

CANBERRA REPERTORY SOCIETY

Minutes of 66th Annual General Meeting, Theatre 3, Tuesday 10 April 2018

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

In Attendance: Jeanette Brown, Russell Brown, John Carroll, Yanina Clifton, Virginia Cook, Liz de Totth, Joel Edmondson, Alice Ferguson, John Gieroszynski, Marya Glyn-Daniel, Joyce Gore, Wolfgang Hecker, Sam Hannan-Morrow, Andrew Kay, Carmen King, Antonia Kitzel, Neil McLeod, Rowan McMurray, Neil McRitchie, Helen Nosworthy, Oliver Raymond, Michael Reddy, Sandra Ross, Dot Russell, Henning Schou, Judith Schou, Anna Senior, Michael Sparks, Heather Spong, Dennis Taylor, Hazel Taylor, Simon Tolhurst, Anne Turner, Karen Vickery, Rosanne Walker, Chris Ward, Amelia Witheridge.

Attending: Helen Drum (Business Manager), Ben Waldock (Box Office Administrator)

Observers: Geoff Winter, Phillip McKenzie.

The President declared the meeting open and welcomed all attendees. Before the meeting began the President requested those attending to stand from their seats for a moment of silence, in commemoration for the loss of two members over the last year Probyn Steer and Life Member Martin Newman.

1. **Apologies received:**

Georgia Croker, Euan Bowen, Benjamin Ward, Chris Baldock, Judi Crane Wilkins, Peter Wilkins, Jim McMullen, Jill McMullen, Sandra Cuthbert, Peter Dark, Barbara Denham, Ros Engledow, Stephen Fischer, Jenny Houston, Liz Bradley, Helen Raymond, Mal Tompkins, Fay Ellyard, Joan White, John Drum, Connor Drum, Ryan Drum, Declan Drum, Michael Spong, Erin Walsh, Stephen Walsh, Suzanne Hecker, Lorraine Smith, Jan Smith, Marta Kasarik, Ann Moloney, Mike Moloney.

2. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 4 April 2017**

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

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

3. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Nil

4. **Receipt and adoption of the Report of Council for 2017**

A MOTION was moved to receive the Report of Council for 2017. CARRIED.

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

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

Nil

6. **Receipt and adoption of the Income and expenditure Statement for the year ended 31 December 2017 and the Report of the Auditors for 2017.**

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 2017. CARRIED

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

7. Business arising from the Accounts

Nil

8. Address from the outgoing President.

As outgoing President, D Bennett addressed the meeting. Noting that when he came into the office of President three years ago, the first one to serve a three year term under the current constitution, he came in with a platform of five planks. The first plank was Volunteer—this organisation works because people who are members volunteer to do things. Second was that we needed a Marketing Manager—we have one now V Cook is here today. Third plank was called five to stay alive. Considering our current financial membership of 154, if every one of those financial members brought two people to every production, that would give us an 82 percent fill on two houses. The difference means potentially running a show at a profit rather than break even. The fourth plank was looking at the existing practice of having directors contract for only one production per season with only two consecutive seasons participation after which they would take a break. This Council changed that and voted it out – they started using the directors which gave them the best possible proposal for each show. If that meant a director had two shows in a season, so be it. We have had the best possible results from that. The fifth plank was that we needed to change the way we were selecting plays. We have had a very diligent dedicated group, the Play Selection Advisory Committee (PSAC), tasked with considering and selecting plays. Since 2014 the following individuals have been part of PSAC in some capacity; Kate Blackhurst, Judi Crane, barb barnett, Colin Milner, Heather Spong, Simon Tolhurst, Jim Adamik, Lachlan Ruffy, Tim Sekules, Sam Hannan-Morrow, Karen Vickery, Antonia Kitzel and Michael Sparks. I want to thank the PSAC for all their diligent and hard work over all the years that we have had that committee. And I want to say that we are now going to look at a different way of selecting plays. The plank I put forward was 'let's ask the directors what they want to do', since then a group headed by K Vickery is looking at a way of doing that thing. So that the passion of the directors comes to the play. We build a season from those plays selected – but a different way, and we will see how that works.

9. Appointment of the Council of the Society for the ensuing term/s

(a) One President – three year term

(b) One Vice President – two year term

(c) 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:

Michael Sparks (President – 3 years)

Antonia Kitzel (Vice President – 2 years)

Joel Edmondson (Member – 2 years)

The new Council members were introduced to the meeting.

It was NOTED that Council would not have its full complement of members following this meeting, with Council assessing skill/experience requirements and move to appoint new members following the first Council meeting.

At this point the past President handed over the meeting to the new President, Michael Sparks.

M Sparks asked that the minutes record that his first order of business tonight is to thank D Bennett for his work over the past three years. There has been a lot of change and challenges and with the Council behind you, have helped shaped the council to move forward in a positive way. President noted that REP is an old organisation, 86 years this year,

and is not here because it was a good idea, it continues through the hard work of many people in the past and present. To all who have helped over the decades, thank you .

10. Special Resolutions:

a. Nomination of Dot Russell for Life membership-Corille Fraser read by Andrew Kay
A Kay addressed the meeting and confirmed his support of the nomination, noting that Dot had been involved with REP for a long time and that she well and truly deserved the nomination.

Those present at the meeting were invited to vote by raising their hands. Unanimous, carried.

b. Nomination of Simon Tolhurst for Life Membership-Sam Hannan-Morrow
both supported by convened Life Member panel.

S Hannan-Morrow addressed the meeting and confirmed his support of the nomination, noting that Simon's work had been tireless, sometimes on the stage and more often behind the scenes. He contributed greatly through Council roles, play selection, archive work, production management and communications.

Those present at the meeting were invited to vote by raising their hands. Unanimous, carried.

Simon responded with thanks, noting that he was proud to be able to be a part of an organisation which allowed him to do the things he enjoyed and was supportive of his passions.

President thanked the Life member panels for their work and the nominees.

11. General Business

Nil

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

Meeting closed at 19:59pm