



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Queer Screen Limited ("QS") ACN: 059 963 110  
11:00am, Saturday 30 January, 2021  
Virtually through the Vero online platform

**Board Directors Present**

Bayley, Cameron	Kavanagh, Cheryl	O'Keefe, Finn
Goshko, Ian	Osseiran, Abdullah (Abs)	Worsley, Michael

**Members Present (28)**

Abs Osseiran	Evelyn Perusco	Lisa Rose	Roger Gatchalian
Angela Ruchin	Finn O'Keefe	Louise Nealon	Rosario Mugnaini
Anthony Yeo	Giovanni Campolo-Arcidiaco	Michael Worsley	Steven Hankey
Benjamin Buchanan	Graham Mc Corkell	Paul Kennedy	Susanna Griffin
Cameron Bayley	Ian Goshko	Paul Rankins	Tony Burns
Cheryl Kavanagh	Jason Glanville	Robert Clark	Tsachi Pilosof
David Libter	Jordan Churchyard	Robin Carter	Warner Ward

**Valid Proxies Received (10)**

Salvo Trovato granted to Abs Osseiran	Joseph Duggan granted to Mike Worsley
Matt Janssen granted to Ian Goshko	Lachlan Woods granted to Angela Ruchin
Gabrielle Rennard granted to Cheryl Kavanagh	Sallie Colechin granted to Lisa Rose
Gina Machado granted to Finn O'Keefe	Anthony Van Assche granted to Roger Gatchalian
Milo Crocchini granted to Rosario Mugnaini	Vanessa McQuarrie granted to Cameron Bayley

**Meeting Chair**

Cheryl Kavanagh, Co-Chair of QS

**Secretary**

Angela Ruchin

**Minutes**

Angela Ruchin

**Meeting**

**1: Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Welcome**

The meeting Chair declared the meeting open at 11.00am. The Chair acknowledged the traditional Owners of the Land on which she was speaking from and paid her respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

The Chair and Abs Osseiran welcomed everyone to the 2020 QS AGM and provided an overview of the AGM agenda and voting process.

**2: Quorum and Proxies**

The Secretary advised that 10 valid proxies had been received for the meeting (as noted above). It was noted that there were also 26 financial Members present and logged into the meeting at that time, which in addition to the 10 proxies provided a total of 36. It was noted that the QS Constitution required 30 Members to be present to constitute a quorum. A quorum was declared and the meeting was declared open at 11:03am.

**3. Apologies**

The Secretary advised the meeting that apologies had been received and the full list of apologies would be listed in the Minutes (see below):

Salvo Trovato	Anthony Van Assche	Sam Turner	Owen Evans
Matt Janssen	Vanessa McQuarrie	Megan Mclachlan	Shay Bristowe
Gabrielle Rennard	Michael Frommer	Allison Smith	Tony Radevski
Gina Machado	Susanna Griffin	Eyal Levy	Phillip Jones
Milo Crocchini	Antony Bolton	Gary Boyd	Sheelagh Bryant
Joseph Duggan	Hayley Lockett	Geoff Annabel	Simon Croker
Lachlan Woods	Michael McNaughton	Alan Maurice	
Sallie Colechin	Phillip Gerlach	Leslie Leo	

**4: Approval of the 2018 AGM Minutes**

The 2018 AGM Minutes were tabled by the Secretary (noting these were the Minutes of the last AGM held). Voting proceeded as follows:

- 30 Members voted in favour
- 0 Voted against
- 2 Members abstained

**The 2018 AGM Minutes were approved.**

**5: Introduction and thanks to the Board and Associates**

The Chair introduced and thanked the current Board:

Cheryl Kavanagh (Co-Chair)	Finn O’Keefe (Digital Engagement)
Abs Osseiran (Co-Chair)	Ian Goshko (Volunteers)
Angela Ruchin (Secretary)	Michael Worsley (Filmmakers)
Cameron Bayley (Website)	

Introduction and thanks to the Associates:

David Libter – Queerstay Manager and Office Administrator	Rosario Mugnaini - Treasury
Brodie Pyke – Filmmaker portfolio	Erika Felton – Filmmaker portfolio

The Chair thanked the Board of Directors and Associates for volunteering their time.

The Chair thanked the Board members for the July 2019 to June 2020 financial year (which was the focus of the current AGM):

Cheryl Kavanagh (Co-Chair)	Leah Pellinkoff (Filmmakers)
Abs Osseiran (Treasurer)	Manjusha Merrymaker (Inclusion & Belonging)
Evelyn Perusco (Secretary & fund raising Director)	Matt Janssen (Co-Chair and Membership)
Cameron Bayley (Website)	Michael Worsley (Filmmakers)
Finn O’Keefe (Digital Engagement)	Tony Burns (Volunteers)
Joe Duggan (Co-Chair and Treasurer)	Vicky Harding (Treasurer and Website)

The Chair introduced and thanked the Festival Management Team 2019/20:

Lisa Rose (Festival Director)	Mads Doyle (Partnerships Coordinator)
Paul Kennedy (Head of Partnerships)	Missy Dempsey (Designer)
Vicky Gutiérrez (Festival Operations Manager)	Anthony Yeo & Harriet Ring (Front of House MGFF)
Zen Boray (Digital Strategist)	Louise Nealon & Vanessa McQuarrie (Publicity)
Margarett Cortez (Digital & Content Coordinator)	

Thanks was noted to the management team for their passion and dedication to Queer Screen.

**6: Director’s Report**

The Chair, presented the 2020 Directors’ Report and spoke to some of the highlights of the report including:

- Queer Screen Film Fest (QSFF) 2019 – 7<sup>th</sup> QSFF in Sep19 was a great success
- Mardi Gras Film Festival (MGFF): Was held from 13 February – 27 February 2020. The theme ‘Evolve, Emerge, Fly’ reflected the sentiment of community spirit, the continually improving quality of local and international films as well as the diversity of emerging Australian talent.
- Filmmaker Initiatives – The Queer Screen Completion fund awarded \$10,000 to Under My Skin, \$2,500 to Tales of an Upstart and \$2,500 to Unsound.

- Continuing QS's ongoing commitment to supporting emerging filmmakers making diverse LGBTIQ+ screen stories, QSFF19 saw the return of our second ever Queer Screen Pitch Off. Writer and director William Duan's film TŪ NĀ was the recipient of \$10,000 in funding.
- Membership – a huge thank you to the members. 10% growth in membership during the period.
- Donations – Acknowledgement and thanks to donors who contributed to QS in FY20 and allow us to support local filmmakers and ensure queer stories continue to be told.
- Volunteers - engaged over 150 volunteers to assist with running our events over the past financial year. A huge thank you was noted to all the volunteers, without who these events would not be possible.
- The Frank Wells Volunteer Award, went to long term volunteer Hamish Elliot, who has been volunteering with QS behind the scenes on the design and creation of the Queer Screen float since it made it's debut in the Mardi Gras parade in 2017.
- Inclusion, belonging and community – Manjusha Merrymaker established an equity council whose purpose is to provide recommendations and advice to the QS Board about strategies, programs and practices to create equity for all demographics within the LGBTIQ+ community. Thanks to Sam Turner and Brie Gorman who are contributing members of that council.
- Community Collaboration - In line with our mission to celebrate the diversity of sexualities and gender identities through queer storytelling on screen, QS's Festival Director collaborated to curate shorts packages for:
  - Newcastle Pride;
  - Central Coast Pride Feast in Adelaide;
  - Cygnet Arts Council in Tasmania's Huon Valley;
  - SBS Pride and Allies;
  - Corrs; and
  - Accenture.
- Digital Engagement & Website – improving engagement across all audiences and 'socials'. Acknowledged and thanked Design Logic, Bere and the team.
- Sponsors and Partners – Thanks to:
  - AGL (Major Partner)      City of Sydney
  - Accenture (Sponsor)      Inner West Council
  - UTS (Sponsor)              Screen NSW
  - Acon (Sponsor)

### **7: Treasurer's Report**

Abs Osseiran, the Treasurer, presented QS's FY20 unaudited financial accounts which had been previously provided to Members via the Vero platform and email. Highlights included:

- Very strong FY20, almost doubling net profit from the prior year (\$126k v \$68k)
- Gross Profit was lower than the prior year (\$795k v \$997k), but the management of expenses (\$706k v \$932k) resulted in a better than prior year overall net profit.
- As a registered charity and not for profit organisation, Queer Screen's main purpose is not to generate profits, but to provide benefits to our members and stakeholders.
- The 2020 year result allows QS to continue to operate towards achieving this purpose and puts QS in a strong position to work through the uncertainty that COVID19 has resulted in.
- Net asset position increased by \$126k for the year ending 30 June 2020.

### **8: Declarations of Interest**

The Secretary outlined how those present could declare any interests and allowed time for that. There were no declarations of interest raised by Members present.

The Treasurer and Secretary opened to questions:

- The Treasurer explained the item labelled ATO subsidy was due to jobkeeper allowances as well as other ATO incentives.
- No other questions were raised on the financials or on any other matters.

### **9: Tabling and acceptance of the Director's Report and Independently Reviewed Accounts for the financial year ending 30 June 2020**

The Secretary proposed that the Members adopt the Director's Report and Independently Reviewed Accounts for the financial year ending 30 June 2020.

The resolution was put to a vote with:

- 33 Members voted in favour
- 0 Voted against
- 0 Members abstained

***The Director's Report and Independently Reviewed Accounts for the financial year ending 30 June 2020 were unanimously approved.***

#### **10: Election of Directors**

Paul Rankins was introduced to the meeting as Returning Officer for the election of directors.

Paul provided an overview of his role and declared all Director positions vacant and formally took control of the meeting. He noted he had no conflicts of interest and assured the Members of his independence from Queer Screen Limited.

Paul advised that eight Director nominations had been received prior to the deadline of 5:00pm Saturday 23 January 2021. Paul announced the eight nominees as listed:

Cameron Bayley  
Roger Gatchalian  
Ian Goshko  
Cheryl Kavanagh  
Finn O'Keefe  
Abs Osseiran  
Angela Ruchin  
Michael Worsley

Paul advised that he had satisfied himself that all 8 nominees were current and paid up members of QS and hence can be considered duly nominated. Under the QS Constitution if the total number of candidates (which is eight) are less than the total number of positions, (which is ten), they must be declared duly elected. Any remaining positions may be filled by the Directors under article 12.6 of the Constitution.

***Paul declared the eight nominees to be Directors on the QS Board*** and congratulated the new Directors.

#### **11: Festival Director Update - MGFF21**

Lisa Rose introduced MGFF21 and announced the tickets were on sale. 2020 enabled QS to pivot and go online with some content. This MGFF:

- 94 films (features, documentaries and shorts), with over 70% available online
  - 64 sessions in Sydney in cinema
  - Online sessions may sell out for several reasons:
    - Film makers/agents can set limits to online views as they don't want to overexpose the movie prior to distribution in Australia; and
    - the Australian Classification Board sets strict rules on classifications, QS gets an exemption, but there are limits on views since the films are unclassified online.
- Opening Night on February 18 is at Moonlight Cinema in Centennial Park. It is a not often told story about a friendship between a gay man and lesbian.
- The Festival also features:
  - 2 Australian Showcase titles *My First Summer* and the *Greenhouse*
  - an Australian and US Co-production called *Under my Skin* about a non-binary person coming to terms with their identity.
- Lisa then took questions from the Members in relation to the festival and future festivals, noting:
  - Festivals may continue to have some online content, though unlikely to have as much as current festivals post Covid-19; and
  - Festival sales have been going well.

#### **12. Other Business**

The Chair and Treasurer thanked everyone for attending and looked forward to seeing everyone at MGFF.

The Secretary asked if anyone had any other business to discuss and thanked Cheryl Kavanagh and Finn O'Keefe for compiling the Director's Report and shared positive feedback from Members.

**13: Meeting Close**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 11:35am.

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Confirmed as a true and accurate recording of the conduct of the meeting

President:

Date: