

**Minutes of the Committee, Folk Federation of NSW
6.30pm Friday 10th August 2012, Gaelic Club, Surry Hills**

1. Attendance

Present : Anthony Woolcott (Chairman), Pam Davis (Minute Secretary), Patrick Kelso, Sandra Nixon, Margaret Walters

Apologies : Dallas & Jim Baxter, Bruce Cameron, Terry Clinton

2. Minutes of the meetings held 27 April & 13th July 2012 – Approved (Pam apologized for listing Anthony's name as "Walker" in the minutes of 13 July meeting).

3. Financial Report – Bruce had advised via email that there were no outstanding transactions in the last month. He requested that consideration be given to offering Paypal as an alternative payment method. It was noted that the cost to the Foundation was likely to be modest and agreed that Bruce be authorized to open a Paypal account on behalf of the FolkFed.

Pam noted that there had been no increase in fees for the past 6 years that she had been a member of the FolkFed. After discussion, it was agreed that as costs had been contained over this period, membership fees should remain the same. It was further agreed that a special introductory membership fee of \$5 be offered to student members attending MoFo concerts, with Cornstalk only being available via email to these new members.

It was agreed to ask Bruce to develop a budget for the remainder of the current financial year.

Action :

- \$5 introductory membership for student MoFo attendees to be implemented (Anthony to advise MoFo Cttee)
- Bruce to open a Paypal account
- Bruce to prepare a budget

4. Correspondence – a copy of an email submitted by Nikki Kelso, raising questions arising from the AGM, was circulated to the Committee, together with the response prepared by Pam in consultation with Anthony & Bruce. The only unresolved issue related to the WHS issues surrounding the engagement of performers at MoFo and other concerts, which would potentially affect all Folk Clubs.

It was suggested that we should review the current insurance situation to determine whether the Folk Alliance policy is still cost effective, or if it may be possible for the FolkFed to obtain cover independently on behalf of itself and members. Pam undertook to talk to Christina about the Folk Alliance policy.

Action :

- Pam to discuss WHS issues with her company's accountant, who is a consultant to Arts Law
- Pam to talk to Christina re Folk Alliance insurance

5. Action Items / Matters carried forward :

a) MoFo – update; registration of name

Pam advised that she had not been able to register the name, due to difficulties with the new national registration which is administered by ASIC and requires an ASIC Key. Patrick noted the difficulties of obtaining an ASIC key and suggested using an accountant to obtain registration on behalf of the FolkFed.

Anthony advised that there are now 6 members of the MoFo Subcommittee, who are meeting regularly. A report on income & expenditure is now given to Bruce following each MoFo concert. Anthony has spoken with Pam Merrigan re a MoFo Concert at next year's National.

Action :

- Information about MoFo Concerts to be sent to Julie for inclusion in Folkmail.
- Patrick to meet with MoFo Subcommittee.
- Pam to speak with accountant re ASIC key/registration of name

b) JAM / Folk Fed Computer Issues

Patrick raised a number of issues relating to the website; he suggested that we consider development of a clearly identifiable Folk Fed site. He suggested that the website should feature a calendar of events which would be easily updateable. It was noted that this could form the basis of the weekly Folkmail, which would free Julie from this time consuming task.

Action :

- Patrick to research further & report to the next meeting on the way forward

c) Membership retention / recruitment

The \$5 membership introduced at this meeting was a positive step towards increasing membership. Upgrading the website & development of the calendar also has the potential to attract more members.

d) Cornstalk

Pam advised that Coral is requesting more content for Cornstalk. It was suggested that a more topical website with regular email updates may reduce the need for Cornstalk to be published monthly.

e) FF Award nominations

Pam advised that the Subcommittee had not met due to Dallas's absence overseas.

6. Next meeting – 6.30pm Friday 14th September

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.45pm.