

Gunnedah & District Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc.  
Committee Meeting Tuesday 19 May 2020 at 6pm

**MINUTES**

Zoom

Invited: Juliana McArthur, Michael Broekman, Gerry McDonald, Susan Frater, Stacey McAllan, Angela McCormack, Amanda Heinemann

Apologies: Ashleigh Foster, Tracie Finlay, Treena Daniells, Tana Byrnes

Chair: Juliana McArthur (President) Meeting opened at 6.04pm

Agenda Items:

**1. Minutes of previous meeting**

- a. Moved Broekman Seconded McDonald that the minutes of April meeting were true and correct. Carried.
- b. Business and actions arising from previous minutes – Invoices sent to Whitehaven as requested by Amanda

**2. Presidents Update**

- a. New butcher in Coles complex Streeter Meats, good to welcome new business
- b. Great to see more Covid-19 restrictions lifting (after some 9 weeks of lockdown to date with businesses closed and social distancing, restrictions on activities outside the home) – schools starting fulltime from May 25, still need a vigilance and social distancing message, saw an increase in town traffic from Mothers' Day
- c. Sent a letter to Council re local procurement and spending
- d. Have been requesting local testing with the Mayor and pleased to see that local testing is now available – confirmation of negative status' will assist in getting more open, need to measure, confidence that Covid-19 clear in the district
- e. Media in NVI today repeating findings of April survey and business recovery and ABC New England North West last week
- f. Continuing to seek responses from Committee and members regarding recovery and what can be done next especially coming out of drought, looking at business planning, marketing, business support, maybe benchmarking, inspirational speaker to engage & inspire members? Maybe more Chamber to Chamber business connections?
- g. Idea of local business awards for 2020 – discussion of the idea given regional and state awards are postponed until 2021, discussion of costs for event, look forward to a night out, seen as uplifting but not out of the woods yet, can't really plan for much, maybe virtual awards?
- h. Idea of benchmarking or inspirational speaker to attract and engage members – what is the new normal? What has changed, business models disrupted, snapshot Gunnedah business success. Maybe a comedy type event e.g. Tom Gleeson, Geraldine Hickey videos/vignettes of how we got through Covid-19, a fun night with take-away messages, potential for funding from BPP? Needs a coordinator, videographer, sponsors... maybe a bit of seed money, need a celebration coming out of this time!
- i. Approach Kevin Anderson's office and other e.g. Drought Events funding to look for co-funding
- j. Weekly Zoom meetings ongoing with Council's Business Development team and Chamber Exec

**3. Treasurer's Report**

- a. President noted Treasurer has submitted resignation today, on behalf of the Committee thanked Treena very much for her years of service and efforts and sincerely wish her all the best in her new coastal life
- b. Treasurer's Report received – Moved Frater Seconded Broekman – Carried.
- c. Discussion of approaching an accounting firm member to support a new Treasurer from now and ongoing – Secretary to follow up

#### **4. Secretary's Report**

- a. Correspondence and Actions Arising
- b. Publicity – Facebook posts, E-newsletter sent
- c. Moved Frater seconded McCormack Carried
- d. Planning for AGM and new Committee – Current committee requested to advise of 2020/21 availability at June meeting, date for AGM to be set at June meeting

#### **5. New memberships - Nil**

#### **6. Subcommittees Update - Nil**

#### **7. Chamber representative updates (if available)**

- Skills Committee – some Zoom meetings have been held
- Hay & Harvest Festival – looks like 2021
- Crime Prevention
- Access
- Economic Development – met in April, focused on Covid-19 recovery
- Gunnedah Scholarship Fund
- Sister Cities and Friendly Relationships – mothballed
- NSW Business Chamber Regional Advisory Council

#### **8. General Business**

- a. Networking – members invited to show interest in a Zoom this month, not enough interest.
- b. Other – Noted TAFE face to face classes were impacted between March and May.
- c. Next Meeting – Tuesday 16 June 6pm

Meeting closed at 6.59pm