

**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING
FOLK FEDERATION OF NSW INC
HELD AT 33 PINE STREET, CAMMERAY
7pm, Tuesday 27 April 2010**

1. Attendance, apologies

Present : Chris Wheeler, Kate Delaney, Jim & Dallas Baxter, Sandra Nixon, Pam Davis

Apologies : Margaret Walters, Anthony Woolcott, Bruce Cameron, Terry Clinton, Peter Miller-Robinson

2. Minutes of the meeting held 2 March 2010

Margaret Walters was incorrectly reported as having attended the meeting. With that amendment, the Minutes were approved. Moved Dallas Baxter, seconded Jim Baxter.

3. Financial Report

The draft Financial Report to end-April was tabled and was approved. It was noted that expenditure for the year was \$10,600 and income for the year was \$12,200, including over \$1000 received from merchandise sales at the National Folk Festival and a donation of approximately \$500 made in conjunction with the National Folk Festival.

Agreed unanimously that all payments made since 1 May 2009 be ratified

4. Matters arising / Action Items

4.1 Life Membership

A report from the subcommittee (Dallas, Kate and Pam) was circulated prior to the meeting. The Committee accepted the recommendations of the subcommittee :

- a) that Colleen Burke, John Dengate, Warren Fahey and Frank Maher be nominated as Life Members
- b) that an annual NSW Folk Federation Award be established for services to folk music in NSW, the first award to be made in 2011.

It was suggested that the Award criteria should be an item for discussion at the AGM.

4.2 National Folk Festival – debrief

Anthony's thanks were conveyed to the Committee for their contributions to the success of the FF events at the National. While it was agreed that the events were successful and enjoyable for those attending, the following points were noted for the future :

- a) Anniversary Concert
 - lack of coordination ... floor manager didn't keep MC apprised of changes in run order etc
 - venue unsatisfactory
 - Wheeze & Suck ran significantly overtime which affected the rest of the lineup

- Next year – ask for a better venue; day-time (late-morning) concert likely to have a greater impact
- b) Henry Lawson Workshops
 - Very successful, should be repeated
 - Rotate presenters to maintain interest. Dave Flanagan is interested in being involved next year.
 - Idea for next year – workshop participants to learn a couple of songs to present at Stockman's Camp.
- c) Stockman's Camp
 - Interested in repeating next year
 - More tightly programmed
 - Not an appropriate venue for book sales
- d) Declan Affley Award
 - FF was appropriately acknowledged.
 - Article to be prepared by Colleen for May Cornstalk & for JAM

4.3 Songs of Henry Lawson – distribution ideas discussed, including

- Jason & Chloe – have taken 3 books. May be able to promote the book in connection with their performances at school camps in Bathurst. Pam to follow up.
- Copies to the Illawarra shop? (Who is following this up – Sandra?)
- Zenith Theatre – Manager Allan Rendell is interested in holding folk events. Chris to contact re Henry Lawson concert.
- Henry Lawson birthday party at Humph Hall – Pam to discuss feasibility with Wayne. Could involve workshop in the afternoon, screening of documentary and performance in the evening.
- Chris suggests using 20 copies of the HL songbook as workshop copies. Bruce to be asked to comment on financial implications.
- Suggested that a CD consisting of a simple rendition of some of the tunes could be a useful supplement to the songbook & would assist those who don't read music. Chris notes that this is a good idea but a huge amount of work.

4.4 Cockatoo Island Festival

Chris reported on the meeting with Warren Fahey, attended by Anthony, Chris, Pam and Christina Mimmocchi. Warren has done a significant amount of work in developing a concept for a Port Jackson Festival to be held in the Rocks area of Sydney and has received in principle support from organizations such as the Sydney Harbour Trust who are potential sources of funding. He had initially considered Cockatoo Island as the Festival site but rejected it for logistical reasons. Warren does not want to/ is not able to be involved in running the Festival but is happy for an organization like the Folk Fed to make use of his concept.

Chris & Pam advised that those present at the meeting had, in subsequent discussion, agreed that Warren's concept of the Festival did not match with ours. It was also noted that while Cockatoo Island presents logistical problems, it has been the site of a number of events of this nature (eg Comedy Festival) at which the logistical issues must have been addressed.

It was suggested that the next step should be to set up a meeting with the Cockatoo Island management to determine the level of interest in the concept. Pam/Anthony to arrange.

5. Other Matters / General Business

5.1 Annual General Meeting

Saturday 17 July was tentatively suggested as the date for the AGM. Sandra to check availability of Bush Music Hut; Jim & Dallas to ask Coral to save space in the June issue of Cornstalk; Anthony to write an AGM announcement; Pam suggests that the relevant notices could be published on JAM with a reference in Cornstalk & information to the effect that those without access to the internet could have info mailed to them. This would save the need for an insert (& increased postage costs). All agreed, Pam to advise Coral.

5.2 Lane Cove, Saturday 15 May

Peter is coordinating this event. It was suggested that we should have fewer acts & longer sets (say, 45 minutes). Also noted that there are few people about after 12, so the concert could finish earlier. Kate & Dennis are willing to perform; also M-J's choir.

5.3 Action Items

Pam to prepare a list of action items from previous meeting/s and follow up people to complete agreed actions. In this regard, it was noted that no further action had been taken regarding contacting schools about the Lawson songbook.

Pam advised that she had spoken with a high school music teacher who had suggested getting the book listed on the NSW Music Teachers' resource list. If we are able to do this, it may replace the need to contact schools directly. Pam to follow-up.

6. Next Meeting

Wednesday 26 May tbc