



Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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Think Globally. Act Locally!

Minutes of 2nd Ordinary Meeting for 2016-2017

Date: Saturday, 11 February 2017

Venue: HOPE office, 22 Vacy Street, Toowoomba

Time: 10.00 am

Meeting opened at 10.05 am.

1. Introductions, attendees, apologies and morning tea and lunch provided
 - a. Attendees: Frank Ondrus, Sue Higgins, Jihua Tang (new member), Steve Cupitt, Charmaine Turnbull, Olivia Adams (Centenary Heights School Environment Group), Miriam Sharp and Andrew Nicholson
 - b. Apologies: John McVeigh MP (Member for Groom), Anjan Roy, Narelle McCarthy (SCEC), Terry Ryan
 - c. Proxy votes: Nil
2. Declaration(s) of Conflict – Nil
- 3a. Confirmation of minutes from Ordinary Meeting of 12 November 2016
Moved Miriam, seconded Sue. Agreed by all.
- 3b. Business arising – Nil
- 4a. Confirmation of minutes from Planning meeting of 14 January 2017
Moved Frank, seconded by Sue. Agreed by all.
- 4b. Business arising – Nil
5. Correspondence
 - a. Incoming - Steady stream of daily e: mail correspondence – junk mail jettisoned; other correspondence vetted and on-forwarded to - specific office bearers; other key stakeholders; media; and the occasional global email to members & supporters.
 - b. Outgoing - See email & hard-copy folders
 - c. Business arising from correspondence – Nil
6. Reports tabled
 - a. Office Managers Report for the first quarter of 2016/2017 (see attached document)
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - Opening balance as at 1 November 2016 = \$3,211.31
 - Closing balance as at 31 January 2017 = \$3,132.33
 - Unpresented cheque – 200592 for \$70 as payment for GCSE Conference Registration Fee
 - Donation of \$30 from Joanne Cork

7. General business

a. Funding application results

- The Gambling Community Benefit Fund (GCBF) application for office computers and equipment was unsuccessful. Frank has been in discussion with a local business regarding possible funding for a portable display counter and P.A. system. Should this not be successful, another application for funding will be made on a smaller scale to GCBF.
- The PCYC (Qld) Community Grant application was successful. HOPE and Friends of the Escarpment Parks (FEP) Toowoomba will be working together to host an Open Day at Redwood Park on Saturday, 8 April 2017. The day includes a program of short talks and walks, information displays, a FREE lunch-time sausage sizzle and two x 2 hours *Nature Journaling* workshops delivered by Dr Paula Peeters. Charmaine has posted the event on Facebook and Sue will be posting the event on the official Youth Week page on Monday, 13 February 2017 as well as working on the flyers to be distributed once they have been approved by PCYC on 23 February 2017. Toowoomba Motor Group has offered the use of the Courtesy Coach to transport participants to and from the venue. Jihua will take video footage and photos of the event. Steve may be able to deliver a talk on the day. It is proposed to involve as many schools as possible.
- Gambling Community Benefit Fund (GCBF) application prepared by Mark Kleinschmidt for an Energy Efficiency seminar series has been submitted.
- The Queensland Governments 2017 Queensland Women's Week grant application was unsuccessful.

b. Proposed funding applications

- Frank asked Steve to look at possible Landcare funding for an environmental Glovebox Guide.
- Creating a Wildlife Friendly Backyard workshop for later in the year
- Toowoomba Regional Council Funding – Recycled Art Workshop for Adults and Secondary Students through Reverse Garbage in Brisbane.

c. RADF (Regional Arts Development Fund) – 2017-2018

Andrew arrived at 10.50 am to discuss his Environmental Art-Science Project. To enable HOPE to gain assistance from Arts Council Toowoomba, we are required to become members. Sue moved to pay the interim \$10 membership fee and the full membership fee of \$50 for associate membership plus an additional \$20 to be linked to their web site when it falls due in July. Seconded Miriam. Agreed by all.

d. Community Forums

- Excel Solar have advised that they are unable to present at the Going Solar Forum in June. We need to find another presenter.
- We have 10 registrations to date for the Organic Gardening Forum. Jihua will be attending to take photos. Sue volunteered to attend as well.

e. Meet our new volunteer Jihua Tang – Jihua is from Kunming, of China's southern Yunnan province. Jihua worked with the French organisation Initiative Developpement (ID) China after graduating from Yunnan University with an MSC in Ecology. Initially in charge of training and biogas project follow up he became responsible for carbon projects development, carbon documents writing, carbon household survey, carbon data analysis and processing as well as carbon finance consulting for ID partners. Unfortunately, the Carbon Market collapsed, the project could not continue and he moved to Toowoomba with his family.

f. Olivia informed the meeting that the Centenary Heights Environment Club were looking at placing recycling bins in every classroom and a composting bin at the school this year.

8. Social activities

- Our first social event is a picnic lunch on 18 March at 12.00 pm at Queens Park.
- Upcoming shows at Toowoomba Repertory Theatre were also discussed.

9. Next ordinary meeting – 10 June 2017

10. Meeting closed at 11.50am.