



NIMBIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Inc
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MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday 02 August 2021, by Zoom

Meeting commenced 1730 hrs

Acknowledgment of Country

1. **MINUTE TAKER:** David Spain
2. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Diana Roberts [President], David Spain [Secretary] Peter Hughes [Treasurer], Stephanie Seckold, Samantha Allen, Theresa Biscoe [Vice President], Caroline Todd **Apologies:** Kylie Cain,
3. **CHAIRPERSON:** Diana Roberts
4. **NON-CONTENTIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:**

Diana reported that Janelle Saffin (ALP state member) believes that a NSW state-wide lockdown is likely due to Covid spreading. This will be even worse now Qld border is closed and school holidays ended. We should prepare an argument for north coast (down to Grafton) to be in a bubble. Peter advised that, generally, retail (especially cafes) is suffering greatly from Covid. Online retailing did better but is now dipping (probably due to uncertain government subsidies; business outgoings & overheads are still due despite reduced takings).

5. **MINUTES OF LAST COMMITTEE MEETING:**

The chairperson traversed the draft minutes of last committee meeting on 07-06-2021.

Peter/ Diana	That the draft minutes of 05-07-2021 be accepted.	Carried
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6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

LCC Procurement Policy: No response

LCC Meeting: Still awaiting LCC's position.

Website Update: See general business

Aquarius 50-Year celebration: Katie Cawcutt from Aquarius Foundation advised that Paul Tait & Jenny Kendall are researching their archives to prepare a presentation. We haven't been able to contact Binna (who replaced Benny as president). Mandie Hale contacted Diana regarding preparing a display for the 50th Aquarius celebrations

Rainbow Road: We are awaiting LCC to appoint a manager for this project, so it is on hold.

Disability Action – Nimbin Meeting: cancelled for lack of interest.

Reseal of Bush Theatre car park: Dave Hyett has employed Dr. Will Polson (media & communications PhD) to write the grant application to Destination NSW for “Regional Tourism Action Grant”. The project must cost at least \$200,000+ and applicant must contribute at least 25%. Resealing the carpark alone would cost \$254,000, on top of which is flood-proofing stairs and improving access to toilets, including disability ramp. The 25% contribution will come from LCC (\$85k) and Bush Theatre approx. \$120,000. This input exceeds 25% .

Tourist Promotion Officer: LCC has moved this position from “Sport & Recreation” to “Economic Development”. This position and associated costs has an approximate value of \$85k pa. The officer will be directed to work with NCOC & NAG. Diana cannot sit on selection committee due to conflict of interest, so Sammi (with Dave Hyett) will take her place.

7. CORRESPONDENCE:

To GM LCC	Michael Donnelly, congratulating on appointment	Carried
Gail Clarke	Poetry Cup prize request	

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

Poetry World Cup will happen this year on 04/05-09-2021, even if only online (perhaps as a Zoom event). Janelle Saffin says that all NSW may go into lockdown.

Sammi / Biko	That we donate \$500 for the Nimbin Poetry World Cup prize	Carried
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9. TREASURER’S REPORT

Last year we had a deficit of \$6400, but this has now been cleared from levies & accumulated funds of \$33,000 (after acquitting the 2021 LCC SBVRL). Diana advised that we must acquit all the accrued SBVRL we received, not only the proportion attributable to last f/y. Our remaining unexpended sum will go to acquit the grant, and is quite explainable in light of Covid constraints. Only when the acquittal is accepted do we get the next batch of SBVRL. Diana & Peter to sort it out and advise.

The treasurer tabled a financial report. This includes membership payments & current list. Diana will send Peter the email address of existing members and his program will send out invoices.

Peter / Sammi	That the financial report for the month of July be adopted	Carried
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Peter / Sammi	That the financial report for the entire 2020-21 f/y be accepted	Carried
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Peter / Sammi	That we are solvent and can pay our debts as they fall due	Carried
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10. APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

Peter / Sammi	That Gillian Tub (Blue Knob Café) be admitted to membership (non profit, free)	Carried
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Peter / Sammi	That Nimbin Valley Dairy be admitted to membership	Carried
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11. TOURISM DEVELOPMENT REPORT:

Stephanie advised that she is mostly working on contacts & signage but has made some changes to the brochure & proof read it. She has been talking to Ross Wallace about artwork for signs. She has not heard back from Ngulingah Land Council about signage at Rocks viewing area. Aunty Leonie suggests that the ‘Welcome to Country’ sign at the Rocks nursery can be photographed and its content used at the viewing area. She has discussed village map with Elspeth (only one needs to be painted, the others can be printed). We need to decide their location – perhaps one at 7 Sibley Street, one at community centre under camphor-laurel and one at ugly fence next to public telephones. The maps would mark locations of the 18 audio posts. Audio content of the sound posts/ app is being considered; this information will differ from the signage content. Each post would display a code to activate that story. The sound trail app will usually contain local stories, primarily from Aquarius era, rather than being associated with any specific building or place. Stephanie displayed for feedback her current proposed signage, linked by a cloud theme.

Caroline has advised that Bill McEnry has offered sandstone blocks for seating in the street or along the walk.

- 12. WEBSITE** While we will no longer have to pay a website hosting fee we will need to pay to retain the domain name. The business photoshoot will be in September and there will be a photoshoot of the NCOC committee. LCC has not yet confirmed in writing that we can use their VisitNimbin platform. The Chamber Chat format will contain extra images and be different on website compared to its printed presentation in NGT.

We need to identify 30 uniquely “made & developed in Nimbin products”. These get presented on website with a cost & shipping price then get linked to the owner, who is responsible for inventory, for sales & shipping etc. and NCOC gets a commission. Possibly combined shipping can be arranged for various small items from different stores [“drop-shipping”]. The committee agreed we would do this if feasible; Diana to investigate. It will also be possible to pay membership via online shop (but minus a stripe fee). Agreed that we set up a stripe account to support an online shop.

The new platform will allow uploading of quality videos like “living in community”. There is no point in having a website unless it is actively viewed. The more material, and change of fresh material, the higher gets to be the ranking on search engines. We need to appoint a manager at \$36ph, being a cost of about \$7000 pa. each if we share equally with NCCI. Liz will do this work until the grant money is used up. Uploading will only be done by the manager. There was general agreement to this, but pending feedback from NCCI.

- 13. Meet Candidates Meeting** is not happening as the elections have been postponed until December. However, at 6pm on 18-08-2021 Paula Newman will give a presentation at the Town Hall on the DCP. The presentation will address restricting development and water security. Diana has invited those running tickets in the council election to send up to 2 delegates to hear community concerns first-hand. Numbers are restricted to 65 due to Covid constraints, so a booking must be indicated by emailing Diana.
- 14.** Request for funding mural above Environment Centre (below awning), aboriginal-animal theme cost about \$1750, us to pay half (NCCI pays other half).

Biko / Sammi	That NCOC contribute half of \$1750 for mural at Environment Centre	Carried
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- 15.** AGM to be held on Weds 24-11-2021 at 6pm – Bush Theatre, Diana to confirm
- 17.** Next NCOC Committee Meeting-- 5.30pm on Monday 06 September 2021, probably by Zoom, Peter to set up.

End: 1924 hrs