

Executive Minutes 22/12/09

2/15 Sand St
Port Douglas

Meeting Opened: 6.00pm

Present

Michael Rees, Meredith Walsh, Qamar Schuyler, Alex Mateer.

Financial

Meredith gave Michael the BAS forms.

Executive Agenda

The draft agenda will be sent to Qamar for comment the day before the meeting.

January Volunteers

We confirmed that only Alex will be able to change the on-line roster.

The volunteer training program will commence in January. Priority will be given to those that partially finished their training in the earlier course.

T-Shirts

Michael is continuing to organize the "Interim Free Shirt". The shirt will be one colour, and supplied by Star Apparel. MR Kitchens have offered a \$250 sponsorship for the shirts.

Combined with the Mossman Bowls club donation, we have \$750.

Caretakers Appointment

The tender document for the caretakers position is out to the general public -closing date is January 19th. The appointment is not expected to be before mid February. LIPS will therefore need to provide volunteer caretakers until then, and for a short-time after the new caretakers arrive, while they settle in. Once the caretaker is in place, GBRMPA or LIPS will throw a welcome BBQ.

STP (Sewerage Treatment Plant)

As there has been on-going problems with the plant, the technician Wayne Gill is going to pump it. This should get the problem under control.

Thanks to all those volunteer caretakers that helped out with the STP drama over the last few weeks.

General Volunteers Cottage House Keeping

There is a problem with the Low Isles phone. Kathleen has asked that an executive member purchase a new one at Port Douglas hardware and charge it to GBRMPA's account.

Kathleen asked if a photo that GBRMPA gave to LIPS can be displayed in the Cottage. Alex let us know that LIPS gave the photo to Viv as gift of appreciation for her long-standing commitment and contributions to LIPS.

Indigenous Hunting

Aggression is out. A conciliatory response is the only approach that should be taken. GBRMPA is seeking a brief from the species unit about the potential local depletion of the green turtle. To assist GBRMPA, if hunting takes place, volunteers will be asked to document it (in a non-inflammatory manner) by filling out an incident report, ringing the 24 hr compliance officer, and discretely taking photographs.

Qamar will have look over the draft of our letter regarding turtle hunting at Low Isles and then ask for executive comment. Meredith will then send it to Kathleen Swalling for comment.

Qamar is going to meet with Sam Dibella about organize an Indigenous ranger program, with the aim of organising a meeting with a member of the Indigenous community.

Article about Climate Change and the Reef in the Australian

Qamar and Kathleen discussed the issue, and we will take our cues from her, about what action –if any –she would like us to take. However, she did mention there was an opportunity for us if we wished. But we decided to leave the issue, and address the media.

Meredith will write a letter to the Australian, with the aim of preventing any further circulation of the article in the media. She will then email it to Kathleen for quick comment.

Kathleen Swalling will be on holiday until Jan 4th. She will be contactable through Pro-Dive (at Hamilton Island). Doon McColl will be available as a back-up contact.

To be Actioned

Qamar will look over the turtle letter, sending it out for executive comment.

Meredith will give it a final once over and forward it to Kathleen Swalling for comment.

Meredith will right a letter to the Australian regarding the climate change article.

Alex will commence the volunteer training program.

Michael will finish organize the Interim Free-Shirt for caretakers.

Meeting Closed: 7.45pm.