Australian Film Societies Federation

Minutes

of Annual General Meeting
held 24 October 2015 at Hedley Bull Theatre 1, ANU, Canberra

1. In attendance

Registered delegates:
Keven Barr, Wollongong WEA Film Society; Travis Cragg, Left Bank Film Society; Alan Duke, Canberra U3A; Henry Fitzgerald, ANU Film Group; David Hogan, Big House Film Society; Richard Keys, Canberra U3A; Michael Lines-Kelly, Left Bank Film Society; Alex Mattea, Reel McCoy Film Society; Hilton Prideaux, Wollongong WEA Film Society; James Sandry (president), Reel McCoy Film Society; Graham Seaman, Blacktown Library Film Society; Brett Yeats, ANU Film Group

Registered proxies:
Workshop Film Group: proxy allocated to Richard Keys

Registered observers
There were no registered observers

2. Welcome and opening
The president took the chair, welcomed those in attendance and declared the meeting open at 12.36 pm.

3. Apologies
The following apologies were tabled:
Crowlands Film Society (Megan Finlayson and Bryan Putt); Lithgow Valley Film Society (Ross Adams); Blacktown City Library Film Society (Lydia Brichta and Roger Swanson); Workshop Film Group (David Young).
Resolved Brett Yeats – Graham Seaman
That all apologies be received.

4. Accreditation of proxies and delegates
Resolved Hilton Prideaux - Richard Keys
That all registered delegates and proxies be accredited to the meeting.

6. Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting held 30 August 2014
Resolved Michael Lines-Kelly - Richard Keys
That the Minutes of the meeting be confirmed.

7. Reports
(a) President's report
The president made a verbal report that highlighted the distance the federation has travelled since its creation in December 2012; the perennial difficulties that member societies face if they want to attend the annual general meeting, and work we are doing to help change that situation; the importance of the federation to film societies: providing support and services, representing and facilitating members' interests and mediating between societies and distributors. Long serving executive members Megan Finlayson, Bryan Putt and Michael Lines-Kelly are retiring from the Executive. Over the years they have made a huge contribution to the federation and will be greatly missed. In the coming year we'll be looking at how we can streamline our administrative processes using the website and other technology.

A question and answer session included discussion about the membership information we supply to distributors; continuing Facebook and website performance and insurance requirements set out by the NFSA in a recent bulletin. Following receipt of the bulletin we have revised the AFSF policy Product Disclosure Statement.

(b) Treasurer's report

The treasurer reported \$3213.67 income and expenses of \$1730.67 for the financial year, producing a surplus of \$1483.00 at 30 June. At close of the financial year there were nil debts, the operating account balance was \$4580.77 and estimated (due to maturity date 12 September 2015) Term Deposit balance was \$12779.43, making total assets \$17360.20. The term deposit continues to earn interest at the relevant variable rate and will continue to be re-invested in line with accepted practice.

Resolved Michael Lines-Kelly – Travis Cragg

That the financial statements be received.

8. Constitutional amendment

Resolved: Michael Lines-Kelly – Hilton Prideaux

Amendment of constitution: Special Resolution:

'That in accordance with the Executive's recommendation, the constitution be amended by Special Resolution as follows:

Part 1 – Preliminary

3. Definitions

(1) In this constitution:

Delete:

Present and eligible to vote means being physically present and eligible to vote on a question under consideration at a meeting.

Insert in its stead:

Present and eligible to vote at a meeting means being registered;

(a) at a meeting of the Executive or a committee, as in attendance at the meeting, or

(b) at a general meeting of the association, as a delegate in attendance at the meeting.

22. Executive meetings

Add:

(2) A meeting of the executive or a committee may convene notwithstanding that one or more members are not physically present but are connected with the meeting by means enabling them to take part in the business of the meeting.

Part 4 - General meetings

25. Annual general meeting – convening

Add:

(3) The annual general meeting may convene notwithstanding that one or more delegates are not physically present but are connected with the meeting by means enabling them to take part in the business of the meeting.

27. Special general meetings – convening

Add:

(7) A special meeting may convene notwithstanding that one or more delegates are not physically present but are connected with the meeting by means enabling them to take part in the business of the meeting.'

9. Elections

Executive members

The chairman declared all Executive positions vacant. No nominations were received before the meeting. The chairman invited nominations from the floor. The following were elected to the positions indicated:

President:	James Sandry	Nominated: Richard Keys
Vice-president:	Richard Keys	Nominated: Michael Lines-Kelly
Secretary:	James Sandry	Nominated: Travis Cragg
Treasurer:	Henry Fitzgerald	Nominated: Richard Keys

Other officers:	Theresa Huxtable	Nominated: Michael Lines-Kelly
	David Hogan	Nominated: Richard Keys
	Hilton Prideaux	Nominated: James Sandry

Public Officer

As the office of Public officer became vacant on the retirement of Michael Lines-Kelly, the chairman invited nominations from the floor. James Sandry was nominated by Graham Seaman. No further nominations were received. Accordingly, James Sandry was declared elected as Public Officer.

11. General business

A suggestion was made from the floor that the name of the federation be changed to Australasian Film Societies Federation. After discussion, it was agreed by consensus that the proposal be considered by the Executive and that the result of its deliberations be reported back to the members.

A further suggestion made from the floor was that the Executive examine the range of technologies that might be used to help remote members attend meetings for their feasibility, and report back to the members.

12. Adjournment

The chairman adjourned the meeting at 1.50 for afternoon tea and short films.

13. Resumption

The chairman re-convened the meeting at 3.00 pm and introduced guest speaker, Andrew Pike, OAM, distinguished film producer, film historian, film distributor, film exhibitor, documentary producer and director. The address contained two main themes: the importance of film societies asserting their rightful position as a vital link in Australian film culture and the relationship between the film society movement and the National Film and Sound Archive. Following the address and subsequent question and answer session, the chairman moved a vote of thanks, which was carried by acclamation.

14. Closure

There being no further business, the chairman thanked delegates for their attendance and contributions, invited everyone to enjoy following events over the weekend and closed the meeting at 4.05 pm.

Confirmed as a true and accurate record of the above proceedings.

Name of Chairman: James Sandry

Signature: J Sandry *Date:* 29/10/2015