



SHIRE OF NORTHAM

**MINUTES OF THE
ART COLLECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD
THURSDAY
3 APRIL 2014**

UNCOMMERCEMED

SHIRE OF NORTHAM

MINUTES OF THE SHIRE OF NORTHAM ART COLLECTION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 3 APRIL 2014 AT 4:07 PM

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SHIRE OF NORTHAM

Minutes of the Shire of Northam Art Collection Committee Meeting held in the committee room on THURSDAY, 3 April 2014 at 4:07 pm

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1. **DECLARATION OF OPENING AND WELCOME**

Mr TM (Michael) Letch declared the meeting open at 4.07pm.

2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Parts of Division 6 Subdivision 1 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires Council members and employees to disclose any direct or indirect financial interest or general interest in any matter listed in this agenda.

The Act also requires the nature of the interest to be disclosed in writing before the meeting or immediately before the matter being discussed.

NB A committee member who makes a disclosure must not preside or participate in, or be present during, any discussion or decision making procedure relating to the disclosed matter unless the procedures set out in Sections 5.68 or 5.69 of the Act have been complied with.

3. ATTENDANCE

Chairman
Councillors

AVAS
Community Representatives
Shire of Northam

Mr TM (Michael) Letch
Cr Denis Beresford
Cr Ulo Rumjantsev
Ms Stephanie Corcoran
Ms Anne Ashman
Ms Denise Gobbart
Ms Alysha Maxwell
Ms Jean McGready

4. APOLOGIES

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minute: AR.043

**Moved: Ms Anne Ashman
Seconded: Cr Ulo Rumjantsev**

That the Minutes of the Art Collection Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 30 January 2014 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED 5/0

UNCONFIRMED

6. AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 DEPARTMENTAL CHANGES WITHIN THE SHIRE

BACKGROUND

The Executive Management Group have been working on developing a new Corporate Plan which has a strong focus on identifying the Shire of Northam's priorities and actions over the next 4-5 years. The planning process has resulted in some adjustments to our structure and as a result Community Services is now responsible for the service area of Arts & Culture which involves the management of the Shire's art collection and coordination of the Shire of Northam Art Collection Committee. This will now be overseen by Ms Jean McGready, Executive Manager Community Services.

Mr Letch welcomed Ms McGready to the Shire of Northam Art Collection Committee and Ms Gobbart then introduced her to the current members.

6.2 PERSPEX SHIELD OVER HUGO THROSSELL PORTRAIT

BACKGROUND

Staff were to investigate the cost of installing a Perspex shield over the Hugo Throssell portrait located at the Northam Visitor Centre.

Glenn Beveridge has been contacted in regards to providing a quote. Mr Beveridge advised that he will arrange a quote and pass onto our Building Maintenance Supervisor. At current we are waiting to receive the quote for these works.

6.3 ARTWORK AT THE NORTHAM PICTURE FRAMERS

BACKGROUND

Artworks 37, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 46 and 47 have been collected from the Northam Picture Framers and transported to the storage unit at the Northam Recreation Centre after being photographed and remounted, with the exception of number 40 which was only photographed due to not being restored by Douglas Firth.

The remainder of works which were included on the quote, this being numbers 44, 45, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52 and 53 have been transported to the Northam Picture Framers to be photographed as per Council's decision at the Council Meeting held on 19 February 2014.

These works have now been completed and the artwork has been delivered to the Northam Recreation Centre for storage. In addition to the cleaning and photographing of these pieces, number 50 by Peter Rohan and 53 by Mollie Flaxman have been remounted as originally quoted.

6.4 PHOTOGRAPHING OF IMAGES LOCATED IN RECORDS BUILDING

BACKGROUND

At the previous meeting the committee made the recommendation to Council for staff to investigate the cost to have a number of the images containing old Council members photographed and then the possibility of the originals being gifted to the families and/or the members contained in the photos.

At the Council meeting held on 19 February 2014, Council endorsed staff investigating the cost involved to have a photographic image taken. The cost to have these works undertaken is \$35.00 per image.

It was clarified that this quote was to only have the images unframed, photographed and reframed. These images will then be provided to us on a disk. The committee discussed the options of how these can then be displayed. It was suggested that these could be printed and arranged in a long frame, further investigation is required.

Minute: AR.044

Moved: Ms Anne Ashman

Seconded: Cr Ulo Rumjantsev

That the photographing of the images listed below be undertaken at a cost of \$35.00 per image, totalling a cost of \$560.00.

1. **Herbert William Hancock esq by C.M. Nixon (Northam), Not Dated**
2. **Charles Edward Dempster esq by C.M. Nixon (Northam), Not Dated**
3. **David Thomas Morrell esq 1900-1907 C.M. Nixon (Northam)**
4. **Patrick O'Driscoll esq 1921-1924 by C.M. Nixon (Northam)**
5. **John Michael Carroll esq 1913-1921 by C.M. Nixon (Northam)**
6. **John Taylor Cooke esq by C.M. Nixon (Northam), Not Dated**
7. **James Wilkerson esq 1877-1900 by C.M. Nixon (Northam)**
8. **William Simon Dempster esq 1876-1892 by C.M. Nixon (Northam)**
9. **Jacob Delmage esq 1873-1876 by C.M. Nixon (Northam)**
10. **I.J. (Jenny) Sheehan – President – 1996-2001, Artist Unknown**
11. **David Ross Antonio – President – 1978-1996, Artist Unknown**
12. **A.W. (Bert) Llewellyn – Shire of Northam President – 2001-?, Artist Unknown**
13. **A.J. Antonio esq – Chairman – 1959-1976, Framed by Chris Brown at The Works in Northam**
14. **Edward Alfred Letch – Chairman – 1924-1940, Framed by Chris Brown at The Works in Northam**
15. **C.W. Martin – Chairman – 1940-1946, Framed by Chris Brown at The Works in Northam**
16. **Sketch of TAE Letch, Not dated, by Anne Ashman**

CARRIED 5/0

6.5 MENIN GATE AT MIDNIGHT

BACKGROUND

It was noted in the previous minutes that Mr Letch would investigate whether the painting is located at the Northam RSL Hall.

Mr Letch advised that he has not physically inspected the hall to see if this piece is located there however he has been advised that it isn't. Mr Letch asked that if anyone had any spare time to go to the hall to confirm this to please do so.

6.6 PROVENANCE CARDS

BACKGROUND

A disk containing the provenance cards has been received and the cards are ready to be printed and laminated. This is expected to be completed within the next two weeks.

6.7 HUGO THROSSELL PROVENANCE CARD

As per a previous Art Collection Committee Meeting which was held on 26 September 2013. A letter and the sample of the provenance card for the Hugo Throssell portrait had been sent to the Northam Sub Branch Returned & Services League, seeking their comment.

Their comments are;

1. Hugo enlisted on 5.10.1914;
2. Hugo was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant on 2.3.1915 (previously Sergeant);
3. He was made Lieutenant on 20.2.1916;
4. He was made Captain on 15.8.1917;
5. He was not the "first Australian winner of the Victoria Cross in the first world war"
He was actually the ninth;
6. He was the first West Australian to be awarded the VC in the First World War;
7. He is the only Light Horseman to be awarded the VC;
8. The battle in which he was awarded the VC was at Hill 60, Gallipoli;
9. On the 12th line it should read Captain H.V.H Throssell VC; and
10. Following on from that a change in wording would be "the first Western Australian to be awarded the Victoria Cross in the First World War. (not winner of).

The committee accepted the suggested changes from the Northam RSL. These changes will be made to the Hugo Throssell provenance card and circulated to Committee members for their approval prior to having this card printed.

6.8 HUGO THROSSELL REPRODUCTIONS

BACKGROUND

We have now received the three canvas reproduction prints for the Northam RSL, Historical Society and Heritage Forum which will be framed at their expense.

A decision needs to be made as to whether these can be provided to the groups or if they will be presented to them at a function to be held by the committee which was discussed in previous meetings. The Northam RSL, Historical Society and Heritage Forum have all requested their prints.

It was noted that it was discussed in past meetings to present these to the groups however the groups would need to receive these prior to this occurring in order for them to have the image framed.

AGREED: That the canvas reproduction prints be given to the Northam RSL, Historical Society and Heritage Forum. A letter to be written to the groups advising that they can be collected and once framed an unveiling ceremony can be arranged if chosen.

Ms Gobbart advised that another 2 prints are being made for Mr David Sims to be presented to the St Alfreds College and Wesley College for their generous support in the restoration of Captain Throssell's grave. Ms Gobbart advised that a register will be kept listing who reproductions have been made for. The committee noted that having these two additional prints made was a good idea.

6.9 ARTWORK DISPLAY – LAUNCHING THE COLLECTION

BACKGROUND

At the previous Art Committee meeting Ms Corcoran and Ms Maxwell were to investigate the cost of hiring display stands.

Ms Corcoran has obtained a quote from Kaye Devlin for the committee's attention.

The quote is;

Quote to Curate Art Exhibition at the Northam Lesser Town Hall in 2014 (date TBC). Curate Exhibition of a selection of works from the Shire of Northam Art Collection. Includes hanging art works appropriately and taking down works at conclusion of show.

Total Cost: \$240.00

Minute: AR.045

Moved: Mr Michael Letch
Seconded: Ms Anne Ashman

That the quote of \$240.00 to Curate an Art Exhibition at the Northam Town/Lesser Hall from Kaye Devlin be accepted for when a function to launch the collection has been confirmed.

CARRIED 5/0

6.10 SIGNED QUEEN ELIZABETH II IMAGE**BACKGROUND**

At the previous meeting Cr Beresford questioned whether the signed image of Queen Elizabeth II was the one located in the Records Building. This was investigated and the signed image is the one located and displayed in the Shire of Northam Council Chambers. It appears that this image is not recorded on the arts register and is required to be catalogued.

The second, unsigned image has now been catalogued and transported the storage unit at the Recreation Centre.

The signed Queen Elizabeth II image which is currently located in the Shire of Northam Council Chambers has been allocated number 102 and its location has been recorded accordingly.

6.11 GIFTING OF ARTWORK**BACKGROUND**

At the previous Shire of Northam Art Collection Committee Meeting the committee made recommendations to Council to gift a number of pieces of artwork to groups within the Shire. This recommendation was endorsed by Council at the Council meeting held 19 February 2014.

Correspondence has been sent Northam Returned Services League, Northam Historical Society and Bakers Hill Progress Association in relation to the collection of the applicable item which is to be gifted as per Council's decision.

Mr Reg Steven's from the Northam RSL collected their items on the 26 February 2014 and Ms Belle Moore from the Northam & Districts Historical Society has collected their items on the 25 March 2014.

One of the items which are to be gifted is the remaining two framed images of the Northam Town Council in 2007. Council endorsed that these be gifted to members within the photograph, the committee must now decide which members to gift these items to. The members within the photograph include; Cr JP Smith, Cr DA Hughes, Cr RW Tinetti,

Cr BR Webb, Cr RG Doye, Cr LD Ozarczuk, Cr DG Beresford, Cr RM Head and Cr GN Beazley.

The committee agreed that these can be taken to the Shire of Northam Forum meeting which is to be held on 9 April 2014. Any members interested in acquiring one of these photographs can do so.

7. OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE COMMITTEE

7.1 FUNCTION TO LAUNCH SHIRE OF NORTHAM ART COLLECTION

Mr Letch raised the topic of the proposed function to launch the Shire of Northam art collection.

It was discussed that the opening can be held on a Friday evening and run through until the following Thursday evening. The proposed running time for the opening on the Friday evening is 6.30pm to 8.30pm. The proposed operational hours during the daytime are 11.00am to 4.00pm.

Drinks and nibbles would be provided at this function and a provision of \$1,000.00 was suggested to be allocated for this.

It was suggested that invitations could be extended to;

- Mia Davies
- Paul Brown
- Shire of Northam Councillors and Senior Staff
- Press
- Principals of Schools
- C Y O'Connor Representatives

Cr Rumjantsev suggested that a number of corporate people within the Shire could also be invited. This will allow them to view some of the art work and see what is available to be loaned.

It was planned to try and get the schools on board to bring some students down to view the collection.

The date has not yet been confirmed, this has to be arranged around the availability of the hall. Ms Gobbart suggested that it could either lead up to or after the Eisteddfod or Avon Valley Art Prize in June or August. Mr Letch suggested that the date can be left for staff to decide in terms of when the hall is available.

Minute: AR.046

Moved: Cr Ulo Rumjantsev
Seconded: Ms Anne Ashman

That a function be held to launch the Shire of Northam's art collection with a provision of \$1,000.00 being allocated for drinks and nibbles.

CARRIED 5/0

7.2 PLAQUE TO BE PLACED AT OLD POST OFFICE BUILDING

We have received a letter from AVAS (Joy Smith), asking if we can put a plaque on an outside wall at the Old Post Office (former AVAS building). The plaque is in memory of Judy Reynolds (1927-2010) Founder and Inaugural Director of the Avon Valley Arts Society. It is suggested that it be placed in a prominent position to acknowledge the history of the building.

Mr Letch stated that this would be an excellent idea to remember Judy Reynolds. The Committee agreed to this action.

7.3 ITEMS LOCATED AT NORTHAM VISITORS CENTRE

A number of items have been brought down from the Northam Visitors Centre. These items are not on our register.

Within these items there were four framed posters relating to the Vintage on Avon event and it was suggested to give these to the Northam Flying Fifties. Cr Rumjantsev took these images as he was attending a meeting which Robyn Larkin would also be attending and he could give these to her then.

The remaining two items which were also brought down was two framed historic images, one of Fitzgerald Street, Northam in the early 1900's and the other was of the Avon Bridge Hotel, Northam in 1938. These items were catalogued and allocated numbers 113 (Fitzgerald Street) and 114 (Avon Bridge Hotel).

8. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Presiding Officer declared the meeting closed at 5.05pm

"I certify that the Minutes of the Shire of Northam Art Collection Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 3 April 2014, have been confirmed as a true and correct record."

_____ President

_____ Date