

## YAMBA DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC

**MINUTES** of General Meeting held at Angourie Rainforest Resort on March 2, 2009 at 7:00 a.m.

**PRESENT:** Daniel Reeves, Sammy Hunt, Kellie Henwood, Gerold Rupkalvis, Siobhain Strain, Kathy Lollback, Tania Williams, Cate Capp, Peter Munro, Graham Lees and Maria Buist.

**APOLOGIES:** Karen Toms, Bev Mansfield and Debbie – Yamba Pumps & Irrigation

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

The President opened the meeting at 7:10 am. and spoke about the Mission Statement. She recommended a questionnaire with recommendations be sent out via email to members which will give all an opportunity for input.

Website. Melissa Lutton who looks after our website is away for up to 4 months depending on her success in a reality TV show for which she has been selected. In the meantime, basic changes will be looked after by a staff member from the Review on her behalf but some delays may be experienced. Also on the website, following a number of complaints, CE Internet which hosts the site, have examined it and discovered there was some "malicious code" which has now been removed & we will continue to monitor the situation.

Election of office-bearers At a recent Executive meeting it was agreed to separate the AGM from the election. Further, the executive felt there was not an adequate hand-over period in between the election and the new Executive taking over the running of the chamber. It is recommended this election be held in May 2009 with the incoming executive commencing from the AGM which would be in July. This would allow for a two month hand-over. The current Executive would continue with their duties until the AGM but the incoming executive would have ample time to ensure they are ready to take over the roles as required. Advertising of the positions would be required to be put out in the media in the first week of April. Check when the nominations would be required to be received by for a 4<sup>th</sup> May meeting?

Tourism Touchscreen – Update from Kellie. Waiting for a Kiosk. Kellie will ask Shane to come and give an update when in area.

Last meeting anti-social behaviour was discussed and Tania was to get a police report on the situation. Tried to speak with Seargeant Volker Ruehe from the Yamba station but he was on leave. In an informal discussion with another police officer, it was acknowledged that there were fewer problems than in previous years – indeed it was seen as one of the better summers in recent history. Tania also spoke with Karen Toms from Calypso Holiday Park who in previous years had been acutely aware of anti-social behaviour and criminal activity over the summer and she suggested this year had been relatively problem free. While it is upsetting there were still some incidences it appears these incidences were isolated and not endemic of a significant increase in crime and anti-social behaviours in the town. Sammy advised at the Liquor Accord meeting police gave a report and incidences were down.

Funding available from the Dept of State & Regional Development for Small Chambers. Our population size disqualifies us from that funding opportunity. Brian Holley meanwhile has been in touch and suggested Neighbourhood Watch would be able to source funding for the brochure.

**Treasurers Report.** A report was not tendered to the meeting.

No nominations for a Secretary, until there is one Kathy will take on minutes whilst Bev and Tania will handle correspondence.

### **Correspondence**

Invite from Lions club of Maclean to attend Lions Youth of the Year state final Saturday 4 April. Flyer on hand and info will go in newsletter.

International Women's Day – Yamba Evening View Club is having a morning tea Friday 13 March. Full details will be included in the newsletter and are available on a flyer at the meeting. CVC – Susan Howland is also hosting a breakfast at Sassafras with Pauline Plant guest speaker on Saturday 7 March 8am. Details on flyer and also will go into newsletter.

Clarence Valley Business Excellence Awards – invitation to sponsor Business Excellence Awards.

Quote to supply and install vinyl quality skins signage to billboards received from Vital Signs.

NSW Police Force – have established a Coffs/Clarence Crime management unit

Invitation to attend variety club fundraising cocktail party 7 March

Network'n'Yamba – next is Wednesday 25 March – YHA

Farmers Bulletin will be featuring Yamba. Details on hand at meeting and advertising opportunities will be available.

Phone call from very concerned Anne Lockyer (Iluka Chamber of Commerce).

Re: potential establishment of a marine park from Evans Head to Iluka which would rule out all fishing in this area, including professional and recreational fishing. They are very concerned at the impact this would have on them and no doubt it would impact on Yamba too. More information can be found at the National Parks Assoc website in a report called The Torn Blue Fringe.

<http://www.marine.org.au/campaigns/TBF.htm>.

### **Matters Arising.**

- Sponsor CVBEA. Sammy moved that we become a sponsor of \$2000, sec Daniel, voted, passed.
- Signage replacement – will leave to another meeting with a larger attendance.
- Advertising in Farmers Bulletin – Chamber will advertise half page – moved Kellie, sec Graham.
- Include info re: marine park in newsletter.

### **Committee Reports.**

#### **Plastic bag free Yamba – see report attached.**

Non business members who are 'plastic bag free' invited to speak at the next Chamber meeting. Maria will speak to these businesses.

One of Yamba Chamber promotion flags to educate plastic bag free Yamba.

Sammy recommended and supported by Chair that a letter be sent to Rob Donges re: Yamba Approach signage to Yamba.

Meeting closed 8.30a.m