

**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING
FOLK FEDERATION OF NSW INC
HELD AT 33 PINE STREET, CAMMERAY**

7pm, Tuesday 17th November 2009

1. Attendance, apologies

Present : Anthony Woolcott, Jim & Dallas Baxter, Terry Clinton, Sandra Nixon, Margaret Walters, Peter Miller-Robinson, Pam Davis

Apologies : Mary-Jane Field, Kate Delaney, Bruce Cameron, Chris Wheeler.

2. Minutes of the meeting held 13th October 2009 – approved

3. Financial Report – noted that Treasurer has recently returned from o/s to find correspondence from Australia Post advising that our account is overdue & has been suspended. He will sort this out asap.

The issue of payment of membership subscriptions via JAM (eg Paypal) or by direct payment was discussed again. Bruce was requested (in absentia) to follow this up.

4. Matters arising / Action Items

4.1 Future of Folk Fed / Planning Meeting

No suggestions received to date re people to invite to the proposed Planning Meeting. All Committee to submit suggestions to Anthony asap. Anthony will discuss Andy's proposal with Chris Wheeler prior to next meeting.

4.2 Fundraiser in support of Declan Affley Youth Award

Marg tabled copies of the flyer for the gig on 5 December and reported on progress with planning. It was agreed that door sales and ½ the proceeds of the raffle to go to the Youth Award and the other ½ raffle to the Folk Fed. **All Committee to arrive by 2.30pm.**

Committee thanked Marg for organizing this event.

4.3 Songs of Henry Lawson

Sandra has not yet contacted the Country Library Assn. Terry has drafted the letter to schools; Pam has several friends who are retired school librarians & who may be able to assist with contact details for school libraries / librarians

School workshop/s in 2010 – M-J to pursue.

4.4 Insurance

Pam will contact Wayne re updating JAM insurance info / links. Anthony spoke with Jarrad (National Folk Festival) who advised that the National negotiated with insurance companies to obtain public liability insurance at a reasonable price that includes cover for amateur musicians. Professionals must carry their own p.l. insurance at the National. It was suggested that if all Festivals negotiated collectively for public liability insurance, there could be considerable leverage. Anthony will pursue this matter with Jarrad.

4.5 Cornstalk

Chris has spoken with Coral & change to new printer (Crawfords) will occur from February. Pam to write to MPD Printing, thanking them for their work on behalf of the FF over the past several years.

Dallas & Jim are reviewing past issues of Cornstalk for suitable material for 2010 anniversary issues.

4.6 Membership - General

Pam/Bruce to review Constitution to determine next steps in creating new life memberships. List of proposed life memberships for 2011 to be reviewed at next meeting.

Pam to followup status of new membership form with Chris/Wayne.

4.7 40th Anniversary Concerts

Illawarra Folk Festival – Sunday 17th January, 10.30 – 12.30. Anthony has a list of NSW performers who will be at the Festival and from whom the concert program will be developed. He will finalise list of acts & running order.

National Folk Festival – Dave O'Neill has confirmed that the Anniversary Concert will be in the program on 20th April. All Committee to call Anthony within the next few weeks with suggestions for the program.

4.8 Relationship with Folk Alliance

Anthony & Chris attended FAA AGM, 1 November. Anthony advised that Felix expressed a keen interest in becoming more involved in State groups and arranging collaborative projects.

Anthony's observation is that most successful state based groups have a regular event, such as a Festival, which is the focal point for the group's activity. General discussion followed & not all members agreed with this view.

Anthony suggested that we should consider aligning the Folk Fed with a major event. As a thought starter, he suggested that the Committee consider a 2-year project to develop a major folk event on Cockatoo Island, using the various historical buildings on the island as concert themes (convicts, shipbuilding, war etc). It was noted that Warren Fahey is working on a project on Cockatoo Island history which may be a useful tie-in.

Working Party to review this proposal – Anthony, Pam (others?).

5. General Business

- New logo – to be discussed at planning meeting at National
- Website development – discuss at next meeting

6. Next Meeting – date to be confirmed.