

LOXTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

Monday, March 7, 2016

- 1. Meeting opened: 7.34pm.**
- 2. Present**
Deb Petch, Sonya Altschwager, Steph Nitschke, Les Burgemeister, Lew Gibbs, Kristy Hobbs, Annette Winter, Sue McKee, Darren McKee, Deb Thiele, Ted Sinoch, Michael Hitch, Ryan Seaman, Jodie Koch, Karen Kilsby, Paul Lewis, Jane Wilson.
- 3. Apologies**
Sharyn Schlein, Jane Grant, Nikki Voigt, Julie Dansie, Keri Blaser.

Guest speaker Les Burgemeister made a presentation on behalf of the Rotary Club of Loxton's 'Helping Hands' initiative. Sonya said the chamber would distribute an email among all member businesses to give them the opportunity to support the cause, which fits prosthetic hands to victims in Cambodia who have been affected by land mines.
- 4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting held Monday, December 14, 2015.**
Moved: Sue McKee. Seconded: Annette Winter.
- 5. Business Arising from minutes: Nil.**
- 6. Correspondence – In**
 - Rotary Club of Loxton Pride of Workmanship Awards.
 - Minutes from Loxton Christmas Lights January call back meeting.
 - RDA Murraylands workshop flyers.
- 7. Correspondence – Out**
February Chamber Chat.
Moved: Jane Wilson. Seconded: Paul Lewis.
- 8. Business Arising from correspondence**
*Sonya explained that following the resignation of Arch Altschwager from the Loxton Christmas Lights Committee, the chamber will now be responsible for replacing him with another volunteer to erect Santa's Cave.
*It was suggested that the chamber approach Loxton's Men's Shed.
Sonya to follow up.
- 9. Reports**
 - a) **SAPOL, Mick Searle – absent.**
 - b) **Loxton Waikerie Council – Deb Thiele.**

- Deb said council has been delivering workshops to inform the public about the current budgeting process, as well as interacting with stakeholders regarding the Loxton Sporting Complex proposals.
- In regards to a community concerns over a new restaurant liquor license in East Terrace, Deb said she has followed up with council staff. Consequently, she said she has increased her personal understanding of council's obligations and assessment processes of an application against the 'Development Act 1993' and is satisfied that all of council's obligations and assessment processes have been duly followed.
- Jane Wilson asked Deb about the council's long-term plans for the Loxton Riverfront Carvan Park. Jane asked if there would be a possibility of selling the caravan park to developers who would be able to spend some money on the facility. Deb said only minor changes to the park were featured in the council's long-term financial plan (next 10 years). However, she encouraged Jane to write to council with any questions about the caravan park's future.
- Sonya also raised a query about whether improvements would be possible to a footpath out the front of Riverland Sheds. Deb encouraged the business owners to write to council and lodge a works request.

Moved: Ryan Seaman. Seconded: Paul Lewis.

c) Treasurer's Report, Sue McKee

- Westpac account is almost closed and account with ANZ is almost finalized, just waiting on the last few cheques to come through and the chamber will be fully operational with the ANZ Bank.
- Sue asked if there had been any progress finding her replacement, as she will be leaving the area. Paul Lewis said he was following up on some promising leads.

Moved: Karen Kilsby. Seconded: Annette Winter.

d) Business & Events Manager Report, Sonya Altschwager

- March shopping promotion has begun. Three winners will be drawn at the chamber's Easter picnic.
- The Easter picnic will go ahead on Saturday, March 26, and Sonya said she would like some volunteers to assist with activities and setting up.
- Based on last year's feedback, complimentary tea and coffee will also be served as part of the picnic. As last year's banner is still missing, Deb said Larry's Signs will be donating a banner.
- Following the Loxton Mardi Gras, Sonya said a number of main street traders were pleasantly surprised by the day's trade, which was up on previous years.

Moved: Annette Winter. Seconded: Kristy Hobbs.

10. General Business

***Loxton Rotary Club presentation.**

Deb and Sonya attended a rotary event and gave a presentation about the chamber, which was well received. Deb asked if there was a way the chamber could be involved in the Pride of Workmanship Awards in the future. However, Paul Lewis said he was uncertain of the benefits to members.

*It was suggested that Rotary Club member Ian MacInnes be asked as guest speaker at the annual chamber dinner in June. Ted Sinoch said he would approach Ian about whether he would be willing to do so.

***Decision on 2016 annual chamber dinner date.**

At this stage, the 2016 annual Loxton Chamber of Commerce dinner date will be held on Thursday, June 2.

***Riverland Events Forum.**

Deb and Sonya to attend the event on behalf of the Loxton Chamber of Commerce.

***Novita Craft Fair request to join with the Arts on Terrace activities, August 14, 2016.**

Organisers of the Novita Craft Fair have asked whether it would be possible to hold the fair on the same day as the Arts on Terrace event, as their current date clashes with football/netball finals. Members were happy for this to go ahead. However, following the dissolution of the Terrace Gallery, members asked that Sonya contact Julie Noble and try to find out how many artists would still be willing to participate.

***Voucher box at Loxton Visitor Information Centre**

Sue McKee asked whether it would be possible to put a box at the Loxton VIC where local businesses could deposit vouchers. The treasurer would then be able to collect them when convenient. Sonya said she would follow up with VIC.

11. Meeting closed: 9.22pm.