

## MINUTES OF THE SHOALHAVEN ARTS BOARD

**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, 28 June 2023

**Location:** Jervis Bay Meeting Room, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra

**Time:** 4.00pm

The following members were present:

Ms Christine Dunstan - Chairperson  
Clr Tonia Gray (Remotely)  
Clr John Kotlash (Remotely)  
Clr Evan Christen - Left 5:18pm  
Clr Patricia White (Alternate) – Left 5:18pm  
Mr Frank Howarth  
Dr Lynda Kelly (Remotely)  
Mr Stephen Buzacott  
Ms Bonnie Porter-Green (Remotely) – Joined 4:57pm  
Ms Kate Dezarnaulds

Others present:

Ms Marla Guppy – Chair South Coast Arts – Left 4:32pm  
Ms Louise Croker – Executive Director South Coast Arts - Left 4:32pm  
Ms Sarah Taylor – Acting Director City Lifestyles  
Ms Bronwyn Coulston - Manager Arts & Culture  
Ms Karen Patterson - Manager Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre

### Apologies / Leave of Absence

An apology was received from Mr Drew Longbottom.

### Confirmation of the Minutes

**RESOLVED** (By consent)

That the Minutes of the Shoalhaven Arts Board held on Wednesday 08 March 2023 and the Special Shoalhaven Arts Board held on Wednesday 05 April 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED

### Declaration of Interests

During General Business the following Declaration of Interests was made: Clr Gray - AB23.21 - Additional Item - Public Meeting - Collaborate with South Coast Arts – invite Lyndel Gray - significant non pecuniary interest declaration - Lyndel Gray is her sister – will remain in the room and take part in discussion and vote.

## PRESENTATIONS

### AB23.11 South Coast RADO - Update

HPERM Ref:  
D23/136812

Ms Marla Guppy – Chair South Coast Arts and Ms Louise Croker – Executive Director South Coast Arts addressed the Board and gave an overview of the current key projects and strategic priorities of the South Coast Regional Arts Development Organisation (RADO). The following was advised:

- They are in the process of employing a Fundraising Officer and Communications Officer.
- EOI's have gone out for strategic planning consultants to help develop their first strategic plan.
- Having received funding from Create NSW, the following key projects are being undertaken:
  - Developing South Coast branding which encompasses the Weave Artist Directory.
  - Undertaking community arts projects within urban release area's in each of the three LGA's
  - Developing marketing and promotions training for artists, which will involve coaching and mentoring over a six month period.

## REPORTS

### AB23.12 Report - Shoalhaven Libraries - Update

HPERM Ref:  
D23/222249

#### **Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Shoalhaven Libraries Update report for information.

#### **RESOLVED** (By consent)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Shoalhaven Libraries Update report for information.

CARRIED

### AB23.13 Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre Update

HPERM Ref:  
D23/224166

#### **Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre Update report for information.

#### **RESOLVED** (By consent)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre Update report for information.

CARRIED

### AB23.14 Terms of Reference Review 2023 - Shoalhaven Arts Board

HPERM Ref:  
D23/231952

#### **Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board members commit to attend a workshop to review and provide

feedback on the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference.

**RESOLVED** (By consent)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board members:

1. Commit to attend a workshop to be scheduled for 9 August 2023, 4:00 – 6:00pm, to review and provide feedback on the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference.
2. Receive a draft copy of the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference prior to the workshop.

CARRIED

**AB23.15 Shoalhaven Regional Gallery - Update - February, March and April 2023**

**HPERM Ref:  
D23/233411**

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery Update report for information.

**RESOLVED** (By consent)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery Update report for information.

CARRIED

**AB23.16 Birkett Weatherhead Gift - Management of works by Artists not Jim Birkett**

**HPERM Ref:  
D23/235524**

**Recommendation**

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board:

1. Endorse the advice of the Art Acquisition and Collection Subcommittee and submit to Council for adoption.
2. Retain the works listed in Table A (Attachment 1) in accordance with the Deed of Gift.
3. Sell the works listed in Table B (Attachment 2) in accordance with the Deed of Gift.
4. Hold the works listed in Table C (Attachment 3) until the remainder of the gift is received and works can be better researched and / or reviewed against the whole.
5. Any funds raised from the sale of works in part 3 to be put into a dedicated Council Reserve fund and used explicitly for the purpose of the care, storage and exhibition of works retained in the Birkett Weatherhead Collection, as noted in part 2 as per the terms of the Birkett Weatherhead Gift.
6. Inform Roy Weatherhead of the outcome of any decisions made.

**RECOMMENDATION** (By consent)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board:

1. Endorse the advice of the Art Acquisition and Collection Subcommittee and submit to Council for adoption.
2. Retain the works listed in Table A (Attachment 1) in accordance with the Deed of Gift.
3. Sell the works listed in Table B (Attachment 2) in accordance with the Deed of Gift.
4. Hold the works listed in Table C (Attachment 3) until the remainder of the gift is received and works can be better researched and / or reviewed against the whole.
5. Any funds raised from the sale of works in part 3 to be put into a dedicated Council Reserve

fund and used explicitly for the purpose of the care, storage and exhibition of works retained in the Birkett Weatherhead Collection, as noted in part 2 as per the terms of the Birkett Weatherhead Gift.

6. Inform Roy Weatherhead of the outcome of any decisions made.

CARRIED

**AB23.17 Shoalhaven City Art Collection - Acquisition of Works**

**HPERM Ref:  
D23/239344**

**Recommendation**

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board:

1. Accept the offer of a donation through the Cultural Gifts Program for the work 'Untitled' by Rueben Ernest Brown. Donation by Lisa and Pip Havilah
2. Accept the offer of a donation for the work 'Shellwork slippers' by Esme Timbery. Donation by Lisa Havilah and Glenn Barkley
3. Decline the offer of a donation of the work 'View of Coolangatta Mountain from Old Man Island' by Averil Muller. Donation by Lynne Wiltshire
4. Allocate a maximum of \$5000 from the 2023/24 Art Acquisition budget for the purchase of prints by Robert Dickerson from the Dickerson Gallery.

**RECOMMENDATION (By consent)**

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board:

1. Accept the offer of a donation through the Cultural Gifts Program for the work 'Untitled' by Rueben Ernest Brown. Donation by Lisa and Pip Havilah
2. Accept the offer of a donation for the work 'Shellwork slippers' by Esme Timbery. Donation by Lisa Havilah and Glenn Barkley
3. Decline the offer of a donation of the work 'View of Coolangatta Mountain from Old Man Island' by Averil Muller. Donation by Lynne Wiltshire
4. Allocate a maximum of \$3000 from the 2023/24 Art Acquisition budget for the purchase of prints by Robert Dickerson from the Dickerson Gallery.

FOR: Cllr Gray, Cllr Kotlash, Cllr White, Frank Howarth, Lynda Kelly, Stephen Buzacott, Christine Dunstan and Bonnie Porter-Green

AGAINST: Kate Dezarnaulds

CARRIED

**AB23.18 Information Update - Shoalhaven Arts Foundation**

**HPERM Ref:  
D23/240009**

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the report be received for information.

**RESOLVED (By consent)**

That the report be received for information.

CARRIED

**AB23.19 Shoalhaven Arts Board Grants - Acquittals - 2020/21 and 2021/22 Grants**

**HPERM Ref:  
D23/240380**

**Recommendation**

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board:

1. Accept the Acquittals from
  - a. Albatross Musical Theatre Company
  - b. Shoalhaven Youth Orchestra
  - c. Alaska Turner
2. Request invoices are supplied for monies unspent to
  - a. Albatross Musical Theatre Company – \$331.75
3. Request Shoalhaven City Council to allocate returned funds to the Arts Grants program for 2023/24 and ensure funds are given back to the arts community through the Grants program.

**RECOMMENDATION (By consent)**

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board:

1. Accept the Acquittals from
  - a. Albatross Musical Theatre Company
  - b. Shoalhaven Youth Orchestra
  - c. Alaska Turner
2. Request invoices are supplied for monies unspent to
  - a. Albatross Musical Theatre Company – \$331.75
3. Request Shoalhaven City Council to allocate returned funds to the Arts Grants program for 2023/24 and ensure funds are given back to the arts community through the Grants program.
4. Note that an outstanding acquittal is yet to come through from artist Joanna Thomas.

CARRIED

**AB23.20 Update on Actions - June 2023****HPERM Ref:  
D23/240122**

Ms Christine Dunstan noted that she has written multiple times to invite Ms Rachel Kent – CEO Bundanon Trust, to facilitate an opportunity for the Arts Board to engage with Bundanon.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board:

1. Receive the Update on Actions report for information.
2. Acknowledge the following actions as completed and be removed from the action table:
  - a. AB22.37 – Shoalhaven Arts Board Grants Program 2022/23 – Sense of Place / Professional Development Streams
  - b. AB22.40 – Management of the Dingle Hughes Bequest – Acquisitions and Archives
  - c. AB23.4 – Birkett Weatherhead Gift (Jim Birkett) – Retain / Sell – Defer Decision re other artists works – Funds – Council Reserve

**RESOLVED (By consent)**

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board:

1. Receive the Update on Actions report for information.
2. Acknowledge the following actions as completed and be removed from the action table:

- a. AB22.37 – Shoalhaven Arts Board Grants Program 2022/23 – Sense of Place / Professional Development Streams
- b. AB22.40 – Management of the Dingle Hughes Bequest – Acquisitions and Archives
- c. AB23.4 – Birkett Weatherhead Gift (Jim Birkett) – Retain / Sell – Defer Decision re other artists works – Funds – Council Reserve

CARRIED

## GENERAL BUSINESS

### **AB23.21 Additional Item - Public Meeting - Collaborate with South Coast Arts - Invite Lyndel Gray**

Clr Gray - significant non pecuniary interest declaration - Lyndel Gray is her sister - remained in the room for discussion and vote.

Under item AB23.20 the Board discussed the possibility of holding a public meeting with the arts community. The board determined to collaborate with South Coast Arts about organising a public meeting with the arts community and to invite Lyndel Gray – Director of Destination Sydney Surrounds South (DSSS) to the next meeting.

### **AB23.22 Additional Item - Signage - Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre**

Ms Christine Dunstan raised with the Arts Board the importance of the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre and the lack of conspicuous signage to promote the building. The Board proceeded to make the recommendation below.

#### **RECOMMENDATION** (By consent)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board recommend Council provides funding for conspicuous signage for the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre which is visible from the Princes Highway.

CARRIED

### **AB23.23 Additional Item - Letter of Congratulations - Open Fields Festival**

Ms Kate Dezarnaulds expressed what an exceptional job the volunteer organisers of the Open Fields Contemporary Arts Festival did in organising and managing the event and made the recommendation below.

#### **RESOLVED** (By consent)

That Council staff write a letter of congratulations to the volunteer organisers of the Open Fields Contemporary Arts Festival, noting what an exceptional job they did in organising and managing the event.

CARRIED

- **Shoalhaven Eisteddfod**

Ms Christine Dunstan noted that the Shoalhaven Eisteddfod has approached herself and Clr Kotlash regarding the smaller donation amount received by Council this year.

Council staff advised that Councils Community Donations program had recently undergone a review to ensure a transparent and equitable distribution of donations across a large number of community groups in the Shoalhaven.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5:46pm.

Ms Christine Dunstan  
CHAIRPERSON