



NIMBIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Inc
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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Monday 28 November 2022, at Bush Theatre

Meeting commenced 1900 hrs

Acknowledgment of Country

- 1. MINUTE TAKER:** David Spain
- 2. BUSINESS MEMBERS PRESENT:** Peter Hughes [Nimbin Tax & Accounting], Theresa Biscoe (Co-Ordination Co-op), David Spain (Nimbin Law), Caroline Todd (Hemp Embassy), Kylie Cain (Green Bank), Samantha Allen (Apothecary), Nicole Lindner (Contained in Nimbin Accommodation), Chris Arizill-Guinness & Chrisine Chouquet (Jerra Park Hideaway), Benoit Vaessen (Reallines Chopping Boards), Sophie Stoff (La Conectora), Tim Apps & Bozena Warzecha (Northern Rivers Removals), Diana Roberts (Nimbin Community Centre Inc.), David Hyett (Nimbin Bush Theatre), Gina Horstfield (Nimbin Pizza), Stephen Taylor (Nimbin Limousines), Denise Whitney (Mountain Top Coffee), Liam Brehme (Natural Design Research Institute), Samuel Herren (Geneva Building), Pierre Foure (Nim FM), Mitchell Hughes (Dimension Distribution), Scott Sledge (NEC), Jane Mari (Armonica Café), Michael Balderstone (Hemp Embassy), Danielle Voinot Sledge (Food Co-op), Aline Binetruy (Strateg'Ease), Ken Jones (Rainbow Power Company).

Apologies: Kerry Wilson (Nimbin Valley Dairy), Tash Fuller (Servo), Karen Welsh (Nimbin Artists' Gallery)

Biskit / Sammi	That the apologies be accepted.	Carried
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- 3. CHAIRPERSON:** David Hyett
- 4. WELCOME BY PRESIDENT:** The president welcomed the members present, representing a wide range of Nimbin businesses at a time when the Chamber has taken many fresh initiatives.
- 5. ADDRESS BY JANELLE SAFFIN, MP**

Flood recovery is at present the dominant issue for the Lismore district, especially with establishing a permanent reconstruction body for the Northern Rivers, funded by grants, to work on infrastructure development and economic-environmental recovery, road repairs (especially potholes!), rehousing, retrofitting, land swap, landslip remediation, primary production restoration and alleviating mental health impacts. This local body would be under a statewide agency, being the NSW Reconstruction Authority.

- 6. MINUTES OF LAST AGM:**

The draft minutes of last AGM on 08-12-2021 have been circulated by email several times.

Biskit / Sammi	That the draft minutes of 08-12-2021 as presented, be accepted.	Carried
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7. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

David Hyett as president said his first year in this role had strengthened his perception of community strength, especially the Nimbin emphasis of changing reality for the better by liaison with each other, government, Lismore council, relevant authorities, the police and all our local organizations (e.g. Community Centre, Information Centre, CWA, A&I Society, Kalwun Indigenous Centre, Headers) and participating in many cultural & artistic events (Poetry World Cup, Fashion Show, Spring Arts Festival, Youth Music Rocks, Skate Park,). The chamber had one meeting with the Mayor and another with council’s General Manager, John Walker. Over the past year the Chamber organized Illuminate Nimbin Night (thanks Kylie!), funded 4000 tourist brochures, arranged extensive modern signage, negotiated funding for “Rainbow Road” walking trail up the creek land from the Bowlo to Cecil Street (still in design & planning stage), lobbied for a Wayfinder grant improving the streetscape & main pedestrian crossing (a \$500,000 project), lobbied council on issues such as roads garbage carparks gardens & water supply, requested a toilet block in Peace Park, and attended to mural restoration (more artists & restorers needed!). Now, the Chamber is auspicing the proposed Aquarius 50 event, to be planned & delivered by an AQ50 committee, aimed at celebrating “alternative” development since 1973 – this is a massive project. More accommodation for visitors is a big issue. Thanks to his committee of the past year.

Biskit / Kylie	That the President’s Report be received & noted	Carried
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8. TREASURER’S REPORT

We hold \$35,000 in grant monies but must spend it all. We obtained \$17,000 from SBVRL (special business variation rate levies) grants but are obliged to spend \$15,000 of it on developing commerce in the village. We are solvent but not rich. The association is able to pay its debts as they fall due.

Diana said that, after Peter lost his home in the Lismore floods, Sammi has migrated three years of accounting out of Cashbook into the Quickbooks program; applause for Sammi.

Peter / Biskit	That the treasurer’s financial report be accepted.	Carried
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9. COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The President advised that valid, accepted nominations had been received from Samantha Allen, Aline Binetruy, Liam Brehme, Peter Hughes, David Hyett, Nicole Lindner, Diana Roberts, David Spain and Caroline Todd. This is a total of nine candidates; under clause 13 of our Constitution a committee of between seven and eleven persons is required. The candidates are all therefore declared elected. Under clause 14.5 of our Constitution, they will choose an executive (president, vice president, secretary and treasurer).

10. MEMBER SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

Many members present then introduced themselves, described their businesses and gave observations on community.

Thanks to Bush Theatre for food & venue.

Meeting Ended: 8 pm:

Next Meeting: Next AGM November 2023