



MINUTES

The Board of the WMC Limited Meeting Friday, 18 August 2023

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**MINUTES OF WINTON SHIRE COUNCIL
THE BOARD OF THE WMC LIMITED COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE WINTON SHIRE COUNCIL BOARD ROOM
ON FRIDAY, 18 AUGUST 2023 AT 10:30AM**

1 COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting commenced: 10:34am

2 PRESENT

Cr Gavin Baskett (Mayor), Mr Jeff Close (Chair), Ms Lyn Fraser, Mrs Robyn Stephens, Ms Kim Stoter, Cr Shane Mann, Cr Frank Standfast, Cr Cathy White, Cr Tina Elliott, Cr Anne Seymour.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Dirk Dowling (WSC CEO), Jenny Elliott (WSC WMC Coordinator), Kristi Minehan (WSC).

3 APOLOGIES

Sallyanne Atkinson, John Paynter.

That apologies be accepted:

Moved: Cr Shane Mann

Seconded: Robyn Stephens

Carried

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the The Board of the WMC Limited Committee Meeting held on 3 May 2023 be confirmed.

Moved: Cr Shane Mann

Seconded: Robyn Stephens

Carried

5 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Discussion regarding the purpose of the Board particularly in relation to statutory obligations in maintaining the funds and DGR status.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Mr Benjamin Lindner dated 11 August 2023 regarding his presentation to the Australian Folklore Network Conference entitled "Giving Birth to *Waltzing Matilda* – A Forensic Analysis". The letter refers to enclosures and attachments and reference to a Christina Macpherson sculpture.

7 WALTZING MATILDA DAY

Thanks to Reg Kavanagh for stepping in when the shearing could not happen.

Discussion:

Traditionally have chosen a date significant to the Shire, for example, the opening of the first Waltzing Matilda Centre that was also the right end of the season.

Continue having a Waltzing Matilda Day. This year there was a great flyer done by Jenny, and a colouring competition organized by Robyn.

Jeff has some panels that will be able to keep the sheep more safely next time and John Paynter has confirmed he will be able to do the shearing next year.

The Community bus to Combo Waterhole also went well with lunch at the hotel.

The few people that were there, really enjoyed themselves, the sheep were a hit.

Keen to get more involvement from schools.

Bus trip – need to work on a magic number that it is worth doing for the cost. Two participants this year were unable to actually walk into the site.

Suggestion that the bookings cut off by 5pm the day before and if there aren't enough bookings, it would not proceed. Suggested that some text on the bottom of the form with a mobile number to the participants can be advised if the bus does not proceed. Bus driver this year was Frank Standfast.

Recommendation:

Less than 12 paying customers, cancel the bus.

Booking document to include their contact details and close off the night before.

Show of hands – CARRIED

8 AMBASSADORS

Follow up whether the letter has gone to Ken Done. Letter went out from Exhibition Supervisor?

Action:

- Economic Development Manager follow up and try and find the correspondence.
 - Robyn to send a copy to Economic Development Manager. Letter was with the Previous Director of Community and Economic Development.
-

Appointed Benjamin Lindner – gave a presentation (see 6. Correspondence)

A recommendation to the Melbourne City Council has been made for a sculpture of Christina MacPherson for the Waltzing Matilda Centre. There needs to be consideration given to where it will be positioned. Several suggestions: Out near the cottage, next to Banjo.

Melbourne is running the competition and they have been provided with Christina's size etc.

Winton Shire Council will have to put some funding into it to site the statue. The statue will come with a plinth, with transport included.

There appears to be a lack of women in statues in public places. On the front of the wave and intrinsically tied up with our story.

Who is responsible, is the Board going to pay for any costs or is the Council?

A consideration in relation to the location of the statue – there is a time capsule located behind Banjo's statue that came from the Christina MacPherson cottage.

Recommendation

For CEO to contact Melbourne City Council about the statue

Show of hands - CARRIED

Action:

Jeff to find out contact details from Benjamin and Benjamin to be asked if it is advantageous for WSC to contact Melbourne City Council.

Action:

Agenda item for next meeting – placement of statue.

9 OFFICER REPORTS

Jenny Elliott. It is still busy – 4,096 last month which is a little down on last year.

Was a slow start. Tuckerbox Café is busy when the WMC is. This morning the café provided food for the car rally (71). It does look better for the Centre when the café is open.

10 FINANCIAL REPORT

Company Secretary – was given the position.

Hasn't had an opportunity to look at the structure / responsibilities etc as currently has no access to bank accounts etc. Understand there is a Westpac account however don't know what the records are. Not for Profit status is dependent on auditing the books which, in the past, has been done by O'Regan.

CEO will call a meeting to gain an understanding and get some detail. Most important is the need to sort out why the current structure is still relevant, given the change in circumstances over the years since the organization was created. Need to understand how the accounts work and how the Company Secretary duties have been done in the past (doesn't appear to have been done by CEO). Also need to sort out the donations / gift's arrangements (not technically a trust account).

11 ACTION LIST

Date	Item	Officer	Update
16.08.22	Strategic Plan for Waltzing Matilda Centre	Director of Community and Economic Dev.	Workshop held on 14 March 2022 Strategic Planning – future planning and an overview of the Centre and what they wanted to achieve and plans going forward. There was butcher paper and notes – Abby was driving it
14.03.22	Activate Art Acquisition Sub-Committee and email Board with recommendations to purchase any items from the John Williers	Art Acquisition Sub-Committee	Discussed - recommended three people (currently Karen Stephens, Sally-anne Atkinson and Lyn Fraser. Refer 12 General Business for recommendation.

	Art Exhibition		
17.11.22	Annual Newsletter	Jenny Elliott	Completed
17/11/22	Advertisement for WMD / Flyer	Jenny Elliott / Rebekah	Completed

Action:

CEO to follow up – documents etc. were with Previous Manager of Tourism and Economic Development and Previous Director of Community and Economic Development.

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was some discussion in relation to how the Centre gained income from events, the theatre, and retail operations, however as this is an operational matter for Council, has not been included in the minutes.

There was further discussion in relation to the Board and the appointment of the Company Secretary and Directors by Council, rather than the Board.

Historically, the Board was responsible for the running of the Waltzing Matilda Centre however, since the fire, Winton Shire Council now has that responsibility.

There are extra requirements on Officers of the Waltzing Matilda Centre Board due to its Not For Profit status.

ART ACQUISITION SUB-COMMITTEE

Discussion came to the conclusion that it was not appropriate that a staff member from the Winton Shire Council should sit on this sub-committee.

Recommendation:

That there are three people to make up the Art Acquisition Sub-Committee and that these people be Lyn Fraser, Kim Stoter and Sallyanne Atkinson.

Moved: Jeff Close

Seconded: Lyn Fraser

Show of hands – CARRIED

There was some discussion in relation to merchandising for the Waltzing Matilda Centre and the expertise available within the Board of the Waltzing Matilda Centre to assist. Whilst this is valued, Winton Shire Council are undertaking Business Planning for a number of Council owned businesses, including the Waltzing Matilda Centre.

13 CLOSURE AND NEXT MEETING DATE

Ordinary Meeting will occur in October or November – no date yet set.

The Meeting closed at 11:35.