

Strathewen Community Renewal Association Inc.

Committee Meeting No. 16

Tuesday 4 November 2009

Community Centre, Bowden Spur Road Strathewen

MINUTES

ITEM 1 ATTENDANCE – 7:45 pm

Present:

Committee Members: Karl Apted, Mary Avola, David Brown, Malcolm Hackett (Chair), Peter McLennan, Bronwyn South, Denis Spooner

Ex-officio Members: Maria Romanin (VBRA), Kirsten Jenkins (Nillumbik Shire Council)

Apologies: Darren Bradshaw, Matthew Gravette, Peter Jenkinson, Steve Pascoe, Georgina Robertson Stecher

Visitors: None

ITEM 2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

Moved: Karl Apted Seconded: Mary Avola

Refer to the ACTIONS LIST for a review of progress on outstanding actions.

ITEM 3 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence In:

- Suggestion Box – Daily pickup of newspaper.
- Suggestion Box – seal Nankervis Road before Chadds Creek Road, community ménage, tree at start of Strathewen
- Suggestion Box – Events at private homes should not be advertised through the Renewal Association.

Correspondence Out:

- Malcolm will write letter of thanks to John Farnham.

ITEM 4 OFFERS OF SUPPORT AND LEADS

Definite offers:

- **Beyond Blue** – Training for community volunteers.

New offers

- **Jill McIver** – Initial offer of land for a memorial.

ACTION: Refer to the Memorial Sub-committee. Waiting on Steve's proposal for the processes to be followed when deciding on a memorial. We need to progress this at our next meeting.

- **Australian Rotary Health** – Would like to support us with a program. They use a case study to engage people. We are suggesting a broader event to engage the community on a number of levels and engage local practitioners.
- **Project Management** – Maria has had an offer of a 3-day seminar on project management to community members.

ITEM 5 GOVERNANCE

5.1 Conflict of interest and confidentiality declarations

There are no conflict of interest or confidentiality declarations required by the meeting's business.

ITEM 6 CALENDAR

	Mondays	Sub-committees / Community Groups
	Tuesdays	SCRA Committee Meetings
	Thursdays	BBQ nights
	Fridays	Mens nights
November	Tuesday 3	Melbourne Cup BBQ at Kate Hamment's Powells Road
	Wednesday 4	Resident support sub-committee
		BAL and fire levels St Andrews
		CFA meeting for Arthurs Creek
		SCRA Committee meeting
	Thursday 5	BBQ Night Jane Darling from Plantmark will distribute Greencards
	Saturday 7	Whittlesea Show weekend
	Sunday 8	Mature tree collection
	Monday 9	Centre booked by Maurice Blackburn Lawyers
	Tuesday 10	SCRA Committee Meeting with VBRR CEO
	Thursday 12	Environment Recovery Working Group St Andrews 10 - 12
	Sunday 15 (TBC)	Animal bushfire memorial service.2.30pm at 235 Chad's Creek Rd
	Saturday 21	Government House reception for CRCs
	Wednesday 25	Fire Smart Garden Design 6:30PM to 8:30PM Yarra Glen
		Dr Rob Gordon Christmas Hills
	Saturday 28	Building Expo 11AM to 4PM
	Sunday 29	Fire Smart Garden Design 10AM to 12 NOON Yarra Glen
December	Saturday 5 (TBC)	Pasture Field Day Eagles Nest Road Strathewen
	TBC	BAL and fire levels St Andrews
	Friday 18	Santa at St Andrews 11:30AM Kinglake 5:30PM

It was noted that we need to publish the calendar on the website before the minutes are accepted.

ITEM 7 NILLUMBIK SHIRE COUNCIL

Malcolm referred the Committee to his report on the meeting with Bill Forrest (CEO, Nillumbik Shire Council) and Vin McKay (Group Manager Leisure and Community Services, Nillumbik Shire Council) on Friday 23rd October. In summary, Malcolm felt our committee was in a positive position because it was a community-based group.

Nillumbik Shire Council is currently advertising a 12-month position as Executive Office Community Recovery (Bushfire). This position will play a key support role to the two recovery associations, helping develop and identify recovery priorities and advocating for resources and other solutions.

Kirsten has forwarded details of the Funding Agreement that covers the \$5,000 Communications Grant received from the Shire.

Nillumbik Shire Council has \$156,000 for commemorative and memorial purposes.

The Council established very broad bushfire recovery objectives in May. They now need to formalise a Bushfire Recovery Plan for Nillumbik. They are working through the priorities set by the Shire (including the Christmas Hills community), Strathewen and St Andrews in their recovery plans. They are also identifying known funding and work already being undertaken by other agencies. The process acknowledges that most of the funding is still approximate or unknown. The final plan will be presented to the Councillors for sign off.

ITEM 8 FINANCES

Strathewen Community Renewal Assoc Inc PO Box 535 HURSTBRIDGE VIC 3099 Profit & Loss Statement 1/07/2009 through 4/11/2009		
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Income		
Grants		
Grants Nillumbik Shire	\$20,000.00	
Grants - Dept Human Services	\$28,723.00	
Donations		\$18,763.45
Miscellaneous Income		\$250.00
Total Income		<u>\$67,736.45</u>
Cost of Sales		
Gross Profit		<u>\$67,736.45</u>
Expenses		
Bank charges		\$2.45
Community Centre Supplies		\$162.22
Community equipment		\$13,791.00
Event catering		\$4,201.74
Dues & Subscriptions		\$68.18
Insurance		\$449.32
Legal Fees		\$116.90
Postage & Freight		\$449.91
Stationery		\$56.51
SMS service		\$1,676.64
Telephone		\$30.00
Total Expenses		<u>\$21,004.87</u>
Operating Profit		<u>\$46,731.58</u>
Other Expenses		
Net Profit / (Loss)		<u>\$46,731.58</u>

Strathewen Community Renewal Assoc Inc

PO Box 535
HURSTBRIDGE VIC 3099

Balance Sheet

As of 4/11/2009

9/11/2009

9:14:45 PM

Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash On Hand			
Cheque Account	\$48,700.92		
Cash Drawer	\$416.75		
Total Cash On Hand		\$49,117.67	
Total Current Assets		\$49,117.67	
Total Assets			\$49,117.67
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade Creditors		\$243.50	
GST Liabilities			
GST Collected	\$2,162.73		
GST Paid	-\$20.14		
Total GST Liabilities		\$2,142.59	
Total Current Liabilities		\$2,386.09	
Total Liabilities			\$2,386.09
Net Assets			\$46,731.58
Equity			
Current Year Earnings		\$46,731.58	
Total Equity			\$46,731.58

Catering invoice will be paid for \$2,000 and a letter written to explain.

ITEM 9 VBARRA

Maria needs to identify key issues to be raised with the VBARRA CEO, Ben Hubbard, when he meets with the Committee next week.

- Ben will talk about 'where to from now'.
- Will VBARRA deal with the Hall Committee directly, remembering that it is a Community-owned hall?
- The funding process needs to be discussed. Maria reported that VBAF needs to scope projects before they can apply dollar values to them. The VBARRA Reconstruction team is scoping infrastructure projects. Non-reconstruction projects will need to be scoped by the Committee in conjunction with Maria.
- We need to know where the lines of responsibilities lie.
- What is VBARRAs understanding of the differences between the community recovery groups and the municipal recovery groups.
- What are the implications of the funding of the Blacksmiths Tree?

All Committee members are invited to a Government House reception on November 25th hosted by the Governor and the Premier.

A temporary playground will go in next round of funding.

ITEM 10 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 Communications and engagement

- Nyree is back from holidays so SMS requests can go to her again.
- Functions held at private homes.

ACTION: It was resolved that we will not advertise private functions. The Committee can agree to support functions that are being run as Community events at private homes. We should minute our decision to support such events and ensure they are appropriately covered under our insurance policy.

10.2 Fund raising and Grants

- David is continuing to liaise with the Tax Office re Deductible Gift Recipient status.
- David will contact Ramsay Health about forming a donor relationship with them.
- Temporary accommodation – Nillumbik has provided us with in-principle support. We need a list of residents who would want to use it.

10.3 Resident Support

- Men's discussion groups are continuing. Deciding whether to continue word of mouth or open invitation to whole community. The groups have now included people from the fringe.
- Family Fun Day – big thanks to Nillumbik Shire Council staff and to Georgina.
- Setting up women's discussion group with the assistance of the Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement.
- YMCA have returned the results of the survey they did early in the year with the primary school children.
- The Thank You cards progressing.
- Memorial Day plans coming together slowly.
- Penny Cullen from Panton Hill has joined the Recovery Group and will use her connections with the Arts community to support us.
- Upcoming fire season and impact on residents. Peter M has raised it with Region 14 CFA to make sure there is support counselling available.
- Volunteers – Peter M met with Gail Cumming, Marg Welsh, John Graham to match volunteers with residents needs. Also to ensure volunteers are appropriately qualified and insured. It was noted that Sue Aldred has been appointed to assist the environment team in organising volunteers and assisting landholders.
- Resident support group currently doing a bit of self-evaluation.
- Contact Vinnies at the community centre on November 13th for Christmas toys.

ACTION: Send out an SMS and email letting people know they can contact Mary if they can't see Vinnies in person.

10.4 Operations and Community Maintenance

- Cleaner – John Primrose has been offered the job. He will be employed by Connect2Clean.
- Request for a push slasher in the tool library.

10.5 Building Facilitation

- Expo date will be Saturday 28th November.

- Will probably only hold one more seminar for the year.
- Only 9 responses to the rebuilding survey.

10.6 Environment

- Jane Darling from Plantmark will attend the BBQ night on November 5th to hand out Green Cards allowing residents to purchase garden plants and materials at trade prices.

ACTION: Send out an SMS to remind people.

- Currently distributing a supply of mature trees. There should be one per affected property for all of Strathewen and St Andrews.
- The Nillumbik Environment Recovery Working Group is planning a field day. It is proposed to hold it in Eagles Nest Road on Saturday 5th December.

10.7 Disbursement of Funds

Nothing to report.

ITEM 11 GENERAL BUSINESS

Next meeting Tuesday 17th. Committee members are reminded that the VBRR CEO will be arriving at 7:30 PM

Meeting closed at 10:20 PM

ACTIONS LIST

No.	DATE	ACTION	REFER	PROGRESS
1		Purchase fencing trailer and equipment	Malcolm	29/9 -Still waiting on pole driver
6	15/9/09	Write letter to residents who are not members of SCRA	Malcolm	4/11 Ongoing by personal contact
10	22/9/09	Invite suggestions for equipment for tool library	All residents (to Malcolm)	29/9 Ongoing 4/11 Push slasher Denis/Malcolm
14	22/9/09	Eltham Women's Rural Group to prepare 'Thank you's' for people/organisations who have supported us.	Resident Support	4/11 The group now has some photos to work with.
16	29/9/09	Obtain support to co-ordinate volunteers	Malcolm Nillumbik	20/10 Peter met with CentaCare, Nillumbik and Baptist Church.
17	29/9/09	Talk to Susan Rouvrey at the RCC and write a letter to agency staff asking that general information be circulated through the bulletin.	Malcolm	
19	29/9/09	Invite Dr Rob Gordon to November evening	Peter M	4/11 Check whether Rob thinks his commitment at Christmas Hills includes Strathewen
20	29/9/09	Obtain a useful printer	Maria	4/11 Ongoing

21	29/9/09	Setup mens support group	Peter M Steve	4/11 Ongoing
22	29/9/09	Provide feedback to consultants on oval master plan.	Malcolm	6/10 Unsatisfactory response from consultant. Malcolm will follow up further. 20/10 Malcolm and Georgina were happy to negotiate the main communal space back to 10m X 12m. The consultant is negotiating with Glen from Cricket Club.
23	6/10/09	Application for charitable status with the Tax Office	David	20/10 Could be implemented via a disaster relief fund. 4/11 Nothing before middle of November.
24	6/10/09	Cleaner required. Start by offering job to Anne Simmons.	Bronwyn	4/11 Contract cleaners Connect2Clean will employ John Primrose.
25	6/10/09	Apply for a grant for repairs and maintenance of Community Centre	Denis Georgina	Maria advised we need to add this to our Community Recovery Plan.
26	20/10/09	Follow up volunteer training from Beyond Blue	Peter M	4/11 Session to be held on Wed 11 th Nov. All Committee members have been offered a place.
27	20/10/09	Christmas decorations for the Centre	Maria	
29	20/10/09	Request VBRRRA to give priority to a playground for the Centre	Steve Maria	4/11 The playground will be included in the next round of funding.
30	4/11/09	Letter of thanks to John Farnham	Malcolm	
31	4/11/09	Processes for deciding on memorial site(s) to be finalised.	Steve	
32	4/11/09	Contact Ramsay Health to formalise a donor relationship	David	