

**Minutes of LIPS Management Committee Meeting
Thursday 11th February 2010 at Port Douglas (Java Blue)**

Apologies:

Andrew Petrack
(Qamar Schuyler delayed return)
(Jan Buchanan travelling out of contact)

Present:

Danny Vos
Alex Mateer
Valda Reynolds
Nicole Szalek
Julia Hazel

Meeting began at 7.30AM, agenda items addressed as follows.

Preparation for LIPS General Meeting on 16 Feb

Valda had arranged hall booking and reminded us we need to arrive early to put out chairs

Julia had placed Gazette classified ad

Valda will bring tea, coffee and milk.

We will not use throw-away cups; in order to reduce environmental impact. Julia will email members requesting all bring cups/mugs for own use and ideally donate mugs to LIPS for use at future meetings

Agenda prepared for general meeting, Julia will send out by email

Preparation for LIPS public talk on 24 Feb

Valda had arranged hall booking, noted we need to arrive early to put out chairs

Valda had confirmed presentation by Brett Leis and provided information for Danny to prepare fliers about Brett's talk, also info for Julia to email to members and other contacts

Valda will place media story

Julia will place Gazette classified ad (larger box than general meeting)

Intention to conduct a raffle at the meeting to cover expenses, Valda will seek a donated prize in the form of a Low Isles trip or Reef trip if possible

Nicole will check whether she has tickets remaining from previous events. These may be for the raffle

Approved \$20 expenditure on gift for speaker, to be purchased Nicole.

Refreshments for this meeting undecided at this point.

Marine debris workshop held by Tangaroa Blue

Danny had attended the Tangaroa Blue workshop on behalf of LIPS. Tangaroa Blue reported very interesting information on locations and types of litter collected in many cleanups during 2009. They discussed plans for working with authorities on installing bins at strategic locations, and for presenting educational messages to reduce littering. An

article in the Gazette of Feb 4, page 10, gives more detail about the fine work being done by Tangaroa Blue.

Island work plan

At the Feb 16 general meeting Alex will present ideas to reduce future management costs for Low Isles including participation by LIPS volunteers in maintenance work when feasible.

Request for membership refund

Approved transfer of membership fees paid by Julie O'Gorman's parents to next renewal of Julie and Andrew's membership i.e. the latter to be financial members until Sept 2011.

Dates for MC and General Meetings for next 6 months

It was necessary to defer this item because Qamar was not present. Qamar previously requested to set meeting dates in accordance with her schedule. Julia will ask Qamar to email proposed dates to MC as soon as possible, for email discussion and confirmation.

Signatories for cheques

Proposed that Valda and Danny be established as signatories on LIPS cheque account because our cheques require 2 approved signatures and other signatories Alex and Qamar are often not in PD. Julia to email request to Danny as she had left the meeting before this item was considered. Nicole to obtain bank forms for changing signatories and also to remove a former signatory who is no longer on the committee.

School biology excursion

A Year 12 biology class excursion to Low Isles is scheduled to include an overnight stay. While being strongly supportive of educational excursions, all MC members present expressed concern regarding environmental impact on the island associated with overnight hosting of 21 people in the group (students plus teachers/assistants). We considered that future groups of this size should be planned as day excursions and that overnight stays could only be considered for much smaller groups. Our next MC meeting needs to consider the issues involved in determining an environmentally responsible cap on maximum number of persons on the island for any single night and a cap on the maximum overnight stays for annual total.

Wheels for beach trolley

Approved purchase of new wheels for the beach trolley on the island. This is an important asset that is used to transfer heavy and bulky items from and to the shuttle boat. Total cost \$683.78 including freight to PD.

Nicole unable to continue as Treasurer

New baby and returning to paid work mean that our wonderful Treasurer Nicole has insufficient time to continue this responsibility. She has generously proposed to remain in the role until a replacement is found but there will have to be a time limit on this. Time limit as yet unspecified but we urgently need to find a new Treasurer and will raise this at the general meeting next week.

Nomination of new members

Richard & Patti Davis, David & Simone Brown, Karen Smith-Marron, Julie Norman

Other correspondence

Nicole advised we have received our certificate of currency from AON insurance so we have the documents on file if required by anyone (usually for grant applications, etc) and coverage is till 30/11/2010

Invoice received for \$88 from Reef and Rainforest Designs for work completed on the Coastcare walk signs, payment approved, Nicole to arrange cheque to be signed and posted.

Reef Check complaint about December Caretaker's newsletter was addressed by Rick in the January Caretaker's newsletter that was sent to all members.

IGA is changing their Community Chest donation system. The new system appears potentially difficult for groups like LIPS, which has received much appreciated funding from IGA in the past. Alex will contact IGA about this change.

Meeting ended at 8.30 AM

Next meeting date to be advised by email.