Neil McRitchie, Helen Nosworthy, Oliver Raymond, Helen Raymond, Michael Reddy, Mal Tompkins, Henning Schou, Judith Schou, Anna Senior, Rosanne Walker, Amelia Witheridge, Alexandra Pelvin, Erin Walsh, Steve Walsh, Chris Ward, David Ward.

**Attending:** Helen Drum (Business Manager)

**Observers:** Geoff Winter, Liz Bradley

The President declared the meeting open and welcomed all attendees.

### **Apologies received:**

Georgia Croker, Alice Ferguson, Ros Byrne, Sandra Ross, Ben Waldock, Simon Tolhurst, Gordon Dickens, Anne Dickens, Barbara Denham, Corille Fraser, Andrew Kay, David Goodbody, Elizabeth Goodbody, Micki Beckett, Judi Crane, Peter Wilkins, Stephen Crossley, John Drum, Connor Drum, Ryan Drum, Declan Drum, Dennis Taylor, Hazel Taylor, Gabrielle Hyslop, John Carroll, Graham Robertson, Norma Robertson, Tony Turner, Elaine Noon, Dot Russell, Helen Vaughan Roberts, Chris Ellyard, Sandra Ross, Stephen Fischer, Suzanne Hecker.

#### **1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10 April 2018**

A Motion was moved to receive the minutes from the previous meeting. CARRIED.

It was moved, seconded and accepted to pass the minutes. CARRIED.

#### **2. Business Arising from the Minutes**

Nil

#### **3. Receipt and adoption of the Report of Council for 2018**

It was NOTED from the floor that the Appendix 2. Production Participants was not present in this year's report, but had been included in the previous two year's documents. It was AGREED that the inclusion of the additional lists was an important representation of the people who participated throughout the year and that it would be included in future reports.

COMMENT was made on the Technical report information about the projected costs for the replacement of the theatre Luminaires, NOTING that it was a large amount of money and should we be looking to buy stock progressively and /or extend the program of replacement over a longer time. The Technical Committee Liaison responded that the committee was continually looking at multiple sources for replacement Luminaires to best suit REP over the next 10 years. The meeting was ADVISED that the major driver for replacement of the equipment was that many globe manufacturers were no longer going to produce these globes, and that potential risks of using outdated and poorly resourced equipment was not to the benefit of REP technical teams. It was NOTED that the costs may reduce over time and technologies change, but that with REP actively working within the changed environment we would be well placed for the future.

A MOTION was moved to receive the Report of Council for 2018. CARRIED.

It was moved and seconded to pass the Report as presented. CARRIED.

**4. Business arising from the Report of Council**

Nil

**5. Receipt and adoption of the Income and expenditure Statement for the year ended 31 December 2018 and the Report of the Auditors for 2018.**

A QUESTION from the floor that the report did not list individually the income from the ANU hiring block for the previous year. It was NOTED that the amounts were received over an 18-month period and were represented in general income in the report.

A Motion was moved to receive the Income and expenditure Statement for the year ended 31 December 2017 and the Report of the Auditors for 2018. CARRIED

It was moved and seconded to pass the Report. CARRIED.

**6. Business arising from the Accounts**

Nil

**7. Appointment of the Council of the Society for the ensuing term/s**

(a) One Vice President – two year term

(b) Three Council Members – two year term

It was NOTED that there was no election this year, as there were less nominees for positions vacant.

Appointed to the incoming Council are:

Wolfgang Hecker (Member - 2 years)

Alexandra Pelvin (Member – 2 years)

Liz de Totth (Member – 2 years)

The new Council members were introduced to the meeting.

It was NOTED that they would be joining the current Council members not up for re-election:

Michael Sparks – President

Antonia Kitzel – Vice President

Stephen Fischer – Treasurer

Sandra Cuthbert – Member

Virginia Cook – Member

Joel Edmondson - Member

A MOTION was moved to thank all those who served on the Council last year and are coming on board now. CARRIED

It was moved and seconded to thank the Council members. CARRIED.

**8. Special Resolutions:**

a. That the name of Canberra Repertory Society's home theatre be changed from Theatre 3 to **Canberra REP Theatre**.

The resolution was brought to Council by J Houston for consideration at the AGM.

DISCUSSION was held, NOTING while the change would take time it would provide a better connection for REP within the Canberra Community. The question of individual recognition for the venue with a similar name to other local theatres was raised with concern over people being able to easily differentiate the performance spaces. Also

other suggestions for names were raised – Repertory Theatre - or connecting the venue to a street address. Several members spoke for and against the change. It was NOTED that this space was the Company's home and should be recognised as such. It was NOTED that the name change could also work to our advantage for promotion and recognition.

A MOTION was moved to vote on the change of name for the venue to Canberra REP Theatre. CARRIED

It was moved and seconded to change the venue name. CARRIED.

#### 9. **General Business**

A query from the floor relating to Play selection, NOTING that without having enough paying customers we would not survive. What is the focus on or formula used to select a balanced season? In response it was NOTED that the previous Play Selection Committee had already selected the current season – and that the first play into next year as part of that season was a Classic. An attempt has been made with the new season to mix classics, comedy and music, with one potentially risky production by an Australian playwright, which doesn't fit those styles. It is envisioned that the same template will continue for play selection into the future. It was COMMENTED that sometimes staying with potential money spinners and traditional plays could be a better pathway for success. It was NOTED that the play selection timeframe and process would continue for the current cycle. Following on from that cycle consideration may be made for changes to the formula.

No further business, President welcomed the new council and thanked the members.

**Meeting closed at 20:25pm**