

MEDIA RESOURCE CENTRE INC
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The meeting was held at THE MERCURY CINEMA
13 Morphett Street, Adelaide
6:20pm Wednesday 31st May, 2017.

- 1. PRESENT:**
- Board Members:** Tony Keenan (Chair), Mark Knight, Mark Stevens, Claire Harris, Kirsty Stark, Maddy Parry, Alison Wotherspoon
- General Members:** Damian Woodards, Conor McCarron, Craig Faulkner, Daniel Prider
- Proxy votes:** Kirsty Sark for Peter Ninos, Claire Bishop, Anthony Frith, Tim Carlier, Stephen Devilliers and Ashley Knott; Maddy Parry for Paul Gallasch and Claire Harris for Marion Pillowski

- 2. APOLOGIES:** Michael Clarkin and David Ngo

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

3. APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER & SCRUTINEERS

Robyn Collins is nominated as the returning officer and scrutineer.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE 2016 AGM MINUTES

Motion: That the minutes of the 2016 Media Resource Centre (MRC) AGM be accepted as a true and accurate record of meeting proceedings.

Moved: Mark Stevens

Seconded: Mark Knight

CARRIED

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Tony Keenan referred to his full report on page 5 of the *2016 Annual Report*, copies of which were distributed to meeting attendees.

Tony expressed his pride in the Media Resource Centre, continuing to be centre of excellence and undertaking a diverse range of activities in a difficult year; our first year without Screen Australia funding. Throughout this time of transition, it has been our strategy to remain engaging, even without Screen Australia funding. We have been very successful at this and it has been noted by Screen Australia, who have praised us as being the benchmark. However, there hasn't been much financial support, yet. We plan to keep arguing for such support and while other screen network organisations have fallen away we will keep fighting for our position and keep engaging with industry, State and Federal Government. Tony noted that State Government support has been great and conveyed his gratitude to Minister John Snelling and Peter Louca (Head of Arts South Australia). Bipartisan support has also been good so it is hoped that even if there is a change of government the MRC will continue to be championed.

We've also tried to band together with our arts partners, like AICSA, LACMA and Adelaide Festival Centre, rather than all making disparate efforts, for support in getting funding and in maintaining our physical space.

Tony thanked Gail Kovatseff, the staff and volunteers of the MRC and Mercury cinema for their hard work and commitment to the organisation, especially in such a trying year. He also, thanked the board for their time, support and input over the year.

Motion: That the Chair's Report be accepted.

Moved: Mark Knight

Seconded: Kisty Stark

CARRIED

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Tony Keenan thanked Mark Knight, who has joined the Finance Sub Committee, for his help and support.

The Media Resource Centre has and does obviously face some financial challenges due to the decision by Screen Australia to withdraw 25% of our total funding. However, we have very strong cash reserves, better than many similar organisations. So, it is believed that we can ride out this period of lower funding and move back into a position of surplus within a few years by doing the following:

- Gaining more sponsorship funds through staff efforts. We achieved greatest level of sponsorship in 2016 and that has already been surpassed in 2017. This will be a continuing strategy into the future,
- We've pared back staff considerably and are focusing on using volunteers where we can and we're bringing in contractors for specific projects when necessary,
- Continuing to argue to get back our funding from Screen Australia,
- Going directly to the Federal Government for support. Nick Xenophon has been very supportive, and
- Continuing to do superior work that warrants financial support (even if it's because we're the 'last one standing').

Tony highlighted that it shows prudent financial management that despite losing 25% of our funding we only made a deficit of approx. \$40K (after depreciation).

Tony acknowledged and gave credit to Gail and staff for being able to achieve this result.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Claire Harris

Seconded: Alison Wotherspoon

CARRIED

7. CONFIRMATION OF AUDITOR'S REPORT

Motion: That the Auditor Report be accepted.

Moved: Melanie Easton

Seconded: Mark Stevens

CARRIED

8. ELECTION OF MRC BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

There are two places available as Mark Stevens and Mark Knight's two-year terms come to an end. With no one else standing for election, Mark Stevens and Mark Knight are automatically re-elected.

David Ngo and Kirsty Stark are currently seconded to the board for their specific skills and they're happy to remain on the board.

9. REPORT BY MEMBERS' PRODUCTION GROUP (MPG)

There is no standing committee for the MPG.

10. REPORT BY MEMBERS' EXHIBITION GROUP (MEG)

There is no standing committee for the MEG.

11. PROPOSAL TO CHANGE CONSTITUTION TO REMOVE MPG AND MEG

Gail Kovatseff explained that these two groups have become redundant. Our current production programs (ie, Sprinboard) and platforms like Facebook allow us to be much closer to our Production membership than previously. Also, our main Exhibition patronage is seniors, who have expressed that they do not wish to be involved in programming but rather just wish to watch films chosen for them. Thus, it is suggested that the necessity for these two groups be removed from The Media Resource Centre Constitution.

The counter argument to removing these groups is: we're a not-for-profit organisation that is based on membership so we need to be engaged with our membership. So if our members needed to be more involved then we'd need to keep these groups.

Motion: That we agree, by majority vote, to remove these groups from the Constitution.

CARRIED – by majority vote

12. 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. Mark Knight expressed his concurrence.

Motion: That RSM Bird Cameron be re-engaged as the MRC Auditor for 2017.

Moved: Kirsty Stark

Seconded: Mark Knight

CARRIED

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- We are still seeking Federal funding, please get/carry/champion this message out there.

The meeting closed at 7pm.