

**MEDIA RESOURCE CENTRE INC  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The meeting was held at THE MERCURY CINEMA  
13 Morphett Street, Adelaide  
**6:10pm Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.**

**1. PRESENT:**       **Board Members:** Tony Keenan (Chair), Patti Greethead, Mike Walsh, Mark Knight, Mark Stevens, Claire Harris  
**General Members:** Pia D. West, David Donaldson, Adam Lemmy, Tess O'Flaherty, Tom Buyers, Chris Burns, Michael Clarkin, Melanie Easton, Alison Wotherspoon, Kirsty Stark, Emma Houghhobbs, Wilson Gavin, Luke Wissel, Jeremy Nicholas, AJ Coronell, Peter Ninos, Sophie Morgan, Lucy Campbell, Robert West, Craig Faulkner, Nathan Bain, Marion Pilowsky

**2. APOLOGIES:** Maddie Parrie

It was noted that a quorum had been reached and the meeting commenced.

**3. APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER & SCRUTINEERS**

Robyn Samuel is nominated as the returning officer.

**4. CONFIRMATION OF THE 2015 AGM MINUTES**

**Motion:**       That the minutes of the 2015 Media Resource Centre (MRC) AGM be accepted as a true and accurate record of meeting proceedings.

**Moved:**       Mark Knight

**Seconded:** Mike Walsh

**CARRIED**

## 5. CHAIR'S REPORT

Tony expressed his pride in the Media Resource Centre's diverse range of activities: exhibiting broadly, running filmmaking programs and events, like SASA.

Screen Australia withdrew its financial support from the MRC, and the entire Screen Network, as of 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2016. However, we are encouraged by Screen Australia's praise of the MRC and we remain confident in being able to secure funding from Screen Australia for specific programs in the future. We've been fighting this decision since it was made in 2014 and have good representation federally. For example, Nick Xenophon is very active in his championing of our cause but unfortunately this hasn't seen any funding returned to us yet.

Other screen network organisations chose not to fight Screen Australia's decision meaning Metro Screen in Sydney will shut at the end of 2016, and Wide Angle in Tasmania were going to close but have received 2 years of funding from a philanthropist.

In order for the MRC to cope with a lower funding base the board wants to branch out and seek funding from: philanthropists, sponsorships and further business development (ie, more commercial ways of building programs).

In early 2015 the SAFC announced a review of the MRC and the emerging sector. Although this took us by surprise initially and was hard work it had a great result and has reinforced their commitment to us.

Overall the good things to come out of the funding loss and SAFC's review process are:

- Our strong industry connection is more evident
- Greater connection with SAFC
- Strong partnership with Adelaide Film Festival
- Conversations with the Adelaide Festival Centre

Tony thanked Gail, the board and MRC staff for their hard work, in difficult times. He also thanked the State government for backing us up. Tony acknowledged the retiring and outgoing board members as well, thanking them for their efforts over the years.

**Motion:** That the Chair's Report be accepted.

**Moved:** Patti Greethead

**Seconded:** Mike Walsh

**CARRIED**

## **6. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Tony Keenan highlighted the Media Resource Centre's issues around reduced funding in 2016 and how we responded in 2015. Gail and staff were once again resourceful in their approach to the organisations activities and finances with money only being spent where income was coming in and the expenses minimized wherever possible. The auditors again issued an unqualified audit opinion and simply changed note 8 to the financial statements 'Economic Dependence' to reflect our change of funding from 2016 and the MRC's strategy to deal with it.

Tony emphasized the following in regards to the MRC's financial management and performance in 2015:

- Mercury box office takings increased
- Mercury is virtually self funding and thus marketing increased as a way to build audience
- Membership doubled
- The number of projects increased
- We continue to cover our depreciation
- We have been able to carry forward some 2015 grant funds to 2016
- Cash reserves have increased
- Overall, the MRC made a good surplus, giving a good buffer for 2016.

Tony acknowledged and gave credit to Gail, her staff and the board for their prudent financial management.

**Motion:** That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Tony Keenan

Seconded: Mark Knight

**CARRIED**

## **7. CONFIRMATION OF AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**Motion:** That the Auditor Report be accepted.

**Moved:** Clair Harris

**Seconded:** Mark Stevens

**CARRIED**

## **8. ELECTION OF MRC BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

The constitution allows not less than six and not more than seven positions. Terms are for two years.

Resigning board members: Patti Greethead, Mike Walsh, Allan Collins, & Sandy George.

Mark Stevens and Mark Knight are 1 year into their two year terms and thus continuing.

Michael Clarkin and Tony Keenan were nominated at least 14 days prior to the AGM, as required, and thus are automatically elected.

Claire Harris, Alison Wotherspoon, and Maddie Parry also nominated from the floor at the AGM.

Additionally, Kirsty Stark and David Ngo have been seconded to the board.

This gives a total of 9 members for the Board of Management. Given this is greater than the number of positions allowed by the constitution it was put to the members present at the AGM.

**Motion:** That rather than voting for 7 members the Board of Management consist of 9 members: Tony Keenan, Mark Stevens, Mark Knight, Claire Harris, Michael Clarkin, Alison Wotherspoon, Kirsty Stark, Maddie Parry and David Ngo.

**Moved:** Mark Knight

**Seconded:** Patti Greethead

**Declared Unopposed**

#### **9. REPORT BY MEMBERS' PRODUCTION GROUP (MPG)**

There is no standing committee for the MPG. The board will look to remove this from the constitution and look into involving members in other ways.

#### **10. REPORT BY MEMBERS' EXHIBITION GROUP (MEG)**

The MEG was made up of Patti Greethead, Ron Hillinga, Davis Munn, Nicholas Goodfrey and Mike Walsh in 2015 but were not particularly active, not meeting at all in 2015. Thus, the board will also look to remove this group from the constitution and look into involving members in other ways.

#### **11. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF MPG**

Not Applicable as group to be dissolved.

#### **12. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF MEG**

Not Applicable as group to be dissolved.

### **13. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR**

Tony recommends that RSM Bird Cameron be reappointed as external auditors. He noted that they've been very helpful and we're happy with their engagement. A discounted price will be discussed with them given our lower level of funding.

**Motion:** That RSM Bird Cameron be re-engaged as the MRC Auditor for 2016.

**Moved:** Mark Stevens

**Seconded:** Claire Harris

**CARRIED**

### **14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Pia D West made a suggestion that we have look to bequeaths as a way to raise funds. Gail responded that we'll look into this as we do have charitable status and since Seniors on Screen is a good match for this.
- Other fundraising efforts could include member's screenings (networking), which could be driven by the board or members.
- Flinders may also be able to hold end of year screenings and Alison Wotherspoon stated that she's already suggesting the Mercury for University departments to hold events (eg Science dept. to hold an event at the Mercruy). Mike Walsh and Gail confirmed that negotiations are already being carried out between the university and MRC for sponsorship/fundraising arrangements.
- Marion Pilowsky suggested an overhaul to the Mercury merchandise and she volunteered to fix up.

**Motion:** Marion Pilowsky to chair a Merchandise Sub-Committee

**Moved:** Tony Keenan

**Seconded:** Mark Knight

**CARRIED**

**The meeting closed at 6:55pm.**