

Gunnedah & District Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc.  
Committee Meeting Tuesday 28 April 2020 at 6pm

**MINUTES**

Meeting held via Zoom

Invited: Juliana McArthur, Ashleigh Foster, Tracie Finlay, Michael Broekman, Gerry McDonald, Susan Frater, Amanda Heinemann

Apologies: Stacey McAllan, Treena Daniells, Tana Byrnes, Angela McCormack,

Chair: Juliana McArthur (President) Meeting opened at 6.04

Agenda Items:

**1. Minutes of previous meeting**

- a. Moved Frater Seconded McDonald that the minutes of March meeting were true and correct. Carried.
- b. Business and actions arising from previous minutes – President has agreed with Whitehaven payment schedule for sponsorship of Christmas Fair. Christmas Fair coordinator to invoice Chamber now for first payment

**2. Presidents Update**

- a. Covid-19 restrictions (after some 6 weeks of lockdown to date with businesses closed and social distancing, restrictions on activities outside the home) will gradually start to lift from later this week, looking to re-open local business which will be wonderful, appreciate feedback from Committee on ideas to pass on to Council
- b. Twice-weekly Zoom meetings ongoing with Council's Business Development team and Chamber Exec

**3. Treasurer's Report**

- a. No expenses for approval. Note payment of PO Box from next year by cheque will incur \$100 fee.
- b. No Treasurer's Report tabled

**4. Secretary's Report**

- a. Correspondence and Actions Arising noted
- b. RDA NI survey (distributed in member email blast and other) - results pending
- c. Snapshot survey to members received 40 responses – results distributed to Committee and OK to update Council
- d. Publicity – Facebook posts are being well received
- e. Planning for AGM and new Committee – maybe share a bit more

**5. New memberships** Connect Communications acceptance as a member moved Frater seconded McArthur. Carried.

Discussion of how to attract more businesses to Chamber, issue of us not being seen as a one-stop-shop first port of call for local businesses that we once were.

**6. Christmas Fair Update** – AgQuip has moved to 10-12 November, discussion of whether or not to combine Christmas Fair (currently Friday 27 November) with NightQuip. Potentially separate audiences, AgQuip visitors versus community and families at Christmas Fair. It was noted Christmas Fair objective of benefits to main street retailers would be better served by two separate events. Committee agreed to hold separate events.

In terms of any costs, there was discussion of no application fee for members as an option, noted it is complicated and time consuming to collect a \$25 fee from stallholders with the idea of them paying via direct debit on an invoice which became the tax invoice. Discussion of options if sponsorship covers all costs should the Fair have a cost. After discussion the motion of \$25 cost to non-members and free to members was moved Juliana McArthur seconded Michael Broekman. Carried.

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

- Hay & Harvest Festival – looks like 2021
- Crime Prevention
- Access
- Economic Development – meeting 21 April focus on Covid-19 issues, Council's program to support local businesses discussed in detail, Chamber's position is still looking for more commitment and possibly evidence from Council to buy locally, a planned review hasn't started yet
- Gunnedah Scholarship Fund
- Sister Cities and Friendly Relationships
- NSW Business Chamber Regional Advisory Council

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

- a. Idea from Mike to consider community / businesses re-opening event in main street, maybe a BBQ? Celebration of the relaxation of limitations when cafes and restaurants can reopen...? Engage sporting clubs, maybe a Saturday morning... expecting piecemeal opening but still want to celebrate and attract people back to main street and town – Committee agreed 'Watch & Act' for a 'Freedom Day'
- b. Networking – first Zoom networking held last week, next date Thursday 21 May
- c. Drive through flu-vax in Showground last week from local medical practice – noted
- d. Message from Police re business safety to be emailed to all members
- e. Next Committee Meeting – Tuesday 19 May by Zoom

Meeting closed – 7.02pm