

General Monthly Meeting

Thursday 30th November 2023 | Griffith Leagues Club |

MINUTES

Meeting Opened: 6.34pm

ATTENDANCE: Amanda Quarisa, Alycia McLean, Darryn Savage, Daniel Roller, Michael Rowely, Manjit Lally

APOLOGIES: John Collins, Sophie Sun, Court Sayer Roberts, Melina Ragusa

1: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved: John Nikolic

Seconded: Daniel Roller

2: BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

NIL

3: FINANCIALS

Financials were presented at the AGM held prior to the November General Meeting. No further information to be presented this month.

It is to be noted that Griffith Business Chamber passed a motion in 2021 that they will outsource any financial preparation such as BAS and EOFY Reports to Roy Spagnolo & Associates. Day to day operations to be prepared by Treasurer & Secretary.

4: PRESIDENT'S REPORT by John Nikolic

Presidents Report was provided at the AGM held prior to the November General Meeting. No further information to add.

5: AGENDA

5.1 Executive Committee Activity/ Meeting to report since last meeting

John held a meeting with Brett Jones from Murrumbidgee Irrigation to discuss water advocacy.

5.2 Griffith Worker and Housing Shortage Taskforce Update

The first meeting was held on Monday 27th November 2023. When minutes are provided will be uploaded to our website. Joint media release will be completed soon. Darryn, John and Amanda attended.

5.3 Social Business Network > Griffith Connection

RDA – Riverina has launched 'Griffith Connection' as part of the Griffith Welcome Experience Pilot Program. Which is a NSW government-funded program administered by RDA – Riverina. Griffith City Council and Griffith Business Chamber support this event and essentially has replaced the Social Business Network initiated by Chamber.

Griffith Connection is a new series of social networking events to welcome new workers to town. Chamber's role is to help promote the regular events.

5.4 Employment Lands Master Plan

Planning document released by Griffith City Council. Purpose is rezone business and commercial land to industrial. Chamber will endeavour to put in a submission re: rezone of Thorne Road for industrial use and suggestions at mixed zoning and to consider critical land zones for the growth of our city.

Committee asked to raise development opportunities and presentation ideas with Council at the next Taskforce meeting.

5.5: Policy Priorities for Griffith Business Chamber 2024

Motion: The following topics are the 3 policy priorities for Chamber for the coming 12 months. Water. Housing. Employment.

Moved: John Nikolic

Seconded: Alycia McLean

Water –Chambers position is to have a strong stance on NO WATER BUY BACKS. Sustainability projects should be considered instead of water buy backs. Water buy backs should not be considered in established Irrigation areas. Water should be retained where water is used most effectively.

Housing – Established a Housing and Worker taskforce with Council and pursue/suggest opportunities.

Employment – pursue DAMA with RDA, increase presentations in this field, Employment Expo.

6. New Members

Murrumbidgee Irrigation

Rinaland

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Reduced Rex Flights

Has the Chamber received feedback from the last meeting where this was raised? Perhaps a social media campaign is required to seek feedback in order to prepare a letter to Rex & Qantas. Chamber understands it will be controversial but is necessary to understand the impact it has had on the community.

Suggested Post: We are collating feedback! How have the reduced flights impacted you or your business? Let us know in the comments below.

7.2: Business Survey

Currently underway, have been promoting and emailing members. So far approx 61 people have completed it.

7.3: Chamber Christmas Party

All are invited to come along to the Annual Jingle and Mingle. Thursday 7th December, 5.45pm at The Coro Club. Food and Beverages provided.

7.4: Preparation of Financials

Motion: Roy Spagnolo & Associates to continue preparation of BAS and EOFY documentation.

Moved: John Nikolic

Seconded: Daniel Roller

7.5: School Based Traineeships/Apprenticeships

Melina from Murrumbidgee Regional High School are still chasing School based positions for students if any business has any on offer. Please contact the school if interested.

7.6: Letter of Support

Rinaland has requested a letter of support regarding an application to the Department of Home Affairs for a Horticultural Industry Labour Agreement. It aligns with our priorities and happy to support.

Meeting closed: 7.30pm