

GRIFFITH BUSINESS CHAMBER INCORPORATED | Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday 16th March 2022 | Griffith Leagues Club | 5.30pm

MINUTES

Meeting Opened: 5.30pm

ATTENDANCE: Amanda Quarisa, Paul Pierotti, Pat Pittavino, Darryn Savage, Michael Rowley, John Nicolik, Alycia McLean. Oumi Karenga from Riverina Development Australia (RDA).

APOLOGIES:

1: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Moved: Darryn Savage

Seconded: Pat Pittavino

Motion carried

2: BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

3: CORRESPONDENCE IN / OUT:

- Various Invoices
- Covid Related information for businesses ie: grants, restrictions, rules etc
- Small Business Month
- General Admin and general enquiries
- Griffith City Council meeting requests
- New Facebook Community for NSWBC which Griffith joined.
- RDA Riverina Survey Request re: migration
- Griffin Green Turning of the Soil invitation
- Council Elections
- Letter of Support to Griff Hotel re: Dan Murphy's
- Christmas Party correspondence
- Spring Fest Letter of Support to Griffith City Council
- South Pacific Seeds Letter of Support for Export

Please see our newsletter, facebook page and/or website for further information or contact any Executive committee member for more details.

4: BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

NIL

5: FINANCIALS

P&L and Balance Sheet was emailed to Executive prior to meeting.

Moved: Pat Pittavino

Seconded: Alycia McLean

Motion carried

6: AGENDA

6.1: Oumi Karenga from Riverina Development Australia (RDA)

Oumi attended and presented to the committee information of a NSW Growing Regions of Welcome Pilot Program. The program is seeking feedback about welcoming newcomers to Griffith. Oumi will reformat the survey and resend to Amanda to distribute to members.

6.2: Griffith Employment Expo

A concept developed in reaction to the Workforce Crisis. Revive the old “career’s expo” with a purpose of promoting career opportunities, job vacancies from different industries, highlight gaps in industries, opportunity to apply for jobs on the spot, education and training.

Target audience to attend is – schools students & general public (job seekers in particular) or people wanting to change careers.

Expected revenue is approx. \$3000 profit.

Proposed dates – July depending on availability of venues. Not during school holidays and needs to be before HSC commences. Steer away from End of Financial Year.

Proposed venues - Yoogali Club (too far out of town), Woodside Hall (possibility), ideally want Griffith Exies Club.

Amanda to keep following up with Fay at Exies to find out their renovations timeline.

Proposed cost of businesses to attend was \$200 Members, \$300 Non Members for a 3 x 3 m site which will include; trestle table, table cloth, 2 chairs and customised sign.

Exhibitors can hire their own marquee if they wish at their own cost.

Discussions were raised to reduce cost to make it more affordable.

\$150 members

\$200 non members

Costs

Approx Hire fees= \$1800

Advertising = \$3000 TV, Radio, Facebook, Email, Flyer to send to schools, contact employment agencies, contact school careers advisors

Entry Prize = \$200 voucher to spend with any exhibitor in attendance

Amanda has been in touch with Angela Rae who facilitates the Local Jobs Program (LJP). An Australian Government Initiative funded by the Department of Education Skills and Employment (DESE). The program brings together expertise, resources and access to funding at a local level to support job seekers and their communities in each region. The program has a particular focus on reskilling, upskilling and employment pathways and is part of supporting Australia’s economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Amanda to meet with Angela to see how a collaboration with our Expo would work and report back to Paul on the outcome from meeting with Angela.

6.3: New Chamber Sub Committees – require Executives to participate

Council moved a motion to start engaging with Member for Murray Helen Dalton and Griffith Business Chamber again.

Pat Pittavino and Paul Pierotti met with Mayor Doug Curran and Deputy Mayor Glen Andrezza for an informal meeting. A number of committees are being formed, which has been driven by Griffith Business Chamber and Helen Dalton.

The following committees are being formed and are seeking volunteers from our own Executive to join the following committees.

1: NEW Griffith Base Hospital Committee – Helens team, Chamber Execs, Council Delegates and Save GBH delegates (Brendan & Jenna) re-establish regular meetings with senior MLHD Execs. CR Delegates appointed Cr Curran, Cr Napolli

Pat Pittavino volunteered

John Nikolic volunteered

2: NEW Housing Crisis Committee – Helen has already started on establishing this since last weeks forum and we encourage Council delegates to sit on this committee with us. Cr Marin

Pat Pittavino volunteer

John Nikolic volunteer

Darryn Savage volunteer as a back up

Amanda Quarisa volunteer as a back up

3: NEW WATER Committee – A replacement for defunct ex-Council coordinated (Murrumbidgee Valley Stakeholders Group) & (Build More Dams Committee) be established ASAP to address water issues affecting our region including Lake Coolah feasibility study, Burrinjuck Dam increase capacity, Lake Wyangan in & outflows etc. Cr Andreazza

6.4: TBC. Next informal meeting of elected Councilor's and Chamber Executive.

Meeting to include Councilors, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chamber Executive.

This proposed meeting is on Council's agenda and keen to hear further details from Council regarding a date.

6.5: DAMA project opportunity

The fundamental problem is the skills shortage gap for this regional doesn't match the national skills gap. Needs to be more refined to suit our needs. The RDA Skills Audit Report is taking too long – 2.5years.

Chamber are aiming to be the facilitator to form a DAMA agreement with the Federal Government. Chamber are meeting with a consultant soon to discuss the necessary steps to get this moving.

6.6: Regional Business Awards – October Whitton Malthouse

Anthony McFarlen from Business NSW had a discussion with Paul and Amanda separately regarding the Regional Awards that will be held at Whitton Malt House. Chamber are happy to support the event and clarification around what is exactly involved will occur in due course.

6.7: Small Business Month Event: Thur 24th Breakfast presentation

21 people as of 14.3.22 which is pleasing. Target was 25 people.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Darryn – proposed to hold a local awards next year of some kind.

8. NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING

Proposed meeting with Council.

MEETING CLOSED: 7.30pm