

**Date and time:** Thursday 10 September 2020 – 5:30pm

**Location:** Heathcote Cultural Precinct, Applecross and via Zoom

**Attendees:** (In Person) Christen Bell, Natalie Evans, Ann Curran, Michelle Hobbs, Robert Mitchell, Julie Lunn, Sam Beard, Claire Savage

(Via Zoom) Amy Rumble, Rikki Clarke, Prue Griffin, Jenny Scott, Ana Doria Buchan, Jessica Davies, Alana Part, Anne Chapple, Geoff Moor, Jacqui Sherriff, Julianne Mackay, Ros Currie

Apologies: Jane King, Erica Persak

<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Officer Responsible</b>
5:30pm	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting opened at 5.30 with committee members, nominees and staff attending in person and a number of members attending via Zoom.</li> <li>Welcome by President Christen Bell.</li> <li>Apologies were listed</li> <li>Confirmation of the minutes of the previous General Meeting – minutes were circulated to Zoom participants and were adopted.</li> <li>There was no business arising from the previous meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>Christen Bell (President)</p> <p>Endorsed: Christen Bell</p> <p>Seconded: Jessica Davies</p>
	<p>President's Report of 2019/20 events and activities</p> <p>Christen wanted to say a special thank you to Alex Marsden the National Director of AMaGA who has tendered her resignation and will be leaving the organisation once the new Director has been recruited.</p> <p><b>Documents:</b></p> <p><a href="#">President's Report</a></p>	<p>Christen Bell (President)</p>
	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p><b>Documents:</b></p> <p><a href="#">Financial Reports 2018</a></p>	<p>Ann Curran (Treasurer)</p>
	<p><b>Election of new Committee Members</b></p> <p>The president thanked all of the committee members and particularly those outgoing members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Michelle Hobbs</li> <li>Jenny Scott</li> <li>Jenna Dodge</li> <li>Jane King</li> </ul>	<p>Christen Bell (President)</p> <p>Claire Savage (Returning Officer)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ellen Parrick (who resigned from the Board during the year)</li> </ul> <p>Christen also thanked Soula Veyradier who had completed a twelve-month term as the immediate Past President. He thanked her for her ongoing contribution and dedication to the organisation.</p> <p>We were very pleased to see that there were 13 nominations for committee positions suggesting ongoing support for the organisation.</p> <p>There were four vacancies on the committee. Those elected were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jenny Scott (re-elected) nominated and accepted as Vice President</li> <li>• Jane King (re-elected)</li> <li>• Ann Curran – nominated and accepted as Treasurer</li> <li>• Prue Griffin</li> </ul> <p>Amy Rumble was nominated and accepted as Secretary</p>	
	<p>The year to come</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome and introductions</li> <li>• An overview of the proposed training and services to come</li> <li>• High level overview of the Advocacy and Resilience project.</li> <li>• Thanking the membership for their patience during the transition period.</li> </ul> <p><b>Documents:</b></p> <p><a href="#">AMaGA Western Australia Six Month Calendar</a></p>	<p>Claire Savage (Executive Director)</p>
	<p><b>Questions from members</b></p> <p>Geoff Moor asked a question about the provision of training for the metro area for Collections WA and Open the Doors. It was explained that these programs are funded for regional delivery but there will be a Collections WA program presented in Melville in February 2021.</p>	<p>Staff Committee</p>
	<p>Close of meeting</p>	<p>(President)</p>

## Attachment 1

### Presidents 2020 AMaGAWA General Meeting Report

Good evening and thank you all for attending the AMaGAWA General Meeting. This year's General Meeting has been delayed because of the cancellation of the AMaGA AGM in May and its rescheduling to 30 May. The AMaGAWA By-Laws state that the AMaGAWA General Meeting shall be held within six weeks of the AMaGA AGM.

## 2019

### AMaGA National Highlights

- The new AMaGA branding was rolled out.
- AMaGA celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- The AMaGA National Conference was held in Alice Springs. The AMaGA national president, Dr Robin Hirst, in his report to the AGM stated the conference “presented us all with unexpected challenges. The conversations were frank, and often confronting, as we encountered each other’s situations and all tried to gently move the conversation forward through better understanding of different experiences and viewpoints. There was enormous goodwill and a willingness to listen and to learn.”
- First Peoples: A Roadmap for Enhancing Indigenous Engagement in Museums and Galleries was launched and distributed to members and key cultural organisations and Government Agencies.
- The launch of a new professional development webinar program.

### AMaGA WA Highlights

- AMaGAWA did not received funding through the Arts Organisations Investment Program.
- Collections WA and its training program were being developed in partnership with WAM.
- A Lotterywest Grant of \$301,655 was received by AMaGAWA to develop and deliver the Collections WA training across WA.
- The Open the Doors program delivered professional skills training to remote and regional collecting organisations. Training was delivered in Kalgoorlie, Albany, York and Geraldton.
- Members Month was held in August, which included a successful membership drive that saw us surpass our 2018 membership growth.
- The AMaGA 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary birthday party was held at the Museum of Perth.
- We reviewed and updated the Branches’ by-laws
- AMaGAWA received a Lotterywest grant which allowed us to distribute over \$50,000 in bursaries to attend the State Heritage and History Conference.

- AMaGAWA held a successful Cultivate networking breakfast at the State Heritage and History Conference.
- A number of important social events were held across the year including Cultivate Events and the End of Year Party at the Mt Lawley Bowles Club.
- A new Great Southern Chapter formed
- AMaGA WA Staff attended cultural competency training for the Goldfields Region. AMaGA WA is committed to attending this training in all regions that we visit, to show respect to traditional owners, to listen and to take the first step in building new relationships.

All that we achieved in 2019 would not have been possible without the support of many people and organisations. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the following for their support:

- Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.
- Western Australian Museum, with special thanks to Alex Coles, Roz Lipscombe, Danny Murphy and Clare-Frances Craig.
- Lotterywest, with special thanks to Shireen Watson, for their ongoing support of the sector.
- Western Australian Local Government Association.
- The AMaGA National Office team led by Alex Marsden (National Director).
- The AMaGA National Council led by Dr Robin Hirst (President).
- Art on the Move.
- Aboriginal Arts Centre Hub of Western Australia.
- Artsource.
- The businesses who support us by providing discounts for our members.
- The amazing AMaGA WA staff of Natalie Evans (Executive Director), Jess Davies (Project and Communications Co-Ordinator) and Julie Lunn (Collections WA).
- All who have served on the AMaGA WA Committee in 2019, Soula Veyradier, Ailin Chen-Van Leeuwen, Jacqui Sherriff, Robert Mitchell Jenny Scott, Jane King, Ann Curran, Ana Doria Buchan, Rikki Clarke, Michelle Hobbs, Jenna Dodge, Amy Rumble, Julianne McKay, Erica Persek and Ellen Parrick. Your contribution to this member's organisation is greatly appreciated.
- The AMaGA WA volunteers, Joy, Anne, Leigh and Clair.
- Finally our members who we would be nothing without. Your commitment to the organisation is greatly appreciated and everything we do is to help you care for and share your amazing collections.

2019 was a highly productive year for AMaGA and AMaGAWA, one that we intend to build on in 2020. This can only be achieved by having an active and engaged membership who are vocal in what

they expect from AMaGA and support the professional development and networking events held by the organisation be it at a national, branch or chapter level.

We look forward to working with you all in 2020.

Regards

Christen Bell

Chair AMaGAWA Branch Committee

## **2020 AMaGAWA Update**

Needless to say, 2020 has thrown up some big challenges for the organisation and our members. COVID-19 has affected AMaGA in a variety of ways depending on where you are in the country.

AMaGAWA has strived to keep building on the successes of 2019 but circumstances have made this challenging. Here is an update on key national and branch events.

### **AMaGA**

- The PD webinar program was ramped up and provided a variety of topics for our members to engage with.
- The National Office was closed down and staff told to work from home. This meant several operational and IT upgrades were made to ensure the continued running of the office.
- The 2020 National conference was deferred to 2021 and the Perth conference deferred to 2022.
- A number of surveys were sent out to track the impact of COVID-19 on members and this data has been used in a number of reports and submissions to government agencies who are exploring ways to provide support to different sectors of the community.
- Alex Marsden (National Director) has tendered her resignation after five years in the positions. On behalf of the WA membership, staff and committee we would like to thank Alex for her leadership and support, particularly over the last ix months.
- Jane King and Deanne Fitzgerald joined the National Council.

### **AMaGAWA**

- The office was closed in March and staff worked from home for the next few months.
- Lotterywest funding was successfully applied for to develop an advocacy package for members and to assist with some strategic planning for the committee.
- Training and advice was offered remotely to members.

- Collections WA was launched by the Minister for Local government, Heritage; Culture and the Arts Hon David Templeman and a number of online and in-person training sessions have been held.
- The 2021 Conference Committee was suspended. Now that we have a new date for the Perth Conference a new committee will be formed. If you would like to be involved in preparing for the 2022 national conference please either contact me directly or through the AMaGAWA office.
- There have been some staff changes. Natalie Evans is on maternity leave and Claire Savage has taken up the position of Executive Director during this time. Jessica Davies resigned and is now working at Revolutions and Sam Beard was employed as the new Events and Professional Development Officer. Julie Lunn is still with us working hard on the Collections WA project and now has help from Lizzy Doepel our new Collections WA training officer.
- We are currently homeless due to the A Shed been earmarked for redevelopment as a brewery. The committee and staff are currently exploring new office arrangements. Fortunately the COVID-19 lockdown earlier in the year has prepared the staff for working in a flexibly environment and we thank them for their patience as we sort this situation out.

## Thank you

Take this opportunity to pass on the thanks and best wishes of the committee and the membership to:

- Natalie Evans for new adventures in motherhood. We all look forward to seeing you when you return in 2021
- Jess Davies as she moves on in her professional museum journey. Thank you

To the 2019 committee members who are moving on, Ellen Parrick, Jenna Dodge and Michelle Hobbs, thank you all for everything that you contributed to the AMaGAWa Committee. Your input was invaluable and the committee will miss you all. We also hope that in the future you will all consider putting your names forward again as you are leaders within the sector and have so much to contribute.

To our members, thank you for your support in 2019 and in 2020. I have said it before and I will say it again, without you AMaGA is nothing. Your support though taking out a membership, attending workshops, attending networking/social events, calling us for advice is why we are here. We are in a period of time where we have the opportunity to really make our voice heard. With international travel restrictions likely to remain for some time, Australian's will be exploring their own backyards more and more. We will be developing an advocacy kit for us as an industry to point out that, we as an industry will play a vital role in this new landscape. So again, thank you all for being members and I look forward to hopefully seeing many of you in person at our end of year event.

## Attachment 2

### **Treasurer's Report to Annual Meeting of AMaGA WA**

The 2019 year for AMaGA resulted in an overall deficit of \$124,846. The 2019 closing equity of the Association is \$280,598 (2018: \$405,444).

The deficit result was driven by unbudgeted increases in operating expenses, and highlighted the need for a uniform approach to project management. The 2019 audit process included a comprehensive review of the Association's financial and reporting systems which will continue through 2020.

AMaGA WA contributed to the final result by returning an operating deficit of \$38,485.

The WA Branch deficit was the result, in large part, of underperforming Professional Development Services income and cost overruns due to an unscheduled delay in a key service delivery project.

Nationally, membership income for 2019 was in total \$309,583, a 10.5% increase on the previous year. At the end of 2019 there were 623 Organisational Members and 747 Individual Members resulting in a total of 1370 members. During the year there were 264 new members and a retention rate of 82%, representing 1% membership growth.

The National Conference, held in Alice Springs, returned a surplus of \$38,056, or 7% of the Conference turnover. This surplus allows the Association to provide additional services and benefits to members, particularly in the area of professional development services. The Conference surplus also reflects the hundreds of volunteer hours generously provided by the members of the organising committee and subcommittees.

Since the 2019 year end the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the operation of museums and galleries around the world. The magnitude of the pandemic and its financial effects cannot be quantified at this time but may impact negatively on the Association's cashflows. However, current financial modelling suggests that AMaGA has sufficient reserves to operate throughout 2020, thanks in part to relief provided by JobKeeper and other state-based cashflow relief programs.

The Treasurer acknowledges and thanks the Executive Director, Natalie Evans, and her team, the WA Branch Committee and the WA members and volunteers for their many contributions to the organisation.

## Attachment 3

### AMAGA WA 6 Month Calendar

#### Collections WA

October – Kalgoorlie

October - Geraldton

October - Carnamah

November – Manjimup

November – Albany

April/May – Broome

April/May –Port Hedland

Possibly Carnarvon and Derby

#### Open the Doors

Program in development and will be linked to Collections WA where possible

October – Carnamah

November – Manjimup

April/May – Broome

Possibly Derby

#### Cultivate/Networking

28 October – event at City Farm

Looking at how we can have a Christmas Function within the COVID guidelines