

# **LOXTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.**

## **GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, March 2, 2015**

**MEETING OPENED:** 7.30pm

### **WELCOME:**

Deb Petch welcomed everyone in attendance and asked that everyone introduce themselves by stating their name and business.

### **PRESENT:**

Deb Petch, Sonya Altschwager, Kristy Hobbs, Annette Winter, Crystal Petch, Tully Bates, Ted Sinoch, Stephanie Nitschke, Sharyn Schlein, Ryan Seaman, Lew Gibbs, Sheree Cameron, Mick Searle, Sue and Darren McKee, Roy McDonald, Pauline Jachmann, Paul Lewis.

### **APOLOGIES:**

Jane Wilson, Deb Thiele, Peter and Lisa Kollmann, Chelsea Winter, Mike Taylor, Karen Kilsby, Ann Biele, Joyleen Kloester, Dennis Tilley.

### **PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

Motion – that the previous minutes of Wednesday, December 5, 2014 are accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Crystal Petch. Seconded: Lew Gibbs. Carried - all in favour.

### **BUSINESS ARISING:**

Nomination of Stephanie Nitschke to fill position of secretary.

Moved: Crystal Petch. Seconded: Sharyn Schlein. Carried - all in favour.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

**\*IN\***

#### **a. Business SA – Industry Skills Fund program**

#### **b. Loxton Christmas Lights Committee minutes**

Crystal Petch asked if the committee would be looking into better signage to Christmas Wonderland for the upcoming festive season. Sonya Altschwager confirmed the committee will be investigating a reflective, more visible sign for the future.

#### **c. SA Water's 2015/16 Sponsorship Program**

Sonya advised members that the chamber intended to submit a proposal for \$2000 for this year's Loxton Light Up event.

**d. Loxton Gift Voucher**

February sales totaled \$1,365.

**e. District Council Loxton Waikerie – Free Digital Marketing Workshop 11/3/15**

Members were invited to contact council if anyone was interested in attending the free workshop.

**f. Michael Vowles, Loxton Waikerie Council re Deb Thiele’s appointment as the new council liaison with the Loxton Chamber of Commerce.**

Michael thanked members for making him welcome during his time as council liaison and informed members that Deb Thiele would be replacing him for the next four years.

**\*OUT\***

**a. Letter to Deb Thiele, Loxton Waikerie Council re East Tce Revitalisation prioritisation.**

Sonya advised there has been no response to date.

**b. Budget Bid submitted to Loxton Waikerie Council for \$10k funding towards Loxton Light Up Day.**

**c. Email to Paul Kaesler and Peter Magarey re potential farm machinery parade on Saturday, August 1, 2015.**

Sonya sought more information from the event organisers about this year’s event, as council were unable to provide any information.

**d. February’s edition of Chamber Chat was emailed to members.**

Moved: Ryan Seaman. Seconded: Sharyn Schlein. Carried - all in favour.

**BUSINESS WATCH REPORT:**

Presented by Mick Searle.

- Constable Searle began by informing members of the upcoming forum at Loxton. It will be held at the Loxton District Bowling Club on Wednesday, March 25, between 7pm and 9pm. Refreshments will be provided.
- Advised an arrest was made for the recent robbery at the Loxton jeweller’s premises. The accused is now in police custody.
- Emphasized the importance of the ‘lock it or lose it’ message, following a number of thefts from unlocked homes and vehicles in Loxton recently.
- Expressed gratitude to the Loxton SES and MFS members, who assisted in a search for a missing person recently.
- New sergeant in Loxton is Mark Howie.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

Mike Taylor an apology. No report presented. Lew Gibbs requested that a report still be presented to members in future, despite the absence of the treasurer.

**COUNCIL REPORT:**

Deb Thiele an apology. No report presented.

**BUSINESS & EVENTS MANAGERS REPORT:**

Presented by Sonya Altschwager.

#### March shopping promotion

- Commercial commences on Sunday, March 8, for two weeks.
- Sonya to distribute promotional materials to Gold Members on Friday, March 6.
- Ads in *The Loxton News* on Thursday, March 23 (due to long weekend) and *The Murray Pioneer* on Friday, March 13.

#### 2015 Easter picnic

- Saturday, April 4, from 10am, Rotunda lawns.
- Free quarter page ad in *The Loxton News* as per 2015 Contra Agreement. Sonya to follow up whether *The Loxton News* might write some editorial in the lead up to the advertisement.
- Sponsorship from *The Loxton News*, Riv Tinting/Larry Signs, Loxton Hotel at the moment.

#### Pedal Prix

- Initial meeting with council re planning. Event booked out already with 90 teams.
- Advised date in February Chamber Chat but need to liaise with businesses regularly re road closures.

Crystal Petch questioned whether road closures have been reviewed, following some complaints from the Loxton Pizza Bar following last year's event. Sonya Altschwager said the situation had been resolved for this year's pedal prix.

Sue McKee asked whether it would be possible for her to have a stall in the main street during the event this year. Sonya advised that there was an intention for any local food stalls to be set up on Martha Street as a food court.

- Catering: meeting to be scheduled with interested chamber members.
- Life FM outside broadcast

Sonya Altschwager advised members that Life FM has expressed interest in broadcasting live from the pedal prix event in April. Sonya said she would look into whether the street PA system would be adequate. If so, some promotion might also be possible for the food available to purchase.

#### Light Up Day

- Applied for funding through Council Budget Bid \$10k sought.
- Sponsorships open at SA Water, due March 31. \$2k sought.

Sonya tabled report to be accepted.

Moved: Paul Lewis. Seconded: Ted Sinoch. Carried – all in favour.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**A. Mainstreet SA Annual Conference. Friday, April 17, 2015, Adelaide. Tom O'Toole is guest speaker. Registrations \$355pp (members) comes out of council \$5k funding. Traditionally, the chamber has sent two reps (two concurrent sessions run at conference). Council cannot represent as it is its meeting day. Early bird closes 20 March, then \$405pp.**

Sonya invited any members interested in attending the conference to speak to her. Sonya to enquire if council would provide a car to travel to the conference.

**Recommendation: chamber send two reps again this year.**

Moved: Sharyn Schlein. Seconded: Tully Bates. Carried – all in favour.

**B. Arts on Terrace – Council are stepping back from the operations of this event and have asked if chamber are prepared to take on the responsibility.**

Sharyn Schlein asked what this would mean in terms of additional workload for Sonya, who coordinates the event. It was established that it would have little effect.

**Recommendation: chamber continue to manage the Arts on Terrace event as long as council fund it and with option to reconsider after two years.**

Moved: Crystal Petch. Seconded: Ryan Seaman. Carried – all in favour.

**C. 2015 Pedal Prix – special Sunday trade on Sunday, May 3, in conjunction with event?**

Sonya advised members that last year's event was beneficial for local businesses who chose to open during the pedal prix. Crystal asked if chamber would again be promoting the use of an app. . Sonya not sure this would be worthwhile , after few people utilized the app last year.

**Recommendation: That we have a special Sunday trade as 100 per cent of businesses surveyed last year (who participated) either agreed or strongly agreed that they would support the event again.**

Moved: Deb Petch Seconded: Ryan Seaman. Carried – all in favour.

**D. Chamber members manage the catering for the event internally and not extend the invitation out to community groups such as Lions, Rotary, Apex. NB. They are involved in other facets of the event which provide money for their clubs.**

**Recommendation: That any interested chamber businesses meet to coordinate catering to the benefit of all involved.**

Moved: Tully Bates. Seconded: Paul Lewis. Carried – all in favour.

E. Lew Gibbs asked the executive committee about whether it was looking to change the chamber's constitution due to recent problems acquiring a quorum for meetings. Sonya advised members that the executive committee intended to look at the constitution as a whole, because it needed updating and parts were no longer relevant to the current chamber. Deb Petch said they would be meeting with Ted Sinoch on Thursday to review the constitution.

**SPECIAL GUEST – PAULINE JACHMANN:**

Local apple grower Pauline Jachmann was invited to talk about her successful foray into making apple cider as a way of diversifying her business. She discussed her challenges and victories during her journey, including winning two silver medals at the recent Australian Cider Awards in Melbourne. A cider tasting was held for members following her speech.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:**

Next general meeting is to be held on **Monday, May 4**, at 7.30pm

**MEETING CLOSED:** 9.30pm