



RICHMOND VALLEY COUNCIL

Minutes

Reserve Trust Meeting

Tuesday, 3 February 2009

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MINUTES OF THE RESERVE TRUST MEETING OF RICHMOND VALLEY COUNCIL, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CNR WALKER STREET AND GRAHAM PLACE, CASINO, ON TUESDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2009 AT 3.30 P.M.

PRESENT

Crs. C.J. Sullivan (Mayor), C.J. Cox, O. Crawford, S.A. George, D.A. Kinnish, R.A. Mustow and S.N. Wheatley.

The General Manager, Director Corporate Services, and Executive Assistant (Annette Phelps) were also in attendance.

1 APOLOGIES

An apology was tendered on behalf of Cr. Morrissey.

RT030209/ 1 RESOLVED (Cr. Mustow/Cr. Wheatley)

That such apology be accepted and leave of absence granted.

FOR VOTE - All Council members voted unanimously.
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr. Morrissey

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Nil.

3 REPORTS

3.1 CO-OPERA PERFORMANCE - EVANS HEAD RECREATION RESERVE

Reference: Recreation and Cultural Services - Event Management;
Parks and Reserves - Usage, Trusts; P1001587

Prepared by: Events and Cultural Liaison Officer

Background

Co-Opera has previously been held in Casino on three occasions; 2005, 2006 and 2007, with mixed results as far as attendance to the performances.

Co-Opera is a South Australian based company who receive government funding to bring opera events to regional Australia. This year they are to bring the popular Mozart Opera 'The Magic Flute'.

To reach a larger audience than in previous years, it is proposed to stage the 2009 production free and outdoors on 6 March 2009 on the Recreation Reserve at Evans Head.

Report

Issues

Parking will be managed around the Kiosk and community hall and the local P&C have been approached to assist with the co-ordination, in return for collecting Gold Coin donations during the event which will go to the school.

A lifting of the Alcohol restrictions in the reserve would be required to allow people to bring refreshments for consumption during the event. No alcohol will be sold on-site.

Sound will be kept to an appropriate level and the show will be finished by 10.30 pm.

Policy

This event relates to the Richmond Valley Events Strategy as well as the Business/Operations Plan for the Silver Sands Holiday Park. It also has a direct relation to the Cultural Plan that will be adopted by Council later this year.

Environmental

Co-Opera will be a Waste Wise event in that processes will be implemented to reduce waste and ensure recycling will be undertaken by all vendors and participants.

Social

A free cultural event such as proposed, will allow the performance to be accessible to residents who may not be able to pay or willing to pay to see such a show. Given the opportunity people would be willing to take part in a community event, this exposure is important in the further development of our local audience.

Events like this also promote community pride and can be a good catalyst for bringing the community of the Richmond Valley together for a positive and memorable experience.

The event will also feature the local “One Voice” choir who will be accompanying the cast in the performance.

Financial

The event budget will be drawn from the Events Vote and supported by Silver Sands Holiday Park. Financial support is also to be sought through NORPA and commercial enterprises through sponsorship.

Income will be also gained through catering concessions on site during the event. The total estimated cost is approximately \$7,000.

Economic

Economic benefits to local businesses will be achieved through increased visitation from people from other parts of the Richmond Valley and the Northern Rivers.

This type of event will attract a portion of people who may not usually come to Evans Head, and highly likely to return at some stage because of the natural environment and services available in the Village.

Conclusion

This opportunity allows us to attract people from around the Richmond Valley and Northern Rivers to enjoy an entertaining night out under the stars surrounded by the natural environment of Evans Head.

It makes this performance accessible to all residents, which is important in our ongoing development of cultural activities in the local government area.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommended that approval be granted for the Co-Opera performance to take place on the Evans Head Recreation Reserve on Friday, 6 March 2009.

RT030209/ 2 RESOLVED (Cr. Cox/Cr. Wheatley)

That the above recommendation be adopted.

FOR VOTE - All Council members voted unanimously.
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr. Morrissey

3.2 SILVER SANDS HOLIDAY PARK YOUTH WORKERS

Reference: Community Services - Service Provision; Reporting Parks and Reserves - Service Provision,

Prepared by: Community Projects Officer

Background

Over the past few years, Richmond Valley Council has employed youth workers at the Silver Sands Holiday Park over the Christmas Holidays and this practice has continued.

A total of eight youth workers worked during this period and each week they met for supervision with the Community Projects Officer, documented the previous week's activity and prepared for the next week of work.

A summary of the information gained and issues raised at these supervision sessions can be seen below.

Report

Issues

The following table lists the days that the youth workers worked and the number of young people that were seen by them:

Date	Hours Worked	Approximate number of youth
Thursday, 18 December 2008	10.00pm-11.00pm	5
Friday, 19 December 2008	10.00pm-2.00am	25
Saturday, 20 December 2008	10.00pm-2.00am	60
Thursday, 25 December 2008	10.00pm-1.00am	10
Friday 26, December 2008	10.00pm-3.00am	40
Saturday, 27 December 2008	10.00pm-1.30am	45
Sunday, 28 December 2008	10.00pm-2.00am	30
Monday, 29 December 2008	10.00pm-2.00am	40
Tuesday, 30 December 2008	10.00pm-1.30am	50
Wednesday, 31 December 2008	9.00pm-3.00am	1,000
Thursday, 1 January 2009	10.00pm-12:30am	10
Friday, 2 January 2009	10.00pm-2.00am	25
Saturday, 3 January 2009	10.00pm-2.00am	30
Thursday, 8 January 2009	9.00pm-2.00am	60
Friday, 9 January 2009	10.00pm-3.00am	70
Saturday, 10 January 2009	10.00pm-2.00am	50
Thursday, 15 January 2009	9.00pm-1.00am	50
Friday, 16 January 2009	9.00pm-2.00am	100
Saturday, 17 January 2009	10.00pm-2.00am	50
Thursday, 22 January 2009	10.00pm-2.00am	Nil
Friday 23, January 2009	10.00pm-2.00am	30
Saturday, 24 January 2009	9.00pm-2.00am	15
Sunday, 25 January 2009	9.00pm-2.00am	15
Monday, 26 January 2009	9.00pm-2.00am	100

Successes of the youth workers over this period included:

- Documented crimes that young people perpetrated and/or were victims of.
- Protection of young people from becoming victims of crime.

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- Liaised with the police (or encouraged young people to talk to the police) in relation to these crimes as appropriate.
 - Assisted young people who were taking risks to behave more safely.
 - The youth workers dispersed a number of altercations and provided first aid to young people and caravan park residents on a number of occasions
 - The youth workers helped to address problem drinking in the park.
 - Youth workers liaised with the Silver Sands Holiday Park Managers, Rangers, Police and ECI security as appropriate.
 - Youth workers undertook a survey with young people
 - The youth workers were very visible and good public relations for Council and young people and residents alike were impressed with Council's approach to youth issues in the park.

Successful elements of the program that need to be retained for future years included:

- Fluro uniforms
- Weekly debriefings of youth workers with Council Staff
- Mix of staff in terms of age, gender and Aboriginality
- The employment of local youth workers
- A site and caravan as a base
- Working every night between Christmas and New Year.

New elements that were successful this year included:

- Better equipment in first aid and torches
- Better referral material for the youth workers
- Better information about current drugs and their effects for the youth workers.
- Taxi vouchers for youth workers to call on the local taxi company

Suggestions for improvement of the program in future years included:

1. Low key and safe recreational opportunities that encourage young people to be sober (like Pois and glow in the dark beach volleyball) be offered by youth workers.
2. Organised meetings with Casino, Kyogle and Nimbin youth workers prior to working.
3. Some form of alcohol-free entertainment to be made available to young people throughout the Christmas period and especially for New Year's Eve (possibly at Stan Payne Oval).
4. Youth workers found New Years Eve particularly difficult and at times felt quite unsafe and unsupported. They recommend further and better liaison with police and security guards prior to next year.
5. Youth workers found that the starting time of 10.00pm was often too late and trouble was already occurring; they also noticed that by 3.00pm it was often quieter and recommended a return to a start time of 9.00pm and finish

at 2.00pm with discretion to stay if young people were still out and at risk at this time.

6. Youth workers had reports from park residents, locals and witnessed for themselves that young people are not only out on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Some of the most serious crimes happened when the youth workers were not on duty. Youth Workers recommended that they be rostered on every night of the school holidays next year.
7. Youth workers recommended that Evans Head be restricted to all but park visitors and Evans Head residents on New Years Eve to stop people from other areas coming in and causing anti-social behaviour.
8. Youth workers recommended that the Skate Park have lighting in future to reduce the risk of accidents for riders in the dark.

Legal

Youth Workers made notifications to the Department of Community Services in relation to their concerns about children and young people in abusive situations. The youth workers also made a number of reports to the police about crimes that they witnessed or suspected.

Asset

Silver Sands Holiday Park youth workers protected Council assets at and around the Silver Sands Holiday Park over the Christmas holidays. The placing of temporary lighting over the whole Christmas holiday period at the Silver Sands Holiday Park is recommended by the Youth Workers for future years at the Holiday Park.

Social

The employment of Youth Workers at the Silver Sands Holiday Park has been very significant and beneficial for Social Planning purposes. It keeps Council informed and addresses issues facing youth in the Evans Head area. This program also keeps council informed about and addresses issues to do with crime, drug and alcohol use and service provision in the Evans Head area.

Consultation

The employment of Silver Sands Holiday Park youth workers has been of great interest to Council Staff, Holiday Makers and Businesses in Evans Head. Youth Workers attended a meeting to organise for New Years Eve that also had present ECI Security service, Council Staff, Ambulance, Surf Life Saving Club and Fire Brigade. These consultations should continue next year. The issues raised by the Youth Workers in relation for the need for more activities especially on New Years Eve night will also need consultation with Evans Head Businesses, Youth and Police.

Staff

Youth workers for the Silver Sands Holiday Park are employed by Richmond Valley Council through North Coast Workforce. They are recruited through 'word of mouth' as essential criterion required for their employment includes that they have connections with local Evans Head, Casino or Kyogle young people and preference is given to the employment of Aboriginal staff and young people. All staff who are employed must have a Certificate IV or greater in community services, youth work or education.

Strategic Links

This program has been delivered under the guidance of the Richmond Valley Social Plan.

Financial Implications

The employment of Youth workers was funded from the Silver Sands Holiday Park budget and was under the allocated \$20,000 in total for wages and associated items.

Conclusion

The report provides valuable input for consideration as part of the future provision of youth and security services at Evans Head.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommended that:

1. The report be received and noted.
2. Council approve the use of Youth Workers at the Silver Sands Holiday Park for the 2009/2010 Christmas/New Year period.
3. Alcohol Free Entertainment be considered for young people on New Years Eve next year (at Stan Payne Oval).
4. The successful elements of the project listed above be retained for next year.
5. The issues of concern and recommended solutions be considered for next year.

RT030209/ 3 RESOLVED (Cr. Wheatley/Cr. Cox)

That the above recommendation be adopted.

FOR VOTE - All Council members voted unanimously.
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr. Morrissey

3.3 MID RICHMOND RESIDENTS VILLAGE - REPLACEMENT OF BUS

Reference: Community Services - Service Provision; P21332, P21333

Prepared by: Director Corporate Services

Background

The Mid Richmond Residents Village Operational and Strategic Planning and Policy Committees have been considering options for replacement of the bus for some time. The current bus is a twenty two (22) seater, approximately 12 years old, has no air-conditioning and is experiencing problems meeting RTA six monthly registration requirements. It also a requirement that the driver of the current bus hold a bus licence.

Report**Issues**

Council's Purchasing Officer has obtained quotations from Lismore Toyota which were considered by the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee on 26 November 2008. The proposal is to trade the Toyota Camry Station Wagon for \$7,000, auction the current bus for an estimated \$20,000 and accept the quotation from Lismore Toyota for an automatic diesel twelve (12) seater Toyota bus in an amount of \$48,223.

On 28 January 2009, Council was advised by City Toyota that the bus on order has had a price increase of \$2,000 due to the fall in AUD\$ against Japanese YEN. City Toyota originally quoted on a trade vehicle (Camry Wagon) in September 2008 in the amount of \$7,000. The plan for the existing bus is to consign it to auction in Brisbane when the new bus arrives and City Toyota is asking for \$1,500 of the increase.

There is not much option for Council; if it refuses the \$1,500 increase, City Toyota will not honour the original quotation which would lead to Council to seek further quotations and to pay the full amount of the increase (\$2,000). Additionally, the trade-in vehicle would not attract the same value, given the current slump in second hand vehicle residual values. Accepting the price increase of \$1,500 seems to present the best option for Council.

Financial Implications

The balance of funds required are able to be funded from savings achieved in the kitchen and laundry upgrade and will be incorporated in the next budget review.

Conclusion

By acquiring the new smaller bus, an RTA bus licence is not required and will enable all staff to drive the vehicle. Consideration of the Committee's recommendation will satisfy the Trust's obligations.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommended that:

1. The amended quotation from Lismore Toyota for the purchase of a Toyota twelve (12) seater diesel automatic bus in an amount of \$49,723, be accepted.
2. Additional funds required be reallocated from the current Works Program and be incorporated in the next quarterly budget review.

RT030209/ 4 RESOLVED (Cr. Wheatley/Cr. Cox)

That the above recommendation be adopted.

FOR VOTE - All Council members voted unanimously.
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr. Morrissey

3.4 SUMMARY OF MID RICHMOND RESIDENTS VILLAGE STRATEGIC PLANNING AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Reference: Community Services - Service Provision; P21332, P21333

Prepared by: Director Corporate Services

Background

The Mid Richmond Residents Village Strategic Planning and Policy Committee and the Mid Richmond Residents Village Operational Committee met on Wednesday, 26 November 2008.

The Operational Committee makes recommendations to the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee when required and the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee makes recommendations to the Trust when required.

Report***Issues***

The Strategic Planning and Policy Committee considered the following matters at its meeting on 26 November 2008:

- Mid Richmond Residents Village Proposed Lease with the Department of Lands
- Replacement of Bus
- Mid Richmond Residents Village Works Program
- ACAR Funding Round 2008.

There is one recommendation to be considered by the Trust and a separate report has been provided on this matter.

A copy of the Minutes of the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee Meeting held on 26 November 2008 had been circulated separately to each member of the Trust.

Conclusion

Consideration of the recommendations by the Trust will satisfy the Trust's obligations.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommended that the information be received and noted.

RT030209/ 5 RESOLVED (Cr. Mustow/Cr. Kinnish)

That the above recommendation be adopted.

FOR VOTE - All Council members voted unanimously.
ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr. Morrissey

The Meeting closed at 3.50 p.m..

CONFIRMED - 17 February 2009

CHAIRMAN