

Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce

Minutes of 11th Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 11th September 2012

At The Business Heart at 7.00 p.m.

MINUTES

Present:

Gerard and Sue Walker (Stewarts Menswear), Kane Spooner (Spaghetti Circus inc), Alan Morden (advertising), Kim Rosen (Brunswick Heads Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Centre), Stephen Hall and Susan Tsicalas (Brunswick Valley Historical Society), Lisa Every (The Business Heart), Jenelle and Dean Stanford (Mullumbimby Newsagency), David Piesse, Judy McDonald, Arthur and Margaret Hatch (Mooyabil Farm Holidays)

Apologies:

Paul Medieros (Edens Landing)

Thank you to Lisa Every for allowing us to use her venue, The Business Heart, for this meeting and thanks to Chloe for hosting us.

Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- 1.1 The Committee confirmed the Minutes of the 10th meeting held on Tuesday 14th August 2012 as true and accurate (m) David Piesse (s) Susan Tsicalas

2 Treasurers Report

- 2.1 Attached. Balance \$2912.06

3 Business Arising

- 3.1 Alan Morden meeting to be organised for next week.
- 3.2 Chincogan race. David has been in contact with his neighbours who would be willing to allow the race to go through their properties. Ross Tucker is also agreeable. Suggested Vince Devine may slash a route as he has done in the past. In previous years there were problems with people doing test runs/training on the track. Access would be for race day only. Insurance would be the only issue. DA funding for road closures through council section 356 funds. Need to apply in advance. There was also a suggestion that incorporating Dr Suresh's name as part of the race may be appropriate.
- 3.3 Need to form a sub-committee to ask community groups for expressions of interest to form a committee to be involved in Chincogan Race. Sub-committee to be formed at next meeting. Kim reinforced to the meeting that sub-committees are the way to go to get things done and also suggested that objectives of the event be formed at the first meeting.
- 3.4 Susan Tsicalas gave dates for next year's Byron Shire Relay for Life in Mullumbimby. 16th and 17th March 2013.
- 3.5 Kim Rosen gave us a suggestion for a festival. Bike Week is in September and funding is available from the RTA. Has been done in Brunswick Heads previously. Kim provided information to the Committee.
- 3.6 A sub-committee was formed to look at organising Carols by Candlelight. Members of this sub-committee are Jenelle Stanford and Margaret Hatch. Jenelle to approach Ellen Briggs to assist.
- 3.7 David Piesse requested permission to write a letter on the Chamber's behalf to Don Page, Christian Party and Shooters Party about Mullum Hospital Video Doctor proposal.

- 3.8** Kane Spooner talked about 20 year anniversary celebrations for Spaghetti Circus. More information next meeting.
- 3.9** Spaghetti Circus AGM is in November. They are seeking members of the business community to be involved on their committee in a bid to connect with the broader community.
- 3.10** Alan Morden spoke about his identity plans for Mullumbimby. Alan has lived here for 10 years and sees Mullumbimby as the soul of the shire. Hope to create an identity for Mullumbimby which will be used as an umbrella to give us all the same voice. A website is an important part of this plan.
Kim Rosen spoke about Brunswick Heads identity "Simple Pleasures". It is the single most important thing for cohesion between groups. Makes the vision clear and everything else falls into place.
Alan would love to help Mullumbimby as well. Fee would be what we can afford. Brunswick Heads paid \$5000.00 but they obtained a grant for part of it. Maybe we could approach local philanthropists for funding?
- 3.11** Kim spoke about developing a Tourism Management Plan. Kim provided the template for Brunswick Plan for us to follow. Suggested Basil Cameron may be able to assist. Plan should be reviewed every 4 years. Kim will try to find the Mullumbimby plan from 2006. It included such things as: streetscape, civic hall park area beautification, roundabout beautification, Mullum under the Stars event, Business Survey.
- 3.12** Kim was asked "How did Brunswick manage to get so many people involved?" In 1999 there were 13 empty shops in Brunswick and morale was extremely low. They started the Kites and Bikes Festival to bring everyone together – business and community worked together. Then they looked at the streetscape and planned with council to fund a loan to widen the footpaths for outdoor dining. The Old and Gold Festival was born and there are now 11 second hand shops in Brunswick.
Kim suggested a photo display representing the community's idea of Mullumbimby.
- 3.13** Soraya has approached Gerard. He would like to present his ideas to the Chamber about art and sculpture displays in Mullumbimby. Kim said this had been part of the plan in 2006.
- 3.14** Community Gardens festival may need some assistance.
- 3.15** Kim talked about the Visitor Centre in Brunswick being vital. They started as a combined project office/visitor centre with work for the dole participants (this bought funding).
- 3.16** Discussion again about use of the Telstra building as a visitor centre. Council have called for expressions of interest however this has happened twice in the past, been granted to two groups, but never eventuated. Chamber needs to put pressure on Council to provide the facility at a peppercorn rent. Should the centre be run by a not for profit community group or does chamber want to do it? Would need to look at income sources. VIA Byron may provide funding? Railway Station building would also be a good spot for visitor centre.
Judy McDonald (with assistance of Dean Stanford) to write a letter requesting Chamber representatives meet with council (Basil Cameron, Sol Ibrahim, Simon Richardson, Diane Woods) to discuss.

Meeting Closed 9.25 p.m.

Next meeting 9th October 2012 at Mullumbimby Museum 7.00p.m.