

Federation of Victorian Film Societies

Annual General Meeting

Minutes



Saturday 25th March, 2023 commencing at 10:31am
The Norma Richardson Hall, St. Mary's Anglican Church, 15 Buckland Street,
Woodend. 3442.

1. PARTICIPANTS

Executive: Henry Screen (Macedon Ranges FS) – Chair, Ian Davidson (Whitehorse FS), Susan Davidson (Whitehorse FS) – Minutes, Andrew Oldroyd (Prom Coast FS), Suzanne Nunn (Ballarat FS), Jean Middleton (Croydon FS).

Delegates: Michael Slee (Williamstown FS), Adrian Sumner (Goulburn Valley FC), Rob Forgan (Reels FS), Barry Cheney (Little FS), Brian Fildes (Marysville FS), Michelle Dorian (Maldon Movies FS), Bruce Nunan (Baringo FC), Prodos Marinakis (Prodos S&SS), Barboo Marinakis (Smart Girls S&SS), Lorraine Rutherford (Macedon Ranges FS), Helen Dwyer (Barwon Heads FS), Bernie Green (Baringo FS), Clare Green (Baringo FC), Lorraine Hughes (Portarlington FS), Beverley Bloxham (Chewton FS), Heather Betrand (Trentham FS), Mary Dracup (Forrest Flicks FS).

Observers: Graham Pitts (Maldon Golden Movies FS), Peta Alexander (Marysville FS), Ross Hinkley (Maldon Golden Movies FS), Julie Forgan (Reels FS), Margot Ryan (Chewton FS), Therese Slee (Williamstown FS), David Hughes (Portarlington FS), Glenda Marshall (Trentham FS).

Apologies: John Turner (Croydon FS), John Shortridge (Whitehorse FS), Wayne Gilmour (LV FS), Christine Bouchier (LV FS), Alex Kuebler (Barwon Heads FS), Mike Tye (Southern Fleurieu FS), Leona Sterling (Goulburn Valley FC), Louise McDade-Cartey (Goulburn Valley FC), Dominic Van Dyk (Horsham FS), David Lawrence (MDHAS FC), Christine Cansfield-Smith (MDHAS FC), Tatura FS, Yarra Ranges FS, Bright FS, Ferntree Gully FS.

2. MINUTES of the 2022 AGM

Moved: M. Slee/A. Sumner *that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th March 2022 be accepted.* **Carried.**

3. MATTERS ARISING from the MINUTES

Nil

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Another year flies by. Covid seems to be in the background and most if not all Societies are back to normal programming. This is a relief as I/we were wondering whether the impact of Covid would be a massive blow to the film society movement. We are resilient!

2023 looks good for film society activity and FVFS membership is remaining strong, with 82 members at the end of 2022, 76 current members for 2023 and new ones joining soon."

The Federation is in good financial shape too as the Treasurer's report will testify.

In general, it's been 'steady as she goes' this year – a steady flow of enquiries about starting a Society and /or joining the Federation. Many of the general enquiries to the Federation relate to finding/obtaining rights for films; getting the disc seems the easy part!

Once again, we took pleasure in supporting the Deakin University's Film & Television Honours students with each of the two students receiving a \$1,500 award to assist them in further studies and film-making activities. The two 2022 Honours students are Aoife Hubbard with her film 'Faith' and Ethan Grahek with his film 'Pegasus Road'. Congratulations to both and we are pleased to show their films today.

We encourage societies to reach out to others in their 'neighbourhood' - arrange a visit – swap stories, talk films and learn from one another.

My thanks to Ian and Susan Davidson who do much of the Federation's 'heavy lifting' – day in, day out with dedication and efficiency.

I wish all members a successful and enjoyable year in 2023. Henry Screen, President.

Moved: J.Middleton/M. Dorian *that the President's report be accepted. Carried*

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Nil

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

The **Annual Financial Report** was distributed with the meeting documents and is available on the FVFS website.

The FVFS, in 2022, suffered a deficit – as we did in 2021, due mainly to the lack of income from affiliation fees and bank interest. As you will recall, the FVFS waived the affiliation fee for existing members in both these years in recognition that most film societies and film festivals suspended their operations over most of this time. Regular income from our bank deposits also evaporated over this period. Running at around \$2,200 per year in 2019, it had dropped to only \$191 in 2022. Both these sources of funds are recovering in 2023 so we should see the impact in next year's report. Starting in 2021 we have allocated \$3,000 per year towards a student scholarship at Deakin University Film School to assist selected students in their final year film projects. So, a deficit of only \$1,600 in 2021 and \$3,000 in 2022 should not be a surprise.

The FVFS still has almost \$85,000 in the bank which will be earning greater interest in 2023, plus of course, the member affiliation fees.

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

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM TREASURER'S REPORT:

Nil

Membership Report

We currently have 76 paid up members for 2023. We had 82 members in 2022, so it is clear that most member societies survived the impact of Covid restrictions.

Four members did not re-join in 2022 - International Film Group (now closed), Phillip Island Movie Club (now operating independently), Geelong Classic Cinema (who are planning to re-join in 2023) and Bannockburn Movies, who we have not heard from.

Two societies will not re-join us in 2023. Moira Film Group (they have no committee left), and Old Scotch Film Society (who now go to the cinema rather than screen themselves).

We still have not heard from three societies, Arts Group of Flinders, Peterborough Film Society and Deniliquin Film Society.

Two new societies joined us in 2023 – Forrest Flicks (in the Otways) and Mildura Film Society. Another five are “in discussion” and may join the FVFS when they get organised. They are in East Gippsland, Guildford, Birregurra, Eaglehawk and Wodonga.

I feel the FVFS is still in a healthy position financially, and we have no need to increase affiliation fees in 2024. I therefore move that the affiliation fees remain the same as they are now, ranging from \$30 to \$145 depending on number of members in the group.

Adoption of Membership Fees for 2024:

Moved: **I. Davidson/R. Forgan** *that the 2024 membership rates for Film Societies, Film Festivals and NPV Cinemas remain unchanged.* Carried.

9. ELECTION of EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Moved: A. Sumner/H. Bertrand *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:	Jean Middleton, Suzanne Nunn.

The President reported that since the nomination deadline we have received several additional offers from delegates to join the Executive committee. He doesn't propose to deal with these immediately but proposes to chat to each of the nominees to see what they can bring to the executive and discuss the offers with the appointed committee before making any further appointments.

P. Marinakis questioned the method for selecting additional executive members and “does so with an open mind”. He thought it was unusual not to take nominations from the floor and have an election if required. It was pointed out that the FVFS rules state the President **may** call for nominations at the meeting, but in this instance the President would like to get to know the nominees before proceeding and proposes to do so in the near future.

G. Pitts indicated he would like to nominate for the committee.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Marysville FS reported they are struggling financially and would like some assistance. The Treasurer agreed to meet with them after the meeting to chat about their situation and what can be done to assist them.

11. MEETING CLOSED at 10:57am.