



NIMBIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Inc
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MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday 04 May 2020, by Zoom

Meeting commenced 1730hrs
Acknowledgment of Country

1. **MINUTE TAKER:** David Spain
2. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Diana Roberts [President], Peter Hughes [Treasurer], David Spain [Secretary], Kylie Cain, Samantha Allen, **Apology:** Stephanie Seckold.
3. **CHAIRPERSON:** Diana Roberts
4. **NON-CONTENTIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** Nil
5. **MINUTES OF LAST COMMITTEE MEETING :**

The chairperson traversed the draft minutes of last committee meeting on 02-06-2020.

Peter / Kylie	That the draft minutes of 04-04-2020 be accepted.	Carried
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6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

SBVRL: Our request for LCC has been approved, so we can claim the allowance for this f/y and maybe even arrears for prior f/ys. We must render a statement every 6 months. David to apply for all funds held by council

Nimbin Roots Festival: Lou are proposing to proceed in September. Do not pay, or proffer to pay, grant as yet.

Mural Tins: Kylie has not been in town to collect.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

The secretary tabled a spreadsheet of correspondence:--

To / From	Item	Outcome
Nil		

8. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:**

9. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The treasurer tabled a report and advised that \$192 was collected from the tins and \$75 from Dave Hyett (membership arrears for current year).

Peter / Kylie	That the financial report be adopted	Carried
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10. APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP: Nil

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

Murals: The School of Arts has been hard-hit by Covid-19 (as all functions & hidings have ceased), so plans to upgrade middle mural have been suspended unless we pay for it all). Diana will discuss this suggestion with David Hallett.

Peter / Kylie	That we fund the entire S of A mural on condition that NSA reimburse all our outlay above \$2000 within a year	Carried
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Daizy’s mural -- Kara Forsyth is overseas and may be unable to contribute. Biskit to email her.

Website: It is our job to keep the website up-to-date. Sammi advised that she has assessed the situation and thinks she can manage uploading so long as she gets clear emails attaching the change details or documents. Has not yet managed to insert new structural categories. Biskit advised that she has a lot of photographic images in Dropbox that can be sorted, renamed and loaded into gallery. Peter advises that he also holds a lot of interesting images in a Nimbin historical book. Facebook has a study “Nimbin Soul”. Diana will work on identifying appropriate images

LCC Sport & Rec Plan: This refers to sporting generally within the villages, and specifically mentions Nimbin pool. Submissions can be made at LCC’s “Your Say” page.

Cecil Street Pedestrian works: Footpath is being constructed right along to showground, and a crossing with speed hump. Not finished yet.

Bushfire Recovery Fund: LCC received certain grant funds and applied them to 3 projects:-- A& I Society got a grant of \$440,000 to be applied to improving evacuation structure (including kitchens). Some turning circles & water reservoirs will be financed in negotiation with RFS

Local Strategic Planning Statement is on exhibition. It identifies areas of growth around Nimbin and suggests making a Master Plan with updated DCP & car-parking plan. We should indicate our support for this initiative. Diana to draft a letter.

Redevelopment of Fire Sites: David said Tuntable cannot afford the rebuilding and there is reluctance against borrowing more; moreover there are so many cafes in town that another one may be an economic burden. On-sale would be unrewarding in a declining market. So the best plan would be for Tuntable to float a new operating company, transfer the site & building approval to it in return for shares, issue a prospectus and invite local intentional communities to buy shares at (say) \$10,000 each. These shareholders could operate the kitchen for periods according to their shareholding, under strict rules and with payment of a set access fee, keeping any profit. This would allow them to showcase their community and have a pied-a-terre in town. Thus, the rebuilt Rainbow would be a cultural event. Biskit suggested that a bigger mortgage is the answer, or else initiate the DA and freeze the position or even on-sell. Diana said the Museum site developers were interested in unifying the museum and rainbow sites site but may be reconsidering their plans in the light of COVID and likely economic downturn for Nimbin for many years.

12. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: Diana said membership year commences on 01-07-2020. We should start a membership drive promoting our benefits, reminding & encouraging new members and membership renewals. Business NSW offers various benefits and members should be given a link to their site. Biskit said NCOC could help members apply for grants & setting up online shops. Biskit to draft a membership drive letter / flyer, showing online profiles etc. and a link to the NSWBC site. Peter suggested waiving membership fees for a year.

David / Kylie	That membership fees for members renewing from 01-07-2020 be set at nil	Carried
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13. **COVID-19 RESPONSE:** It may take a long time for Nimbin to recover, due to the constriction of tourism. The JobKeeper payments are only made in arrears. so employers have to pay their staff out of own funds for up to 6 weeks; but SCU is open to helping with bridging funds, but only through loans. Wed could organise a GM by Zoom with membership about recovery. Peter said online businesses, apothecary/chemists and gardening/ building supplies are doing well, but accommodation, travel & restaurants have been hit hard; there will be trouble when the government subsidy money runs out.

Biskit / Kylie	That Diana be thanked for her efforts and options for a GM be on our next agenda	Carried
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12. **LCC:** Last Thursday LCC live-streamed its meeting. It was all about finances as LCC's finances are dire. It has laid off 73 casual staff (as distinct from even giving Covid holidays or claiming JobKeeper) – not jobkeeper eligible and is reviewing its delivery of tourism services with a view to possibly moving out of VIC services. However LCC has received a \$5m grant so it can expend \$2m more on roads than the 2019-2020 year. Rates have been increased by 2.6% (set by State government) plus extra to offset a rates reduction for the Lismore CBD, which has been through flood-fire-flood-Covid and is losing financial viability. When the CBD was thriving, it paid higher rates and so is getting a scheduled restitution. The Nimbin Village MasterPlan is not scheduled to receive any funding (originally planned at \$120,000 but breakdown unknown), with only a vague possibility of a DCP review (\$30,000) There will be a small window where we can make submissions. Diana to consider drafting a submission

End: 1930hrs

Next NCOC Meeting -- Committee 5.30pm on Monday 01 June 2020 by Zoom (NCCI Diana to set up).

--- DWS