

Nimbin Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes - August 2024

Date: Monday, 29th July 2024

Time: 5.30pm

Location: Nimbin Bush Theatre/ Zoom

Opening Section

4. Call to Order

- o David Hyett, the Chairperson, officially called the meeting to order at 5.50pm.
- o Acknowledgement of Country was made by David Hyett.

5. Members Present: David Hyett (President), Aline Binetruy (Vice President), Ariescia Matheson (Treasurer), Ben Hartley (left at 7.20pm), Jeanne Platel, Caroline Todd (Zoom), Diana Roberts (OAM) and Nicole Lindner (Secretary).

6. Resignation: Chris Guinness. The Chamber thanks Chris for his contributions. We wish him well in his future endeavours.

7. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

- o None declared.

8. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- o The resolutions from the July NCOC meeting were ratified after confirming a full quorum was present. The minutes dated 4th July 2024 were approved as presented.
 - o **Motion:** *Diana Roberts moved the July 2024 minutes be accepted.* **Seconded:** *Aline Binetruy.*
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Ordinary Business

9. Carried Over Topics from Previous Meeting/ Business Arising from Minutes.

- o **Bakery Laneway Mural Selection Update.** The Bakery Laneway Mural project has a deadline delivery by September 30. Four expressions of interest (EOIs) were received, and the submission from Jen Harkness, Gaia Heart, and Julie DeLorenzo has been accepted. Neil, the owner of the bakery building, has confirmed the choice. Payment terms are 50% upfront and the remaining 50% upon completion of the mural on time. The total cost is \$3000.

Motion: *Diana Roberts moved that upon receipt of the invoice from the artists, the Chamber will pay the first half of the payment (\$1500).* **Seconded** by David Hyett.

- o **Mural Tin Audit.** Spare tins will be stored in the NCOC office in the community centre. The tins will be due for collection in July 2025. The tin locations as of 27th July 2024 are: Freemason's Hotel, Hemp Embassy, Hemp Bar – have 2, Environment Centre, Artist's Gallery, Aquarius Café (could have 2), Nimbin Herb Shop, Emporium downstairs, Bush Theatre, Chemist, Feast Café, Tribal Magic, Craft Gallery, Apothecary, Perceptio, Post Office, Bowling Club, The Green Bank, Armonica, Organics Shop, The Heart Connexion, and Northern Rivers Hemp.
- o **Annual Self-Review Reporting.** Ariescia Matheson reported that the annual self-review report is due by October 31st. The Chamber remains a tax-exempt entity. For information only.
- o **Remaining 'Out There' Stock.** David Hyett reported that six of the eight remaining 'Out There' books have been found.
- o **Mural Stakeholder Meeting.** The Chamber is financially involved in the murals throughout Nimbin through the SBVRL and mural donation tins. It was discussed that managing murals is beyond the Chamber's capacity due to multiple factors such as removal and installation, advertising rights, and costs of refurbishment. The idea of convening a meeting to revisit mural management was suggested and will be revisited later in the year. It was noted that in the next SBVRL period (commencing October), there will be a budget of \$6000 to put towards murals.
- o **Nimbin Newsagency Mural Update.** The mural above the Nimbin Newsagency, originally funded by a grant, belongs to the community and has no copyright issues. It requires restoration and needs to be placed back on the newsagency.
*Motion: Diana Roberts proposed that the NCOC obtain the mural and plan to contact Chrisanne Fox and the owner of the newsagency building to determine if it is feasible to touch up the artwork by the end of September. **Seconded** by David Hyett.*
- o **Committee Team Building Activity.** Celeste from Far Out Tours has been considered to take the NCOC members to Husk for a social engagement.
Follow up: David Hyett is tasked with sorting out the costing details.
*Motion: David Hyett proposed obtaining a quote from Celeste for the outing, planned for November. **Seconded** by Ben Hartley.*
- o **Strengthening Committee Numbers Through Business Community.** David Hyett proposed encouraging new members from the business community in the CBD to join the NCOC executive committee to strengthen and diversify its numbers. The goal is to actively recruit new members, with a cap at 11 members on the executive committee.
- o **AQ50 Funds Disbursement.** David Hyett reported that there are funds remaining in the account from the Premier's Department. A meeting is scheduled for this week to finalise arrangements. After the meeting, David Hyett will sign off on the disbursement of the funds.

- o **Public Speaking Workshop.** The NCOC will continue to support the Public Speaking Workshop.
*Motion: David Hyett moved to allocate \$1000 for the workshop. **Seconded** by Diana Roberts.*

- o **Change of NCOC Executive Committee Meeting Times.** The meeting time for the NCOC Executive Committee has been changed to 5:30 PM. This new time will remain consistent for the meetings, which will continue to be held on the first Thursday of each month.

10. Correspondence

- o **Lismore City Printery 'Welcome to Nimbin' Brochure Printing Quote.** The committee has chosen to proceed with printing 2000 copies of the "Welcome to Nimbin" brochure at a cost of \$625.00 with Lismore City Printery. Nicole Lindner will send the invoice to Ariescia Matheson for processing, and Ben Hartley will confirm the order.
Motion: David Hyett proposed the expenditure of \$625 for the printing. This was seconded by Diana Roberts.
- o **Nimbin Grass Roots Domain renewal Notification.** It was decided that the Chamber will not renew the domain for Nimbin Grass Roots.
- o **Business NSW.** Upcoming Northern Rivers Skills & Workforce Development Forums NSW. For information only.
- o **Bellevue Park Letter of Support Request.** The Chamber received a request from Denise Whitney, President of the A&I Society, for support in acquiring Bellevue Park. The Chamber's main concern is the fate of the assets if the Show Society folds, specifically whether the assets would go to a like community organisation in Nimbin. The Chamber is happy to provide support upon confirmation of this detail.

Follow up: Nicole Lindner to write to Denise Whitney seeking confirmation.
- o **Letter from Eden at Tuntable Primary School re: Plastic Waste and Nimbin village businesses.** *Follow up: David Hyett to respond to Eden, acknowledging her concerns about plastic pollution, how the Chamber will promote recycling awareness with community groups and businesses, and encourage Eden to continue her environmental advocacy.*
Follow-up: Jeanne Platel to explore the idea of Nimbin-branded paper bags, like those used in Noosa. To be added to the September agenda for discussion.
- o **Correspondence from Sarah-Jane McGrath.** Cash and carry email received from Sarah-Jane McGrath regarding specifications and requirements for establishing a site in Nimbin. To be added to the September agenda for discussion.

11. Business Arising from Correspondence (see above).

12. Financial Report

A financial debrief was presented by Treasurer, Ariescia Matheson outlining the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce's (NCOC) current financial commitments and standing.

*Motion: Ariescia Matheson proposed acceptance of the financial report and that the Chamber can meet its financial obligations and pay its debts as and when they fall due. **Seconded:** David Hyett.*

13. Committee and Task Force Reports: Nil.

14. Applications for Membership: Nil.

15. General Business

- o **Public Meeting with Councillors.** The NCOC will host the meeting at the Nimbin Bowling Club. David Hyett will open the meeting and provide a welcome address, while Diana Roberts will facilitate the rest of the evening. Nominations for the LCC elections will close on 17th August. Once the candidates are known, the NCOC will send out formal invitations and start promoting the event on social media. Bob Dooley has kindly offered to run the PA system on the night.
- o **Light Up Nimbin Offer from Roger Foley-Fogg.** Roger Foley-Fogg has offered to extend the lighting in Nimbin village which currently extends from the Apothecary down to the fire site. A new section has been proposed, starting from the bakery down to the carpark entrance. Roger has offered to cost out and then supervise the project for free. The NCOC will need to cover the costs of installation, which would require a grant. The proposed new section would likely be able to use the existing solar system and battery storage.
Follow up: David Hyett will write to Roger, advising that the NCOC would like to proceed with his offer of costing the project and providing us with a quote and design idea. The aim is for the NCOC to seek funding via a grant.
- o **Mural Project Website Update.** The mural project section of the NCOC's website needs to be re-written.
Action Item: Diana Roberts will re-write the section, and Wick and Rain will update the website.
- o **Residential Criteria for Mural Artists.** Discussion on whether to bring in artists from outside Nimbin or to keep the projects 100% local. This will be forwarded to the next meeting for further discussion.
- o **Public Liability Insurance Payment.** Confirmation of the insurance payment was confirmed.
- o **Invoice for QuickBooks Hosting Subscription.** Nimbin Tax & Accounting awaiting payment for the QuickBooks hosting subscription.
Action Item: Ariescia Matheson to follow up with Peter Hughes and request their invoice.
- o **Use of Fire Site as Primitive Campground.** Diana Roberts will raise the problem with Council.
- o **Finances and Membership Onboarding.** More information is required from Aether by the NCOC executive committee to process new memberships. *Follow-up: Aline Binetruy to add request to DCM Action sheet. The process will be for Aether to inform David Hyett and Ariescia Matheson of new memberships, and Nicole Lindner to add them to the agenda.*
- o **WIB Event De-Brief.** The recent WIB event, a Talking Circle, was free and had a more intimate format, making it easier to organise. Planning for the next WIB event will take place later in the year.
- o **Nimbin Interagency Committee Idea.** Aline Binetruy suggested that community group stakeholders meet twice a year. NCOC will wait to see the outcomes of the Sustainable Community Nimbin Plans before deciding what to take on.

Action Item: To be added to the September agenda for further discussion.

16. Upcoming Events and Important Dates

- o **LCC Meeting:** 14th August 2024
 - o **NCOC General Meeting:** 17th September 2024 at Nimbin Bush Theatre. RPC guest speakers and members from the Council's Economic & Development team have been invited as guests.
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Closing Section

17. Next Meeting

- o Next Meeting scheduled for Thursday, 5th September at 5.30pm at Nimbin Bush Theatre.

18. Adjournment

- o The meeting was adjourned at 7.45pm by Chairperson David Hyett.
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