



AFRIKABURN

Junction Hotel
8 Junction Road, Salt River
Cape Town, South Africa

MINUTES OF AFRIKABURN CREATIVE PROJECTS NPC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Held electronically via Zoom
Saturday, 22 January 2022 – 10h00 to 13h00

**ATTENDANCE REGISTER: 28 Voting Members – including 1 with voting right suspended*
BELOW the breakdown**

Voting Members in Attendance

1. Behrend, Michelle
2. Bendzulla, Samantha
3. de Bruin, Scheepers
4. Doyle, Timothy
5. Fletcher, Faldelah (Minutes)
6. Fletcher, Paul
7. Honig, Paul
8. January, Jano
9. Lang, Bryan
10. Marques, Isa
11. Nel, Diaan
12. Noble, Alex (Minutes)
13. Schiess, Monique
14. Shah, Subhas
15. Tanner, Lorraine * *right suspended*
16. Tu, Steven
17. Weinek, Robert
18. Williams, Catherine
19. Marsh, Alex

Apologies & Proxies

1. Allan, Graeme - *Proxy M. Behrend*
2. Baard, Bradley - *Proxy M. Behrend*
3. Dondolo, Sindy
4. Fischer, Ariane
5. Gerhard, Michael - *Proxy T. Doyle*
6. McDermid, Wayne - *Proxy R. Weinek*
7. Mooi, Josephina
8. Savage, Julia - *Proxy M. Schiess*
9. Woolfson, Jacqui - *Proxy B. Lang*

Directors (all non- voting)

1. Borland, Ralph (apologies)
2. Phaswana, Malilimalo
3. Raubenheimer, Nic
4. Tanner, Lorraine
5. Van Wyk, Roger
6. Zakwe, Lungile
7. Postma, Rianna

Other Invitees - Attending

1. Doyle, Dom
2. Evans, Fern
3. Middlewick, Jacqui
4. Palmer, Brian
5. Parry, Richard
6. Vusani, Nokubonga



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1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIRPERSON

Meeting chaired by Malilimalo Phaswana. Thanks to all those who put the meeting together and have been volunteering over the past year. Mali welcomes everyone and goes through the agenda items.

2. APOLOGIES AND PROXIES, ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Apologies mentioned.

The meeting has quorum - 19 members in room, 18 can vote, additional 6 proxy voters listed.

3. CONFIRMATION OF EXISTING MEMBERS FOR VOTING PURPOSES

We have 28 voting members including 1 with voting right suspended

Member attendance noted - 19 voting members in the room, counting 1 with voting right suspended (totalling 18 voting members eligible to vote) and 6 proxies confirmed.

4. CONFIRMATION OF EXISTING DIRECTORS AND ANY CHANGES

Sam introduces the Directors. Mali confirms.

Nicolas Raubenheimer is re-elected NED. Rianna Postma is elected NED.

Mali welcomes Rianna, who says a few words and thanks everyone for the vote of confidence.

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF 2020 AGM

Alex Marsh motions to approve the minutes, and this is seconded by Timothy Doyle.

There are no objections to the previous minutes.

The minutes of AGM 2020 are accepted.

6. FINANCIAL DRAFT REPORTS FYE2021 - FINCO CHAIR - Malilimalo Phaswana

Chairing of this agenda item is passed to Roger van Wyk.

Mali presents Finance Committee Presentation and Key Themes for FY2021.

Summary of income statement and operational expenses in presentation.

Roger takes questions:

Paul Honig: "What comprises the R500 000 trade receivables and what is the aging thereof?"

Mali: "The trade receivables mostly consist of deposits relating to the 2020 event and payments to SARS. The deposit is carried over from the 2020 financial statements thus the aging is greater than a year. We do however still expect to recover the full balances."

Sam Bendzulla: "To clarify, the draft AFS under review has been prepared by the auditors (A.S. Pocock)?"

Mali: "Confirmed. And reviewed by the Board, with minor adjustments requested" (no material changes)



7. APPROVAL OF YE2021 DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

There are no further questions and the draft AFS FY2021 is put forward for approval.

Samantha Bendzulla puts forward a motion to approve the Draft Financials, seconded by Scheepers de Bruin and Paul Honig. There are no objections.

The draft AFS is approved.

With thanks to Roger van Wyk for co-chairing, Mali resumes chairing the AGM.

8. APPROVAL OF AUDITORS REMUNERATION FOR PAST YEAR AND APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR 2022

Presented by Michelle Behrend (FinCo)

A.S Pocock Inc received remuneration of R83 360,00 ex-VAT for FY2021.

They have given a quote of R50 000,00 for the audited financials for FY2022.

FinCo recommends continuing with the services of A.S Pocock at this time.

Lorraine Tanner: "How does this compare to the audit costs for 2020?"

Sam Bendzulla: "Similar question - the R83k seems high compared to previous charges (region of R50k). Acknowledging that it was a year of upheaval and change. Assume it's a knock-on effect?"

Michelle Behrend: Audit itself is R63k. Additional spent on Tax advice and Secretarial services. The loss of financial admin staff necessitated additional help and advice.

Timothy Doyle motions to approve the auditors' remuneration, and seconded by Jano January. There are no objections.

Michelle Behrend proposes that we appoint AS Pocock as our Auditors for 2022 financial year, seconded by Sam Bendzulla and Alex Marsh.

Lorraine Tanner: "No Objection but suggests we cast the net wider for the future and look at other auditors."

9. DIRECTORS REPORT 2021 (Executive Director - Lorraine Tanner)

Presented by Lorraine Tanner.

(see addendum)

10. VOTE: BOARD'S AUTHORITY TO ACT

Voting opens online, on the eBallot platform, as set up by Diaan Nel.

Michelle Behrend: "How do we lodge proxies?"



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Faldelah Fletcher: “Proxies are disclosed, and we all can see who holds proxies.”

Sam Bendzulla: Proxy forms have been sent to MemSec prior to the AGM - where the proxy reflects a vote instruction it will be captured as such; where the authority to vote is assigned to the appointed proxy the proxy is to email MemSec with the instruction.

Voting remains open until noon.

Mali thanks everyone and the meeting closes at 12h09.

AGM 2021 - Directors' Report

(Aug 2020 - July 2021)

It was another cycle, with too many weird default world weeks in our calendar, a lack of dust in our eyes, and one in which we tragically lost dear friends and contributors. It began in earnest with two immediate focal areas in operations:

We continued our online community engagement - participating in Burning Man's Multiverse with a range of online activations and at least one stage, of mainly South African content that was packed with participants from around the world.

This was promptly followed by a boon of funding from the National Arts Council, which enabled us to continue to expand Streetopia in 2020 as a hybrid/virtual sister project eTopia. Concurrent live activations in Ikhutseng, Northern Cape; Vosloorus, Gauteng; Lower Main Road, Observatory; and the Chillaz sound stage at the Junction Hotel, converged on our very own HomeBurn online streaming platform, with support by our favourite pirates at Radio Free Tankwa. Content recorded in the run up to the day involved more arts activations in Muizenberg and Mahikeng with around 70 artists and crew in our extended community benefitting from the project. It was witnessed by a fair few hundred viewers across the different platforms used.

The second push was assembling and perambulating the wagons at Anti-climax for the epic trek from Stonehenge in the Northern Cape to Quaggafontein in the Western Cape. Though only 30 kms as the crow flies, the traverse was, in part, an obstacle race requiring keen navigation around and through an array of challenges. Most notably, in order to walk our talk in leaving no trace, going beyond the call of duty and indeed the call of nature, our intrepid core of DPW ended up dealing with everyone's shit. Many lessons were learnt and many many wet wipes later, our collective sense of humour was all but pumped out.

With these triumphs under our belts, we set our sights on a Field Trip at Quaggafontein, but by January the second wave of COVID forced us to hang fire, despite our dusty wonderland coming into focus.

Back online we'd been having a stab at some courageous conversations on gender equity, diversity and inclusion, access to the arts and generally where AfrikaBurn intersects with the cultural sector and South African society. We joined the Burning Man Regional Network on the Kindling platform presenting sessions on Land and on Radical Inclusion, Diversity and Equity.

But Quaggafontein galloped through our imagination, and as soon as the summer heat began to abate a teeny bit, the creative endeavours took off, literally. Leveraging the funding secured from the National Lotteries Commission for green infrastructure, permaculture and habitat restoration, we embarked on our inaugural EcoTrip- a gathering at the farmstead beginning our permaculture practice at home, discussions and learnings on biodiversity and circular economy, over the easter weekend. Our first public outing on the new land was quickly followed by some creative community outings on the proposed event site.

The infrastructure development continued on the farmstead, while plans for the event site were walked, plotted, mapped, discussed and drawn up.

Going further afield into our geographical communities, with the support of the Presidential Employment Stimulus Programme, we helped to birth three new creative projects into their concept and development phases. Imbadu - symbolised as a potjie pot of ideas and actions - a project initially earmarked by ArtCom for financial support "as and when" - became a week long multidisciplinary community arts programme for local youth in Steynsburg, Eastern Cape that culminated in an event on a purpose built community stage.

In Sutherland, a mostly female team under the auspices of SKOP - Sutherland Kuns en Ontwikkelings Projek - experimented with indigenous building methods under the guidance of first nations consultants from the Mantis crew, combined with repurposing of waste materials in the creation of shelter. It began a wider exploration of the climates of Tankwa and Sutherland.

Sleepyhead III provided an opportunity for an all-female team to develop the next iteration of a large semi-permanent sculpture in the Tankwa, based out of the Junction Hotel. It was also a turn for many of the women in the operations team to put down their spreadsheets and be creative with their hands as well as their brains.

Because this was a concept and development phase the culmination manifested in an exhibition of process work under the moniker "Pot SKOP and Slaap" at the Junction Hotel, where talks were given by key participating artists. Some 50 individuals received job opportunities as part of these projects.

Pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps, the ops team catalysed the individual giving campaign that involved a range of fund and fun- raising activities and events - including story-telling, a fashion show and documentary screenings at the Junction, as well as a campaign anchored to our donations website. During this period, we had over 300 individuals contribute and we received over R460 000 with 76% of contributions directly to the organisation.

Leveraging donations through our Section 18A status, which comprises categories of public benefit programming - we were able to continue bursary provision for the high school learners from Elandsvlei attending Calvinia High School. These efforts will continue to be a key component of our resourcing model into the future.

As an aside, I hope we've all taken the time to view the stunning array of beautiful websites in the AfrikaBurn stable over the last while. These offer a fresh look and feel, and scope to segment, elevate and visually articulate our vision and mission through the variety of projects the organisation helps to propel.

There were again departures and arrivals within the core operations team, and the loss of stalwarts was replenished with fresh ideas, expertise and experiments and a swathe of volunteer support. Members voted in three new NEDs - Lungile, Mali and Ralph, to complement Nic and Roger - and some Board committees also stepped up in key areas to close portfolio gaps.

We marched to the penguins at the kindly gifted Boulders Beach Hotel for Bosberaad, for a much needed get together. For those that could make it in person, it was a chance to remember the humans we are being and want to be, under the disco lights.

But we can't ignore the impact of lockdown, nor can we overlook the need for consistent work of building a resilient organisation. We ended the year on a significant low, with the conclusion of a six-month retrenchment process - this was sad but necessary to meet the legal requirements that we keep sufficient funds, to pay out the team what was due in their employment contracts, while the reserves were available. It was a pragmatic yet nonetheless debilitating blow for a battle-weary operations team - fortunately, as planned, most were subsequently brought back in, on a contractor basis.

We did however, look forward to new women's empowerment programmes already in the pipeline - Resilience In Shared Endeavour, an immersive experience at Quaggafontein and Hammerschool DPW skills transfer in a public art context at Junction Hotel, Salt River. These received funding in this cycle for execution in the next. And another EcoTrip! We looked towards our community that we love to love, continuing sharing its magic in new and invigorated ways, tackling society's challenges in the confluence of the sweet waters of celebration and activism.

And as always with our community front of mind, we embarked on an attitudinal survey about the possibility of returning to the desert for real in 2022.

In a year even more unprecedented than the previous one, we're drawn to the wise words of Dr Sibongile Khumalo, our first lady of song, who also passed during this time:

Ubuntu tells us that we are links in a circle, and that the circle is as strong as the links that keep it connected. Communities are as strong as the individuals who are part of it. Strong and healthy links keep the circle tightly knit. And so, for our times, the communities we find ourselves in, whether by kinship, fellowship or work-related fraternities, are the circles we need to keep in as healthy a state as possible. They are the circles that we need to empower with knowledge so that we keep the broader community knowledgeable and informed about local and broader issues for its development and prosperity.

That responsibility rests with all of us.

Lorraine Tanner
Executive Director (one day of Development again)