

Federation of Victorian Film Societies

Annual General Meeting

Minutes



Due to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions the AGM was held via Zoom, commencing at 10.37am Saturday 10th April, 2021.

1. PARTICIPANTS

Executive: Ian Davidson (Whitehorse FS), Susan Davidson (Whitehorse FS), Andrew Oldroyd – chair (Prom Coast FS), John Turner (International FG), Suzanne Nunn (Ballarat FS), Henry Screen (Macedon Ranges FS), Jean Middleton (Croydon FS).

Delegates: Peter Guest (Marysville FS), Alison Bainbridge (Grampians FS), Lorraine Rutherford (Macedon Ranges FS), Angela Di Donato (Old Scotch FS), Joan Harding (Old Scotch FS), Wayne Gilmour (LV FS), Ian Macfarlane (Old Scotch FS), Michael Slee (Williamstown FS), Margaret Byrne (Phillip Island MC), Elizabeth Mulhern (Phillip Island MC), Di Feldtmann (Dookie FS), Adrian Sumner (Goulburn Valley FC), Christine Bouchier (LV FS), Alex Kuebler (Barwon Heads FS), Bea Wicks-Kaandorp (Yarra Ranges FS), Vivienne Bond (Yarra Ranges FS), John Shortridge (Whitehorse FS), Anne Smith (Dookie FS).

Observers: Nil.

Apologies: Beverley Bloxham (Chewton FS), David Phair (Murrundindi FS), Helen Carlson (Bright FS), Sally Abbott Smith (Murrundindi FS), Leona Sterling (Goulburn Valley FC), Vaughan Patulloock (Tatura FS).

2. MINUTES of the 2020 AGM

Moved: A. Sumner/H. Screen *that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held via email between 27th and 30th March 2020 be accepted.* **Carried.**

3. MATTERS ARISING from the MINUTES – Nil

4. CORRESPONDENCE – Nil

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

My 2021 report is brief this year as your Federation has largely been in a holding pattern and not really conducting any activities. The past twelve months have been a wild ride for everybody across the globe. I've mentioned it a couple of times in ReelNews, but I think it's worth reiterating that COVID-19 and the associated restrictions on our social interaction has hit our members hard. Shared experience is at the very heart of the Film Society movement. I certainly missed our monthly screenings in 2020 and the raw excitement in the Fish Creek Hall during our first two screenings this year has re-affirmed the importance of what we do!

Despite the COVID-19 experience, we had 79 member organisations at the end of 2020, and our Federation is still in a great position to support them. As with any community-based organisations, our biggest challenge to remain viable is succession and renewal. This must continue to be a key focus for the Federation in the coming years.

I'd like to acknowledge the work of the FVFS committee for the past twelve months. Everyone's work in the background in keeping your Federation going should not be underestimated. I'd like to personally thank Beverly Bloxham from the Chewton Film Society who has been editing ReelNews for the past two years. Beverly has decided not to continue on the Executive Committee this year and we will be looking for somebody to take over the editor's role for this fantastic publication. I will not be re-nominating for the President's role this time round, but am willing to continue on the Executive Committee if elected to do so.

Moved: A. Oldroyd/D. Feldtmann *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. I. Davidson spoke to his report. There was very little activity in 2020 due to COVID-19. Bank interest was down, no surprise there, but thanks to a 2.05% term deposit that we took out a few years ago, that income is helping to keep us afloat. There were no AGM or Information Day expenses, but we did provide a \$3,000 scholarship to Deakin University which you will hear more on later in the meeting. Despite all of that we still had a surplus of \$460.

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

Matters arising from Treasurer's Report:- Nil

Adoption of Membership Fees for 2022:

Moved: I. Davidson/S. Nunn *that the 2022 membership rates for Film Societies, Film Festivals and NPV Cinemas remain unchanged. Carried.*

7. ELECTION of EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Moved: A. Kuebler/J. Turner *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 are below the maximum allowed, they were therefore appointed:

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

The President called for nominations from the floor, but none were forthcoming.

The incoming President thanked the meeting for its support and hoped he would be able to deliver on whatever is necessary for the role. He said he had a few thoughts on what the FVFS can do into the future, but mainly to keep the FVFS on track and doing what we've been doing so well for many years. He looks forward to working with everyone.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

ReelNews: Consists of two parts – editorial and production, and there is no reason why they can't be done by different people. If necessary, we could outsource production of ReelNews, with someone (not necessarily a Committee member) in charge of the editorial side of things. Participants were asked to send in any items of interest at any time to editor@fvfs.org.au. Beverley Bloxham has indicated she is prepared

to edit and produce the May edition if we can't find anyone else to do it. Henry Screen indicated that he would be able to take on the production side of things.

Victorian Film Society Award: Following discussion with Deakin University it was agreed that the Victorian Film Society Award would be split and go to two 4th Year students to use for their Honours projects, with the money to be spent on production costs – including a colour grade and sound mix - location fees, catering and equipment hire.

An independent panel judged the seven 2020 FTVA Honours students pitches and agreed on two recipients: Leo Ma and Amber Ryder.

Ian and Susan Davidson attended the Deakin University Film and Television Awards night on 14th March 2021 and were impressed by the quality of all the films shown.

- The FVFS was quite prominent in the presentations as it was the only award given prior to completion of the films, so therefore our award was at the top of the list.
- the two films that won our award were well received and one of them also won the award for best achievement in direction.
- our logo displayed in each of the two films we supported, the program itself, and on the Awards introductory screen as a thank you.
- we briefly met Leo Ma (director of one of the films) and he was very appreciative of our support.
- we also met Dr. Donna McRae, Course Director, who also thanked us for our support.

Based on the above the Committee feel the FVFS benefitted from the exercise and the FVFS Committee has decided that we should continue with the Award annually in its present form.

AGM participants will be sent links to the two films following the AGM so they can watch them at their convenience. Several participants asked whether they are able to show the films at their screenings and whether any rights would be payable. The Secretary will follow up with Deakin University and advise members.

Film society screenings: Margaret Byrne asked if the Executive knew how many societies are in the same predicament as Phillip Island Movie Club, being unable to screen because of density limits on venues. Ian Davidson responded that it was difficult to gauge, but he knew of some societies who are screening a film twice to meet the requirements of their members. New eased restrictions have been announced today which will hopefully make a difference.

Closing Remarks from the incoming President: As Andrew Oldroyd had to leave the meeting at 11am, Henry Screen took over. Hopefully next year we will be able to meet in person which will give participants the ability to network and exchange information during the Information Day. Henry Screen thanked Andrew Oldroyd for his work as President over the past 2 years, and thanked all for their participation in the Zoom meeting.

MEETING CLOSED at 11.05am.

