

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) – KZNSA

Date: 2024

Location: KZNSA Gallery & Zoom Hybrid

Chair: Mark Polina (President)

Minutes Prepared By: Ingrid Bamberg

1. Welcome & Apologies

- The meeting was called to order by Mark Polina.
 - Attendees were welcomed.
 - Final opportunity to present proxy votes was given.
 - Apologies received: Richard, Cheryl Penn. These were formally recorded.
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2. Adoption of Agenda

- The agenda had been circulated prior to the meeting.
 - No additional matters were raised.
 - The agenda was adopted as presented.
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3. Ratification of Previous Minutes

- Minutes from the 2023 AGM were circulated.
 - No objections were raised.
 - Motion to ratify the 2023 minutes:
 - Moved by: Bruce
 - Seconded by: Dory and others
 - **Outcome:** 2023 minutes ratified.
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4. President's Report – Mark Polina

- Mark reflected on his 4.5 years as President, highlighting challenges such as:
 - COVID-19 (2020), lockdowns & unrest (2021), floods (2022), and ongoing financial instability.
- Shared optimism due to:
 - Increased member engagement
 - New funding sources

- Strong exhibition programming
 - Expressed gratitude to:
 - Angela Shaw (Executive Director), Council and fundraising teams (especially Paul), Exhibition Committee (notably Rachel), artists, staff, and volunteers.
 - Emphasised:
 - Continued member ownership and engagement
 - Staff sacrifices and commitment
 - Visionary, inclusive leadership
 - Reaffirmed KZNSA as a community hub for Glenwood and Durban.
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5. Executive Director's Report – Angela Shaw

- Thanked core team and council members.
 - Acknowledged a slow start to the year and post-COVID disconnection.
 - Expressed excitement about new council nominees.
 - Shared highlights from her Master's research on KZNSA's sustainability in the nonprofit sector.
 - Emphasised the importance of members as the ecosystem's core.
 - Announced:
 - A members' meeting on Sunday, 27th for collaborative exhibition planning.
 - A new digital membership portal (thanks to Steve Jones) featuring online sign-ups, automated renewals, and digital cards.
 - Reaffirmed the transformation agenda and call for deeper member relationships.
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6. Fundraising Committee Report

- Background: A special fundraising committee was established following the previous AGM.
- **Key initiatives and outcomes:**
 - **Immediate Debt Relief:**
 - Donations appeal
 - Membership drive
 - BackaBuddy campaign raised R50,000
 - **Membership Platform:**

- Developed in collaboration with Steve Jones; launch post-AGM
 - **Fundraising Events:**
 - Events held during the year raised R34,000
 - **Media Engagement:**
 - Increased press visibility and awareness-building
 - **Proposals and Partnerships:**
 - R1.4 million grant proposal to the KZN Department (pending)
 - Engagement with the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
 - **Findings:**
 - Donor fatigue evident; strategic partnerships now a priority
 - Cross-sector collaboration has been a strength
 - **Next Steps:**
 - Launch of Financial Sustainability Plan:
 - Review of business units: Café, Gallery, Shop, etc.
 - Specific funding targets (e.g., roof repairs, playground)
 - Strategy shift from emergency appeals to targeted investment
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7. Gallery Report – Presented by Rachel

- Delivered on behalf of the Gallery Committee: Tobi Shange, Ingrid Bamberg, Greer Valley, Niamh Walsh Vorster, Angela Shaw, and Paige Hadebe.
- Noted the lack of a full-time curator at the year's start; praised Paige for stepping in.
- **Exhibition Highlights (2023–2024):**
 - “Kumnyama Kubomvu” by Clive Sithole – Curated by Tina Miya
 - “In a Bind” and exhibition by Rohini and Mfezeko Gumada, curate by Rohini.
 - BuzzArt 2023 – “MADE”
 - Bazobuya - “They Will Come Back” – Curated by Lawrence Lemaana and Mary Sibande (mentorship program)
 - Rust-en-Vrede Portrait Award 2023
 - Investec Cape Town Art Fair participation – Financial success
 - “Reflections of Apollo” – group exhibition
 - “Mphendla Ndlela” – Solo show by Thami Jali

- Annual Members' Award – “A visual prose” Exhibition – Blind judging rubric; awards to Jess Bothma, Robert Bolter, Sam Gididza, KZNSA award: Lukile Mzayiya. Judges: Russel Hlongwane, Sthenjwa Luthuli, Tsosheletso Chidi
- “Undying Faces” – Michelle Stewart
- “Kwasukasukela” – An exhibition by Ande Magoso and Sibusiso Mthembu
- “Primordial” – Pauline Gutter
- uMqombothi, uBhokweni neJuba – group exhibition, curated by Russel Hlongwane and Tammy Langtry
- “Art Connection: Bremen–Johannesburg”
- Fundraiser: “A house is not a Home...” (Members and community based artists exhibition), curated by the exhibition subcommittee
- “Unlocking the Umgeni Estuary” – PhD exhibition by Ingrid Adams
- “Dear Mr. President” – Interactive project, curated by Bren Brophy and Harry Lock
- “A Glass Darkly” – Solo by Adelle Van Zyl
- “In the Making” – Non site art collective, curated by Dr. Adelheid Frackiewicz, Davina de Beer, Franli Meintjies
- Alka Dass solo, “Can I tell you something” – Previous Members award winner 2023
- “Aluta Continua” – Constitutional Court Art Collection
- “Beyond the Surface” – UNISA Visual Arts graduate exhibition, curated by Rohini
- **Looking Forward:**
 - Improved financial stability
 - Plan to recruit a full-time curator
 - Invitation to participate in BUZZART 2024: Sisonke & the members group show

8. Council Nominations & Voting

- Voting process explained for in-person and Zoom attendees.
- Each member received one vote (per person or proxy).
- Ballots distributed; online votes submitted via direct message.
- Nominees introduced with brief motivations:

Nominee	Nominator(s) & Summary
Rohini Amratlal	Niamh & Rachel – Artist, curator, inclusive leader
Rachel Baasch	Self-nominated – Community-focused
Sanele Balintaba	Niamh – Design/business experience
Ingrid Bamberg	Self-nominated
Richard Gevers	Paul – Nonprofit, governance expertise
Paul Jones	Marc
Ismail Mohamed	Marc
Fatima Kathrada	Jess Bothma
Nondumiso Mbambo	Marc
Bandile Mbuli	Robin Moodley
Onwell Msomi	Rachel
Jennifer Norins	Marc
Shan Thomson	Niamh

- **Voting was conducted; results announced later in the meeting.**

9. Membership and Marketing Reflections

- **Robin Moodley** reflected on the portfolio:
 - Highlighted declining membership and financial deficits.
 - Identified lack of collaboration with young artists, contributing to alternative spaces emerging.
- **Proposals:**
 - Rebuilding institutional core aligned with the vision and mission.
 - Hire a senior curator and educational officer to foster sectoral relationships.
- Honorary Memberships (lifetime): Ian Ewok, Russel Hlongwane, Monique
- Change of membership fees – an opportunity was given to members to object changes

10. Proposed Changes to the Constitution

- **Marc** introduced proposed changes:

- Included reappointment terms and conflict of interest clauses.
 - Aim to prevent economic benefit by Council members and ensure transparency.
 - Suggested aligning with SA's NPO governance code and drafting a Board Charter within 30 days.
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11. Discussion on Constitution Changes

- supported urgent adoption for governance integrity.
 - proposed adoption via by-law structure, not constitutional amendments.
 - suggested a 30-day reflection period for members.
 - **Consensus reached:**
 - Adopt proposed changes **interim**, to be superseded by the forthcoming **Board Code of Conduct**.
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9. Council Elected for 2025 Term

- **President:** Elizabeth Ampofo
 - **Vice President:** Rachel Baasch
 - **Secretary:** Niamh Walsh Vorster
 - **Treasurer:** Onwell Msomi
 - **Council Members:**
Thobi Shange, Rohini Amratlal, Ismail Mahomed,
Nondumiso Mbambo, Bandile Koketso Mbuli,
Richard Gevers, Paul Jones, Robin Moodley
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10. Other Business

- Reminder: Exhibition planning session on Sunday, 27th – all welcome.
 - No further matters raised from the floor.
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11. Closing Remarks

- Outgoing President Mark Polina gave thanks and farewell.
- Angela Shaw closed with renewed emphasis on:
 - Sustainability
 - Transformation

- Member engagement
 - Meeting concluded on a positive, forward-looking note.
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Meeting Adjourned

Minutes to be confirmed and ratified at the next AGM.