

## YAMBA DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC

**MINUTES of a General Meeting held at Angourie Rainforest Resort on August 4, 2008 at 7:00 a.m.**

**PRESENT:** Bev Mansfield, Mark Grace, Kathy Lollback, Maria Evans, Corraine Wiseman, David Wiblen, Debbie Brown, Kellie Henwood, Brett Morgan, Karen Toms, Sammy Hunt, Tania Williams, Rod Gardiner, Rebecca Davies, Graham Lees

**APOLOGIES:** Rick Angelo, Elizabeth Kime, Mike Harvey, Trevor Hauman, Helen Robertson, Gerold Rupkalvis

### **PRESIDENT'S WELCOME:**

The President opened the meeting at 7:05 a.m. and thanked everyone for wearing name tags as part of an ongoing member awareness drive. She introduced the monthly draw prize – business cards in a draw with the winner being a guest and having an opportunity to showcase their business at the next General Meeting.

Tania presented outgoing President Sammy Hunt with flowers, thanking Sammy for her commitment and efforts as President.

She then spoke about how the Chamber needs to focus on Business Excellence all year round. This could be done by revisiting the 'Customer Service' award. The award can be in the form of a Certificate, lolly jar, media release or on Community Bill Board. A draft will be drawn up. If no nomination is received then the Chamber will need to look for one.

Tania spoke about the Newsletter being a care factor about each other and also about holding a Christmas event, something like bringing an esky and sitting down having a chat, Need to look at a venue as most parks and parts of town are 'alcohol free zones' If necessary the Chamber will enquire with Council.

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION 1**

Presented by Maria Evans, the meeting looked at the original Mission statement and members were asked to put ideas forward from which to draft a new mission statement. Maria will draft one from the following ideas and send out; *Work in the best interest of our members, Stronger Marketing, Promotion of Yamba, Support Network, Strive to strengthen and grow relations with Yamba business and community, market positively and energetically, Tourism/Business.*

### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the previous meeting, having been distributed to members and also being tabled, were accepted as read.

Proposed Karen Toms  
Seconded Bev Mansfield.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Tania reported all correspondence. She drew attention to one item of particular interest from Gerold Rupkalvis with concerns that the Chambers Investments with Westlawn may not be secured and should look at other places to invest. In part, Gerold's letter read as follows:

"In view of the recent advertising in local papers by Westlawn Finance where they indicate that monies deposited with them may be lost in full or part and that they do not guarantee the return of depositor's funds in the event of unforeseen circumstances or collapse. Has the Chamber obtained enforceable personal guarantees from the directors for the funds invested with Westlawn, or has the Chamber investigated the opportunity of alternative financial institutions to deposit the funds. I understand that BankWest, PIBA, ING and others offer secure at call cash management accounts offering between 7.4% and 8%."

Tania will pass these concerns on to Westlawn. There was a general discussion about this matter, and the members present highlighted the support from Westlawn for Chamber initiatives and the fact of their being a local business over-rode the need to search elsewhere for investment returns.

An invitation from Grafton Chamber to attend their AGM was declined, in view of the fact no members were available to attend the invitation will be replied to as declined. \$12,000 put aside should be reflected in Treasurer's report.

Jim Agnew's concern re \$12,000 funds raised for a community centre was discussed. These funds are, reportedly, being held aside in a BCU account with Jim See and Vic White being signatories. The President requested a brief be written with all relevant information for future reference. This amount should also be reflected in some with within the Treasurer's Report.

IT WAS PROPOSED THAT the Correspondence for the month of July be accepted as read.

Proposed T Williams  
Seconded K. Lollback

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer presented a month end statement to the meeting which is attached to and forms a part of these Minutes.

The Treasurer further reported that membership dues were coming in at a steady pace.

The Treasurer reported that Invoices for upgrading signage have now been received. They are as follows:

3 Banner Poles – both sides using Existing banner material	\$ 511.50
Village Map & Sign Board to be totally repainted, structure and surfaces, new map, new pins etc.	1,116.50

IT WAS PROPOSED that the above financial statement and Invoices be accepted.

Proposed Maria Buist  
Seconded Sammy Hunt

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

1. "Meet the Candidates Night" with respect to the forthcoming Council Elections will be held 25th August at 7 to 7.15 pm. Tania Williams, Bev Mansfield and Liz Kime and Kathy Lollback all volunteered to help with this event. Sammy Hunt advised that all candidates need to be individually invited. Nominations close on 13<sup>th</sup> August.
2. Tania advised that the shoe shop is closing at Yamba Fair and has contacted Westlawn to see if the Chamber can showcase events and businesses. Westlawn have advised that this could be done if shop is available when the lease is up.

3. Committee reports by Sammy Hunt are attached to and form a part of these Minutes.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Kellie Henwood of Yamba YHA Backpackers Beach resort gave a report on their application of a Liquor Licence, the reason for this is to coincide with their 'cafe' facility. Kellie invited suggestions and expressed that they don't want to cause concern as it will be used so guests can enjoy a drink with their meal and will close at 10.00p.m. Hope to open on 1<sup>st</sup> November to catch the Xmas trade. Will be holding an 'opening' for local businesses to let them see what they are doing. Will be promoting Yamba as a whole town.
2. Karen Toms spoke about Economic CV Profile. This is for businesses relocating to the Clarence. Clarence valley 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest in population. This is only a report card. CVC trying to form a 'Clarence River Way' as their is very little info to promote Clarence river activities. Need to look at standard branding on Clarence products.
3. Karen Toms spoke about BEC's that closed down. Federal govt. Now has allocated \$300K to existing BEC's. A steering committee has been formed which Karen is on. Janelle Saffin hopes that a portion of this money will be obtained to for a Clarence Valley BEC which will be positioned in Grafton. There is a vacancy on the steering Committee. Sammy suggested that a Yamba representative fills this vacancy. Anyone who is interested should contact [info@yamba.com.au](mailto:info@yamba.com.au)

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS** the Meeting closed at 8:10 a.m.



18.08.08

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Tania Williams  
President

Date

**The next General Meeting of the Yamba District Chamber of Commerce Inc. will be held on September 1, 2008 at the Angourie Rainforest Resort at 7:00 a.m. Please advise [info@yambaNSW.com.au](mailto:info@yambaNSW.com.au) prior to August 25, 2008 if you are planning to attend so that we can advise the catering staff.**