

SHOALHAVEN ART SOCIETY INC.



ORDINARY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday 25 November 2024, 5pm
Venue: Nowra Library Meeting Room

1. Present

Anne Gardner Kelvin Taylor (Chair), Roslyn Wilson, Gen Partridge (Minute Taker), Philip Miles, Abbey Giles, James Wei, Keith Dewell, Julie Carter, John Brassil (Observer), Debra Quartararo

2. Apologies

Ann Sudmalis, Anne Fry, Col Darley, Ann Norman, Cindy Florence,

3. Approval of previous minutes

Minutes of the previous extraordinary meeting held 30 September 2024 were approved. Please note that the ordinary meeting scheduled for 21 October 2024 was cancelled.

4. Committee Update

a. Vacancies

i. Treasurer

Kelvin advised that Ann Sudmalis was standing down from the Treasurer's position. He welcomed John Brassil to the meeting as an observer. John was considering taking on the Treasurer's position.

b. Nominations for Life Membership

Ann Sudmalis and Col Darley were nominated for life membership.

Agreed:

To grant life membership to Ann Sudmalis and Col Darley for their years of service and dedication the Art Society.

c. Nomination for Committee:

Kelvin Taylor nominated Debra Quartararo to be a member of the Committee.

Agreed:

To accept the nomination of Debra to the Committee

Kelvin nominated Debra to take on the new role of Communication Facilitator. Kelvin noted that the Communication Facilitator's responsibilities included social media, mail chimp and the members' newsletter.

Agreed:

To accept the nomination of Debra as Communication Facilitator

Phil Miles asked when would the next the Annual General Meeting (AGM) be held. Advised the AGM would be held in February 2025. Phil advised that he would not be standing for the Committee in 2025 as he would be overseas.

5. Treasurers Report

Kelvin gave an overview of the report which had been distributed prior to the meeting. \$4,000 had been transferred from the Paypal account to the IMB transaction account. Although the Society had not received the funds from the Exhibition sales from the Gallery (\$4,203) the portion owed to artist had been remitted. The calculated balance of the transaction account was \$25,424.25.

Noted in the report that there are only 2 signatories to the bank accounts at Bendigo Bank and IMB. Ann recommended there ideally should be 4.

Action:

Consider increasing the number of bank account signatories from 2 to 4 at the AGM

Kelvin advised that Vivien Tanner had won "The People's Choice" at the Exhibition. He recommended that the various smaller vouchers received from sponsors be bundled with the prize a \$300 Gunst Framing voucher.

Agreed:

The various smaller vouchers be bundled together with the Gunst Framing voucher and mailed to the winner of "The People's Choice"

The Treasurer had advised that she had not deducted the 20% commission to SAS from the sale of Youth artworks at the Exhibition to promote more Youth entries. Total \$48.

Agreed:

Not to deduct the 20% SAS commission from the sale of Youth art works.

Phil Miles commented that the proceeds from the sale of Allisha Chako's youth artwork had been donated to the Art Society.

Anne Gardner recommended that the prize recipients of the Youth art prizes received complimentary membership.

Agreed:

Prize recipients of the Youth art prizes receive complimentary membership for 2025.

6. Communication update

Debra Q provided an update as follows:

- The Society had purchased Google Workspaces a digital filing system which stored the Society's data in the cloud rather on individual members computers. Currently the Communication Facilitator and Secretary had access. Access would be expanded over time. Working on data structure and uploading documents.
- The current mobile payment system was cumbersome and often didn't work as the attached Wi-Fi device consistently logged out. Looking at purchasing a phone for SAS with Wi-fi access. Following up with IMB, Bendigo Bank and Paypal to use their payment applications on the phone.
- The current Website on GoDaddy was OK in the interim. Looking at upgrading in a years' time.
- Recent members newsletter had been produced using Mailchimp. Mailchimp monitors access to sections of the newsletter.

Phil Miles offered to donate his spare unused mobile phone to the Society to be used for payments. Apparently it was ideal for that purpose.

7. Membership Items

a. Membership Report

Currently 132 adult members, of which 8 were life members and 1 complimentary. 6 youth members of which 2 were complementary. 5 new adult and 1 youth member had joined during the OAE.

b. Membership drive

Debra Q suggested purchasing a marquee to be used as a pop-up art show at various events. The pop-up art show would also increase the profile of the Society and attract new members.

To be further discussed at future meetings. Noted Vineyard Vibes and OAE had attracted 15 new members.

c. Membership fee for 2025

Membership fee for 2025 needed to be agreed now as membership for 2025 commenced 1st January.

Commented both Kama and Goulburn Art Society had annual membership fees of \$40. Ros Wilson commented that costs in general were increasing.

Agreed:

Increase the annual membership fee to \$40 from 2025

8. Workshops

a. 2025 workshops update

Ros W advised that a survey had been distributed to people who had attended the workshops funded by the Create NSW Grant. She and Anne Fry would provide feedback from the survey at a future meeting.

Ros commented that workshops delivered by well known artists often attracted interest, however they tended to be more expensive than those run by members. She suggested in those instances there may be a financial loss which the Society would have to bear.

Keith Dewell volunteered to run plein-air painting and artwork presentation workshops.

b. Art workshops at William Campbell College under the auspices of the Art Society

Kelvin advised he was running art workshops at William Campbell College under the auspices of the Art Society

9. 2024 Open Art Exhibition Brief Update

• Raffle

\$425 raffle tickets have been sold to date. The target sales were 200 tickets (\$1,000).

Anne G said she would take some tickets to an Exhibition at Callala that was being held before Christmas.

Kelvin commented that he had met with Shoalhaven Potters re the Pyree Art Sale at Easter next year. They had suggested the Society set up a stall to sell tickets and artworks at their markets leading up to Easter. The Bendigo Bank marquee could be

used. Debra Q suggested it was better to sell unframed works in a marquee. Phil asked regarding public liability as the market wasn't being run by the Society.

Action:

Kelvin to follow-up with Ann S regarding our public liability insurance cover regarding a market stall.

Debra Q suggested If our insurance did not cover the market stall consider Duck for Cover.

Debra Q said she would see whether the sale of raffle tickets could be done on the website and report back.

Julie Carter suggested setting up a stall at shopping centres /shops.

- **OAE Update**

Kelvin would try to organise a meeting with the Gallery for their feedback regarding the Exhibition before the next meeting.

He was expecting the Gallery to raise concerns about the number and size of entries.

840 people had visited the Exhibition (42 per day). 15 paintings sold

There was discussion about the cost of hiring the Gallery over the 4-week period.

Kelvin suggested that ceramics and sculpture be considered for inclusion in future exhibitions. If so, there would be less space to exhibition 2 dimensional artworks. If that were the case would need to consider restricting the number of works per member to two. If entries fell short a late call for additional entries could be made. Note the Society had agreed to a maximum of 150 art works with the Gallery.

10. Grants Program Update

a. Currarong toilet block painting (circa \$4,000) alternative use of funds

No update

b. Vineyard Vibes \$5,000 surplus due to cancellation of night performance at Dunn Lewis Centre

c. Future grant applications

Kelvin suggested that future grants applied for include processes and a plan for execution including resourcing.

Debra Q commented that Patrice Wills, a new member, was on the local arts grants board. Might be an idea to invite her to a future meeting to give an insight into successfully applying for grants.

Ros W commented that the Society had profited from the Create NSW Grant received for workshops.

Action:

Kelvin to follow-up Create NSW grants available for future workshops

11. 2025 Pyree Easter Sale Thursday 17 – Monday 21 April 2025

Kelvin noted there was confusion about artwork pick up times last year.

Ann S had contacted the owner of the Hall regarding extending the booking (currently 17 to 21 April) to include Tuesday 22nd so artworks could be collected then. Initial discussions with the owner indicated the cost of extending the current booking by a day would cost \$1,000.

Agreed:

- **Stay with the current hall booking Thursday 17 – Monday 21 April 2025 to avoid additional costs**
- **Pickup from Pyree to occur 4 – 5 pm Monday 21 April 2025, with cleaning of the Hall from 5 pm to 6 pm**

Kelvin advised that Shoalhaven Potters would be holding a sale /exhibition at the same time.

Kelvin asked James Wei to change the dates for the Easter Sale on the signs.

12. Committee Christmas Function

The Committee Christmas function would be held 12 – 4 pm on Sunday, 1 December 2025 at Kelvin's place. All welcome. Please bring food and drinks. Crockery and cutlery would be provided.

13. Property Search Update

Debra Q advised she had recently been involved in an event at Vincentia in a vacant shop. Although no art works had been sold, there was interest from the public. The shop was currently vacant. Maybe the owner/tenant would consider renting the shop to the Society at a minimal rent in the lead up to Christmas.

Kelvin advised Ann S was talking to Liz Butler, the local State MP, about the Society renting the vacated Huskisson Police Station under a pepper corn arrangement.

Kelvin had two meetings with Patricia White, the Mayor, regarding suitable vacant council properties that the Society could use. He would follow-up with Mayor White in the new year.

Kelvin suggested a sub-committee be established to investigate properties suitable for the Society.

Action:

Calls for volunteers from the Committee to form a sub-committee to investigate properties suitable for the Society at the next Committee meeting

14. Meeting close

Meeting closed 6.16 pm

15. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held 5 pm Monday 16 December 2024 at the Nowra Library Meeting room.

Meeting schedule for 2025 to be discussed then

Meetings currently scheduled for the third Monday in the month at 5 pm.