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**MINUTES OF THE SHOALHAVEN ARTS BOARD MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 JUNE 2016 IN THE JERVIS BAY MEETING ROOMS 1 & 3, CITY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, NOWRA COMMENCING AT 1.06PM**

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The following members were present:

Clr Baptist  
Clr Robertson  
Clr Kearney – arrived 1.21pm  
Ian Grant  
Warwick Keen  
Alison Chiam  
Merilynn Weiss

Others Present:

Jane Lewis – Community and Culture Manager  
Bronwyn Coulston – Unit Manager, Arts and Culture  
Sarah Taylor – Library Services Manager  
Stephen Donnelly – Manager Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre

Apologies: Troy Lenihan

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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MOTION: Moved: Warwick Keen / Second: Alison Chiam

RESOLVED that the minutes from the meeting of the Shoalhaven Arts Board of Wednesday 16 March 2016 and Thursday 12 May 2016 be confirmed.

CARRIED

**CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

2. Defunding of National Exhibition Touring Support (NETS) File 2123E

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The Arts Centre Manager provided a verbal update in relation to this report.

The defunding of the NETS will have significant impact on the Shoalhaven and some exhibitions are on hold as funding is now uncertain.

It was noted that there is a National Campaign for the funding and Cards of support for can be obtained from the SEC, signed and sent to any federal politician to be encouraged to support reinstating funding for the arts.

MOTION: Moved: Ian Grant / Second: Merilynn Weiss

RESOLVED, in accordance with the Committee's delegated authority from Council, that the Shoalhaven Arts Board write to the Federal Minister for the Arts and the Federal

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Member for Gilmore and Shadow Minister for the Arts expressing concern and request the Federal Government reinstate NETS funding through Australia Council immediately.

CARRIED

### 3. Verbal Updates

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Clr Kearney arrived 1.21pm

#### **SEC Manager**

The SEC Manager provided a verbal update and the following points were raised:

- The new Nowra VIC (in the Entertainment Centre) is being refitted and the services of the VIC will be operational by Wednesday 29 June 2016
- The SEC restructure has been forwarded to the General Manager for approval and will be provided additional resources if approved
- 24 season shows booked for next year
- Combined customer service for the visitor information centre and ticket sales
- Additions to the SEC will include mobile brochure stands and a concierge desk under the stairs
- The SEC box office will trade 7 days per week provided through the Visitor Information Services. The café will also be open 10am-2pm on weekends with seasonal changes to hours of operation
- The hearing loop system is installed in the Studio and Auditorium and we will consider a personal hearing loop if recommended as part of the access review. No funding is available yet.
- Will be trying to increase community engagement by negotiating with partners including schools and community groups to encourage them to utilise the space.

#### **Library Services Manager**

The Library Services Manager provided a verbal update and the following points were raised:

- Continually engaging with the community and running regular programming at all three main branches, such as Rhyme time, Storytime, Writing Groups, Tech Help
- 3D printers have been purchased and a program has begun with East Nowra Public School to engage with students. The two printers will be moved between branches and customers can use them to print out their 3D projects.
- Milton Library is open an additional day per week on Monday – this is through a joint program with the community for volunteers to run this additional day. Library staff are providing training and are liaising with the community.
- The Nowra Library has been recarpeted throughout the building
- Local Heritage – ongoing project to digitise local heritage images for the historical collection – up to 300+ images digitised so far and the aim is ultimately to have these available on Libraries Australia website. Also working on the future of the Local Heritage Collection – what formats/mediums to use for preservation that will ensure best storage, access and longevity of collection.

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- The Flood Boat is currently stored at the depot in Ulladulla and Council has applied for a grant from the National Maritime Museum for its refurbishment. Once the refurbishment is complete it is proposed to be housed at the Nowra Aquatic Park – additional grant applications will be needed to provide funding for its housing
  - A new floor plan is in the making for the Nowra Library – this next financial year additional moveable shelving will be purchased to allow for the space to be reconfigured depending on the changing needs of the library and community.

### **Arts and Culture Manager**

The Arts and Culture Manager provided a verbal update and the following points were raised:

- There was an announcement on ABC radio regarding ACOvirtual and a package will go online and TV
- Have received several bookings from schools for ACO Virtual and the program has been well received
- The Club Grants Category 3 was not successful for the Environmental Control System
- The Regional Capital NSW Grant cannot be applied for in 2016 because it requires matched funding
- A Grant application has been submitted for the Collection Management System
- Application also submitted for project funding for a 2017 Community Collaborative Exhibition
- 2017 exhibitions schedule is underway and highlights are:
  - Now Contemporary Art Prize
  - Garry Grearly Photography
  - Jacqui Dean Photography
  - Sue Paull – established Gatehouse Gallery at Long Bay Jail
- From 1 July 2016 will move back to standard staffing hours
- Will continue to grow the public programs and awareness for all public programs
- The ability to pay for public programs online has been established

### **Cirs Baptist and Robertson**

Cirs Baptist and Robertson provided a verbal update of a recent meeting.

We held a meeting with Frank Howarth who is currently the President of Museums Australia to seek assistance for our Arts Foundation and revenue streams. The discussion also covered exploring the structure of the foundation and gifts received and ways of recognition in order for the foundation to run significantly well.

Frank also runs a consulting business and is available to provide services at a cost. He will aim to submit a proposal and quote for the August meeting.

MOTION:

Moved: Alison Chiam / Second: Ian Grant

RESOLVED that the Shoalhaven Arts Board support in principle that 3 meetings be held with Frank Howarth for the following purposes:

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1. With Stakeholders to see what the foundation would and could do (Vision and Strategy)
  2. With Key staff and the members of the Arts Board to look at the mechanics
  3. With the Mayor, General Manager and Councillors to make sure they are on board with the vision and strategies that the SAB want to progress with.

CARRIED

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

4. Additional Item – Arwon Monument

Clr Baptist advised that Linda Klarfeld a Sculptor has been in touch in relation to the proposed monument for Arwon and Dimestre

5. Additional Item – Sea Change Closing Ceremony

Alison Chiam provided a verbal report on the recent Sea Change Closing Ceremony

Alison advised that Craig Walsh was the visual artist who created the display for the Sea Change Closing Ceremony. He used music, visual artist and projection to tell a story about the local indigenous area.

MOTION:

Moved: Alison Chiam / Second: Warwick Keen

RESOLVED that the Shoalhaven Arts Board invite Wayne and Diana to give a presentation to the next Arts Board Meeting.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 2.01pm.

Clr Baptist  
CHAIRPERSON