

Federation of Victorian Film Societies

Annual General Meeting

Minutes



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the AGM was held as an email meeting from 4pm Friday 27th March, 2020 to 10am Monday 30th March, 2020.

1. PARTICIPANTS

Executive: Ian Davidson (Whitehorse FS), Susan Davidson (Whitehorse FS), Andrew Oldroyd (Prom Coast FS), John Turner (International FG), Gail Arkins (Little FS), Suzanne Nunn (Ballarat FS), Beverley Bloxham (Chewton FS), Henry Screen, (Macedon Ranges FS).

Delegates: Peter Guest (Marysville FS), Prodos Marinakis (Prodos S&SS), Christine Paech (Croydon FS), Janet Witham (Grampians FS), Vaughan Patullo (Tatura FS), Lorraine Rutherford (Macedon Ranges FS), David Purvis (Old Scotch FS), Wayne Gilmour (LV FS), Ian Macfarlane (Old Scotch FS), Robert Barfus (Arts Group of Flinders), Helen Bunyon (F Project Cinema), Sandra Eldridge (Alpine FS), John Shortridge (Whitehorse FS), Elaine Price (Sun Country MC), Lisa Cressey (Buninyong FF), Rodney Browne (Ballan FS), Michael Slee (Williamstown FS), Marcelle Everard (Baringo FS), Margaret Byrne (Phillip Island MC), Elizabeth Mulhern (Phillip Island MC), Anne-Marie Pedeau (Trentham FS), Anne Smith (Dookie FG), Brendan Fitzgerald (Ferntree Gully FS), Alex Kuebler (Barwon Heads FS), Barboo Marinakis (Smart Girls S & SS), Graham Pitts (Maldon FS).

Observers: Robert Taylor (Vantastic FS), Des Bunyon (F Project Cinema).

Apologies: Anne Hicks (Phillip Island MC), Elaine Uebergang (Arapiles FS).

Late Responders: Adrian Sumner (Goulburn Valley FC), Louise McDade Cartey (Goulburn Valley FC), Leona Sterling (Goulburn Valley FC)

2. MINUTES of the 2019 AGM

Moved :S. Nunn/J. Witham *that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 30th March 2019 be accepted.* **Carried.**

3. MATTERS ARISING from the MINUTES – Nil

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The only Correspondence of relevance relates to the setting up of this email meeting in lieu of the standard AGM format.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the sad loss of our former FVFS President John Arkins in February last year. John has been a strong and dedicated leader of our organisation with a particular passion for succession planning for both our member societies and the Federation itself. We all inherit the benefit of John's and the FVFS team's hard work and passion. Our collective thoughts have been with Gail and John's family for the past 12 months. I'd also like to acknowledge all the work Gail Arkins has put into our publication 'ReelNews' over the years; thank you! Gail decided to pass the baton on to Beverley Bloxham last year. A big thanks to Beverley for taking it on.

The Victorian Film Society movement is larger and stronger than it's been in its 71 year history. At the end of last year we had 84 member societies, film festivals and community cinemas who are affiliated with the FVFS. As a proud Regional Victorian, I'm excited that the majority of this growth has been in country Victoria. We will continue to support the growth of our movement across the state and hope to hold several more Regional Information Days to benefit our Regional Societies.

The big challenge for our movement remains the viability of our societies, committees and succession planning. While we have seen amazing growth in society numbers during the past ten years, there have also been several societies that have closed their doors. This is almost always attributable to a lack of committee members, ageing membership and the reliance on one or two individuals to hold things together. We must all think about renewal and succession if we are going to continue to thrive as a movement.

In April and May last year we were privileged to have our Patron, David Stratton AM visit Victoria. David made the time to visit three societies across the state - Prom Coast, Grampians and Macedon Ranges. I attended his visit in my home town of Fish Creek. He also met with the FVFS executive over an enjoyable lunch. We were all amazed by David's depth and breadth of film knowledge. I would like to thank David for his ongoing commitment to FVFS, the Film Society Movement more broadly and taking the time to visit us! David has also, very generously, supplied the FVFS with short video introductions to four of his favourite films from 2019 (which he plans to do annually), and listed his "best dozen" films for each issue of ReelNews.

Clearly the most significant thing to happen to our Federation in this past 12 months is the COVID-19 virus, which has put a stop to just about everything. As I write this report, the full impact of this crisis is unknown. When we do get back to something that resembles 'normal' our societies will be really important for communities to reconnect and rebuild the social fabric after what could be months of social isolation. As a Federation, we will continue to do everything we can in the background to provide guidance and advice during this difficult period.

Lastly, I wish to thank my fellow committee members for their hard work and dedication to our Federation these past twelve months. In particular I'd like to thank Susan and Ian for all the work that they do in keeping our movement going. Let's hope that things will return to some kind of normality next year!

Moved : P. Guest/C. Paech *that the President's report be accepted. Carried*

Matters arising from President's Report: - Nil

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was distributed with the meeting documents and is available on the FVFS website.

Moved I. Davidson/P. Guest: *that the Treasurer's report be accepted. Carried.*

Matters arising from Treasurer's Report:- Nil

Adoption of Membership Fees for 2021:

Moved I. Davidson/P. Guest: *that the 2021 membership rates for Film Societies, Film Festivals and NPV Cinemas remain the same as for 2020. Carried.*

7. ELECTION of EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Moved: P. Guest/P. Marinakis *that up to five (5) Ordinary Members of the Committee are to hold office for the next year. Carried.*

All positions were declared vacant. Nominations were received by the due date for the following positions and as they equal the maximum allowed, they were therefore appointed:

President: Andrew Oldroyd
Vice President: John Turner
Secretary: Susan Davidson
Treasurer: Ian Davidson
Committee: Gail Arkins, Jean Middleton, Beverley Bloxham, Henry Screen, Suzanne Nunn.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

Beverley Bloxham (Chewton FS) commented that “It's a pity we have to forego the community get-together and fruitful presentations and discussions this year. Hopefully by this time next year this pestilence will be done and dusted and we are all healthily continuing as normal.”

Rodney Browne (Ballan FS) commented “Thanks for all the good work you are doing and I now have a template for running my forthcoming AGM's.”

Alex Kuebler (Barwon Heads FS) asked “Are there any further developments on the John Arkins Scholarship? We provide \$200 annually to a local community group in memory of Jan Testro (10 years since she passed away!). We discuss this at a committee meeting and decide which local group will be the recipient of the Jan Testro Community Group. It is very informal really.

My suggestion to committees is that while we are unable to meet for films for a while, it may be a perfect opportunity for committee members to put together a manual for their respective film societies if they have not already done so. “

Graham Pitts (Maldon FS) responded to the suggestion of the FVFS putting together a manual about how to start and run a Film Society. If memory serves me right, you've done sterling work in this regard yourself. But I think it's a very good idea.”

Suzanne Nunn (Executive Committee member) gave an update on the Scholarship: “The Federation of Victorian Film Societies has created a new film prize offered to Deakin University for the most outstanding 3rd year student from the School of Communication and Creative Arts. The recipient will receive \$3,000 towards supporting their 4th year Honours production project. The criteria for successful application will be based on project originality, methodology and the impact of their project on the visual arts. The successful applicant will present their completed production at the annual FVFS AGM and discuss their project with the delegates. The 1st Award was due to be presented at the start of 2020. The last I heard (4 weeks ago) was that it was to go ahead this year, but as you can imagine, everything has come to a grinding halt in the university system. I will make some inquiries this week.”

We will continue to publish ReelNews to keep societies up to date.

Closing Remarks from the President:

Thank you all for your participation in this “virtual” AGM. The FVFS committee are looking forward to the next twelve months, although 2020 will be challenging for everybody. Our societies, like many other community organisations will be essential for the community recovery from Coronavirus. I'd encouraged you all to stay connected with your members in any way you are able. A special thanks to Ian and Susan for pulling the AGM together under these trying circumstances. Stay safe, Andrew.

MEETING CLOSED at 10.00 am on Monday 30th March 2020.

FEDERATION OF VICTORIAN FILM SOCIETIES

Balance sheet as at

31 December 2019

	2018	2019
<u>MEMBERS FUNDS</u>		
Balance as at 1st January	\$89,795.06	\$87,202.26
Net surplus/deficit	-\$2,592.80	\$1,922.37
	<u>\$87,202.26</u>	<u>\$89,124.63</u>
<u>REPRESENTED BY THE FOLLOWING ASSETS</u>		
Cash box	\$85.60	\$179.40
NBA Cheque Account	\$1,197.89	\$1,603.28
ING Direct - Business optimiser	\$15,918.77	\$17,341.95
ING Term deposit	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
	<u>\$87,202.26</u>	<u>\$89,124.63</u>

REVIEWER'S REPORT

I report to the Federation of Victorian Film Societies that I have examined the accompanying Balance Sheet to 31 December 2019 and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2019 with the books and records of the Federation presented to me. As far as I am able to form an opinion, they are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the Federation's affairs and the results of its activities for the year. I have received all information required to complete this audit.

Signed and dated,

18-Jan-20



John Turner

Executive Member FVFS

FEDERATION OF VICTORIAN FILM SOCIETIES

Statement of Income and Expenditure Year ending 31 December 2019

INCOME	2018	2019
Admin (Affiliation fees note 3)	\$5,045.02 (86 members)	\$3,656.25 (84 members)
Bank Interest (Note 1)	\$819.16 (Note 4)	\$2,223.18
Other finances	\$630.00	\$0.00
Reelnews	\$0.00	\$0.00
Films & Library	\$55.00	\$0.00
AGM & Info days	\$0.00	\$10.00
Marketing	\$20.00	\$0
Equipment Insurance (Socs)	\$1,775.00	\$1,803
Operations		\$0.00
ACOFS	15.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$8,359.18	\$7,692.43
EXPENDITURE		
Administration	\$370.26	\$492.36
Includes PL insurance of :-	\$279.35	\$279
Bank charges	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership (Note 2)	\$2,154.35 (ACOFS)	\$2,152.95 (ACOFS)
Includes ACOFS meeting of:-	\$483.80	\$355.00
Reelnews	\$0.00	\$0.00
Films & Library	\$0.00	\$20.00
AGM & Info days	\$1,853.10	\$1,304.75
PL ins (FVFS) - see above		
Equipment Insurance (For soc)	\$1,710.00	\$1,800.00
Operations	\$0.00	\$0.00
Marketing	\$382.17	\$0.00
Other Financial	\$4,482.10 (Note 5)	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$10,951.98	\$5,770.06
SURPLUS	-\$2,592.80	\$1,922.37

Note 1: Interest is paid directly into the investment account

Note 2: Includes cost of attending or running ACOFS meetings (see below)

Note 3: Affiliation fees paid early will appear in the preceding year's finances.
(40 from 2019 in 2018, 16 from 2020 in 2019)

Note 4: On 6 Aug 2018, \$70,000 was moved to a 12 month term deposit @ 2.9%, interest paid 5th Aug.
\$616 interest was earned in the TD to 31 Dec 2018 but not yet paid.

On 6 Aug 2019 this was converted to a 24 month TD @ 2.05% int paid annually on 5 aug.

Without this interest (although meagre) on our investments we would not have a surplus.

Note 5: Includes \$4,150 paid for 83 ACOFS books (without which the surplus = \$1557)

ACOFS AGM	2014	2015 - 2017	2018	2019
Where held	Sydney	Melb	Melb	Melb
Travel paid for	3	0	0	\$0
Cost to FVFS	\$1,226	\$0	\$484	\$355

Operations: Festivals + Industry liaison, history, SA

Admin: Society liaison, phone, printing, FVFS insurance, Interest Chapters

Other Financial: Web costs, grants.

Marketing includes; Web upgrades, Promo boards, Posters, StarBoxes.