

LOXTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC

EXECUTIVE MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2015

Meeting opened: 7.30pm

Present: Sonya Altschwager, Deb Petch, Stephanie Nitschke, Kristy Hobbs, Ryan Seaman, Paul Lewis, Sharyn Shlein, Karen Kilsby.

Apologies: Crystal Petch, Mike Taylor, Annette Winter.

Previous minutes: Motion – that the minutes of the previous executive meeting held Monday, February 2, 2015, be accepted. Moved: Sharyn Schlein, Seconded: Kristy Hobbs. Carried.

Business arising

Position of secretary: Sonya asked the committee for clarification regarding Steph Nitschke's position as secretary, despite not being a member of the chamber. The committee reiterated that Steph volunteered for the position, was nominated at March General Meeting and voted in by those members present. Further clarification of eligibility will be included in the constitution which is currently being reviewed. Sonya also advised she would email Mike Taylor to query whether Steph needs to be included as one of the signatories.

Debrief of new March promotion: Sonya discussed feedback from businesses regarding the March promotion. While mostly positive, some businesses ran out of entry forms and there was some confusion over whether the forms were being picked up or whether businesses had to drop them off.

Debrief of new Easter event: Feedback from traders was mostly positive. However, there was discussion as to whether the chamber should provide tea and coffee at the event next year. Ryan Seaman questioned whether the provision of tea and coffee would be taking business away from local traders. Ryan also questioned whether the event would better serve businesses if it was held on the other side of Drabsch Street between the library and the gazebo. Sonya advised she would consider these points in the planning of next year's Easter picnic.

East Terrace Revitalisation project: The chamber recognised the works have begun. No further follow up will be required on the requested 'schedule of works' whilst this continues.

Council \$5k joint funding – go pro project: Sonya will ask Kim Harris, from the Youth Advisory Council, whether they would be interested in participating in the project. Karen

Kilsby queried whether it would be beneficial for the chamber to purchase a SLR camera to assist with projects and capture stills from chamber events.

Future council funding – highway signage: Following discussions with Peter Ackland from the council, Sonya questioned the committee on whether highway signage would be the best use of funding opposed to a direct marketing campaign. Mr Ackland indicated that a sign would be a significant financial outlay, and Sonya said she would investigate a cheaper option eg. a sign could be placed on a trailer at Mildura turn off instead. She said she would also consider ideas for possible direct marketing campaign, if that's how the chamber chooses to use the funding.

Constitution: Deb Petch and Sonya have had two meetings with Ted Sinoch to review the chamber's constitution. Once it is complete, Karen Kilsby suggested a review every two years to keep it up to date.

Guest speaker: Australian International Pedal Prix chairman Andrew McLachlan will be asked to be guest speaker for the May general meeting, as the meeting falls the day after the pedal prix event. Ryan Seaman suggested a Loxton Waikerie Council representative might like to attend also, to give an idea of how the event went from a council perspective. Sonya to ask Fudge n More for a sampling at the meeting also.

Correspondence

Playground signage – Rosemary French has written to Loxton Waikerie Council about signage at the playground to direct tourists to businesses down the main street. Mrs French suggested businesses might all buy a blade on the sign to help pay for it. Council have asked whether the chamber would like to take the reins on this suggestion. The chamber rejected the idea. Deb Petch asked that the chamber's preference for keeping the playground as free of signage as possible be expressed to council.

Moved: Sharyn Schlein. Seconded: Paul Lewis. Carried.

Request for sponsorship/donation of Dylan Coombe – A letter was received by local photographer Dylan Coombe asking whether the chamber would be willing to make a monetary contribution to Dylan after he was selected to exhibit his photographs in Los Angeles next month. It was decided that the chamber would wish him the best of luck and suggest that perhaps he approach individual businesses for financial support.

Moved: Karen Kilsby. Seconded: Paul Lewis. Carried.

Loxton Fly In – the chamber has been asked to email flyers and information to its members regarding this weekend's fly in event in Loxton. It was decided Stephanie Nitschke would do so once information was forwarded to her by Sonya.

Moved: Ryan Seaman. Seconded: Karen Kilsby. Carried.

Loxton HAC – a letter was received from Merridee Seiboth asking whether the HAC could hold a fundraising catering stall for the upcoming pedal prix event. As the HAC are not

chamber members, it was decided that this request would be denied but they will be considered for catering in the future.

Moved: Ryan Seaman. Seconded: Kristy Hobbs. Carried.

Business arising from correspondence: None.

Reports

Treasurer's report: Mike Taylor – Mike was an apology. The financial report with figures from July 2014 to March 2015 was tabled.

Moved: Karen Kilsby. Seconded: Sharyn Schlein.

Business and event manager's report: Sonya Altschwager

Trestle tables: Sonya asked the chamber whether it would be possible to purchase 10 trestle tables to use during chamber events. It was suggested that Sonya discuss with Mike Taylor, and add the cost into the 2015/16 budget.

Pedal prix: Sonya said a spreadsheet would be put on the chamber website to promote the food vendors at this year's Loxton pedal prix event. Also, Sonya asked chamber members to think about some questions for the surveys that will be circulated during the event. Some volunteers will be needed for a few hours that day to distribute the surveys. Sonya will include a call for volunteers in the next chamber chat.

Arts on Terrace: Sonya asked to confirm what fee we would be charging for the event management this year. Following discussion it was decided \$35 p/hr (increased from \$32.50 p/hr in 2014). Moved: Ryan Seaman. Seconded: Karen Kilsby

Sonya said she will be sending out correspondence soon to remind people to get their entries ready for this year's junk art competition at Arts on Terrace.

Chamber flags, stickers and doormats for shops: Feedback was received about not having any visual acknowledgement for businesses who are members of the chamber. Sonya will look into quotes from Larry's Signs for Loxton Chamber of Commerce window stickers, bumper stickers, flags and doormat stickers for pavers.

Pop up chamber shop: Sonya raised the possibility of a pop up chamber shop in the main street, as a way to give the chamber more of a presence. Paul Lewis said he will look into the possibility of providing an office for Sonya at Riverland Lending Services.

Standardised tax invoices: Sonya will discuss with Mike Taylor about including a confirmation form in this year's membership brochure that, once complete, can be used as a tax receipt/invoice.

Report tabled. Moved: Sharyn Schlein. Seconded: Paul Lewis. Carried.

General business

Main Street SA Annual Conference: Deb Petch and Sonya Altschwager will be the two chamber representatives attending on Friday, April 17. Council were unable to provide a car but have offered to pay for petrol to and from the event out of chamber funding.

May shopping promotion 2015: It was decided that the '500 Great Reasons to Shop in Loxton' May shopping promotion will begin the week after pedal prix event and will run for two weeks (May 11 until May 22). The winners of 5 X \$100 vouchers will be drawn on Saturday, May 23. It was decided that Totally Exposed would remain the drop off point for businesses who wish to drop off their entries.

2015/2016 membership and budget forecast: Members were each given a copy to take home and look through. Some figures will need to be updated due to the decision to make May promotion a week shorter. Also, Sharyn Schlein asked if we could see a breakdown of work cover, super and tax in the co-ordinator's proposed wage increase.

Chamber Annual Dinner: Date chosen Wednesday 27th May 2015 at Loxton Hotel, 1908 room. Karen to check availability. Sonya to approach High School students who visited Gallipoli for Anzac Day to talk about their experience. Alternatively, contact Mark Howie new local SAPOL Sergeant.

Weekly 'Thursday Market Day' for home-based, web-based businesses: to be discussed at a future meeting.

Executive report included in general meetings: It was decided that an 'executive report' would be included in the reminder emails sent out to members before the general meetings. This will be simple dot point highlights from the executive meetings, including projects the committee is working on. Also, members will be invited to send in any agenda items they wish to add to the general meeting to Stephanie Nitschke by the close of business on the Friday before the meeting.

Next executive meeting: Monday, June 1, 2015, at the Loxton Hotel from 7.30pm.

Meeting closed: 9.46pm.