 **MINUTES OF THE**

**MHSA FEDERAL COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY 6 DEC 21**

**Location:** Zoom Pro Conference facilitated by the Federal President located in Canberra.

**Present: *Nigel Webster (Chairperson), Justin Chadwick, Ian Curtis, Neil Dearberg, Elizabeth Hobbs, David Kemp, Leigh Ryan, Ian Stagoll, Russell Paten, Russell Linwood (Secretary).***

**Apologies**: ***Terry Dineen, Katrina Kittel, Tom King.***

**Welcome by Chair:** ***Nigel Webster*** opened the meeting at 7.47pm AEDST.

**Previous Minutes:**

That the Minutes of the previous Federal Council meeting held on 10 Oct 21, be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: ***Nigel Webster*** Seconded: ***Neil Dearberg***

Motion CARRIED.

After they have been approved at the next Federal Council meeting in February 2022, these minutes will be published on the MHSA website (as per the Federal Council Minute 9 of 25 March 2019).

**Business Arising:**

Nil.

**Key Correspondence:**

*Out***:** Nil

*In***: photofixa.com.au** is a photograph restoration business established on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland servicing clients Australia wide. Mr James C. Robertson SA (Fin) specialises in the restoration of old, antique, and damaged photographs including WW1 and WW2 memorabilia. **(*Nigel Webster*** to circulate to all branches**)**

**Election of new FC Executive**

**President: *Ian Curtis*** took the Chair to manage the election of President for calendar year 2022.

***Nigel Webster*** was nominated by ***Russell Linwood;*** seconded by ***Neil Dearberg.***

In the absence of other nominations, ***Nigel Webster*** was duly elected President and took the chair.

**Vice-President: *Russell Paten*** was nominated by ***Neil Dearberg;*** seconded by ***Russell Linwood*.**

In the absence of other nominations, ***Russell Paten*** was duly elected Vice-President.

**Secretary:** ***Russell Linwood*** self- nominated and in the absence of other nominations was duly elected Secretary.

**Treasurer: *Justin Chadwick*** was nominated by ***Nigel Webster*;** seconded by ***Neil Dearberg*.**

In the absence of other nominations, ***Justin Chadwick*** was duly elected Treasurer.

**General Business**

**Rules**

Given the acceptance of the new Constitution at the 2021 AGM, ***Leigh Ryan*** pointed out that its inclusion of the previous Rules meant that there is in effect, now only one Rule. It was agreed, for accurate historical reporting, that the new Rules document will accompany the new Constitution on its release and include the revoked rules as an Annex. The draft 2021 Rules content and layout were agreed by consensus, and this will achieve greater consistency for the future.

*Action*: Secretary to accordingly publish these as the 2021 Rules.

**Strategic/Business Plan**

***Russell Linwood*** reminded the Council that the proposed Strategic/Business Plan had not yet been formally adopted despite several iterations and updates with significant input from ***Neil Dearberg***. Brief discussion about the wisdom of having such a plan at Society level led to agreement that the proposed plan, labelled **MHSA Business Plan 2022** be adopted forthwith. This was agreed by consensus and will assist the MHSA planning for the future.

*Action*: Secretary to publish.

**Sabretache Writer’s Prize**

***Nigel Webster*** spoke briefly to this (dormant) reward mechanism and advised the meeting that it will be re-activated as an incentive/reward to encourage high-quality submissions to Sabretache. With input from the Editor ***Justin Chadwick***, he proposed a probable award for the best 2021 submission. This was strongly endorsed by meeting participants.

*Action*: ***Nigel Webster*** to coordinate a possible award in conjunction with ***Justin Chadwick*** for 2021, and also place a refresher advertisement of the award itself in *Sabretach*e, and on the website for 2022.

**Military Spectacular – 2022 MHSA Conference 14-16 Oct 22**

***Neil Dearberg*** updated the meeting on planning developments for this seminal event to be held at Caloundra RSL, managed by QLD Division on behalf of the Society. Numerous high-quality speakers are engaged, and further suggestions were encouraged particularly from the RAN. The conference will focus on the ADF post-Vietnam. He commended ***Russell Paten’s*** integral role as the event operations/financial officer, and others on the QLD Branch team who are very actively engaged in preparation. The FC was requested to maximise publicity and support, especially drawing Society members and as many other contacts as possible to the event website at <https://militaryspectacular.events/> where registration of interest can be made. It was emphasised that such registration was NOT a confirmed commitment to attend, but a means of obtaining ongoing information. Of course, formal registration for the event will soon be possible once that detail is promulgated. Nigel Webster strongly encouraged participation and congratulated the QLD Branch planning team for their work to date on this event.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 8.12pm.

**Next Federal Council meeting will be at 7:00 pm AEDST on 28 Feb 22, with other dates to follow to be advised soonest.**

*Cleared by Nigel Webster – President on 8 Dec 21*