

# BUDDHIST COUNCIL OF QUEENSLAND INC.

AN UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING BUDDHISTS THROUGH BUDDHIST GROUPS AND INSTITUTIONS  
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## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING OF BUDDHIST COUNCIL OF QUEENSLAND

**MEETING DATE:** August 5, 2006

**TIME:** 9.40am

**VENUE:** Karuna House - Windsor

**ATTENDANCE:** As Per Attendance Book

**QUORUM:** Yes

**APOLOGIES:** David Wee

**CHAIRPERSON:** Jim Ferguson

**SECRETARY:** Rachel Hannam

### CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Kim Hollow

Accepted

### MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

Jim has mailed the support letter to Jeta Gardens supporting their seeking funds for a retirement facility.

### CORRESPONDENCE:

**IN:** Kim collected emails and Jim emails – email: James Cook University seeking nomination of contact person for students & other inquiries – Kim agreed to be the contact point and Jim to advise JCU – we stressed the need to be non-sectarian and not authoritative but able to refer to other resources; mail: Qld Multicultural Affairs Dept has a Register of Resources they have asked to be promoted; mail: Premier's Dept inviting nominations for Queenslander of the Year etc; mail: Office of Fair Trading passing our new rules and membership structure etc; email: Wood Valley Temple promoting a dharma retreat centre in Hawaii; email: G/Coast City Council advising of "Living in Harmony Grants" available as a result of Jim's attendance at their workshops earlier in the year – to discuss in General Business; email: G/Coast inviting participation in "Multicultural Diversity Group" – Kim will pursue with their multicultural festival; email: Rob Assink advising a 1-day retreat for Khenpo August 26, at Samford; mail: Premiers Dept invitation for members to become available to sit on government boards via a register – Donna, Kim and Jim will pursue individually; mail: Dalai Lama in Australia Ltd seeking underwriters for his visit in June 2007, with him visiting Karuna on June 13 am and a public talk that evening (free) at Bne Entertainment Centre – to discuss in Business on Notice.

**OUT:** Submission to Qld Multicultural Festival for both Information and Food Stalls – waiting for acceptance in due course. Also lodgement of the AGM Annual Return & Change of Office Bearer's Details to the Office of Fair Trading – just in time to avoid a financial penalty.

Moved: Kim Hollow

Seconded: Donna Imeri

Accepted

## MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

None – items for discussion in Business on Notice and General Business.

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

Kim reported a lack of complete records received from Siri, included missing bank statements and imbalanced petty cash funds of \$14.00. The best estimate of the Councils funds is \$1021.07 at bank, less the OFT cheque for \$36.00 to be presented, and petty cash funds of \$16.00. There may still be another cheque, but without statements, that can't be reconciled. He will obtain statements from the bank. Jim reported that in Kim's presence he contacted Siri by phone who could not account for the \$14.00 shortfall. After discussion it was agreed by the committee that the \$14.00 shall be written off and the petty cash funds be restored to \$50. Jim also has \$20 reimbursed for photocopying relating to the passed AGM.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Donna Imeri

Accepted

## BUSINESS ON NOTICE:

- a. **Multi-Cultural Festival 2006** – Jim has submitted two applications – First for the Information Stall and following a series of emails with the organisers, a second for the Food Stall. The latter proposal included detail on the types and fees structure for the proposed food and drink menu. Chee suggested that we operate half the food stall ourselves and the other half in conjunction with another provider who will give us a percentage of their net profit, perhaps about \$300-\$400 that covers the overhead costs. Chee. Contracts will be mailed on August 16, so Kim agreed to check the mailbox around the 18<sup>th</sup> to see what we have been offered – then we may need to escalate the planning for this event with Chee's active participation.
- b. **Dalai Lama in Brisbane** – Obviously the BCQ cannot underwrite the tour, however Jim proposed that the BCQ offer to support it in terms of facilitating the promotion and volunteer staffing and other possible physical support for the Brisbane section of the tour.  
Moved: Jim Ferguson      Seconded: Rachel Hannam      Accepted
- c. **Website Development** – Jim has made some further minor changes to the current website in the interim to the new package. Josh has requested that we furnish content for the website in order to "fill it out" and define it's final feel. Jim asked for all committee members to forward via email to him within the next 2-weeks, any suggestions (and related content if possible) that might be beneficial. The caveat is to not necessarily turn it into yet-another-teachings site but as an information resource, links to other centres and host the more fundamental information on Buddhism, the foundation philosophy, etc.
- d. **Support for Secretary's Role** – While Rachel has accepted the position her personal demands prevent her from taking on the full role of that position, Jim has agreed to continue recording and distributing the Minutes. Rachel can take on processing email and answering the mobile phone calls. Kim will continue clearing the mail box. We all agreed the need to remain impartial and unbiased in responding to inquiries by anyone and endeavour to refer callers to their nearest or most appropriate centres. We all also welcomed her new baby son – Henry – to the meeting! Rachel and Chee also need to give their details to the Commonwealth Bank as signatories for the BCQ account.

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. **Gold Coast Multicultural Festival 2007** – Kim has liaised with Deb Cox of GCCC for inaugural meeting and the email received advises of that meeting. He will pursue that.

2. **Living in Harmony Grant** – Jim confirmed he has already registered our interest, but we need to define and submit our application (online) by August 25<sup>th</sup>. The best way to process this is probably via email discussion that allows us to pool ideas and then come to a common focus to go forward with. Some suggestions may include **(A)** support for volunteers delivering dharma education to schools or hospitals, including all the procedural issues of finding, vending, training and supporting them, or **(B)** establish a referral resources for those same outcomes, or **(C)** developing a public event for Vesak or other auspicious day as Chung Tian do at Southbank annually, or **(D)** setting up a book resource or even print a information booklet for Queensland etc – these latter become very labour and/or infrastructure intensive – but there may be an option to **(E)** fund a research study to better define the Council’s role etc, or even **(F)** funding to establish a unified non-sectarian website for Queensland Buddhism. Donna added we should aim to not re-invent an existing “wheel” in defining a project. Kim added a reservation about to much “event” promotion, preferring to act more as a resources facility, with Donna in agreement. Jim also stressed a proposal that does not impact or rely solely on the committee’s own personal capacity to deliver. Donna also said the proposal may require the appointment of a Project Officer to produce the outcome and so that cost would need to be addressed too. Agreed that all committee members shall email suggestions, not just limited to those mentioned above, to Jim ASAP and we shall develop a uniform proposal - all suggestions to be submitted to Jim by next Thursday evening please, so they can be amalgamated and then circulated for comment and decision, leaving time to frame the actual submission.
3. **Rongton’s Lama Choedak Retreat** – Donna tabled the flyer promoting the forthcoming retreat at Manly, Jim said he will mount that on our website.
4. **Address for Correspondence** – Kim raised the need to ensure that all correspondence directs mail to “thew Secretary” at our official post office address, since there appears to be misnamed mail and possibly home addresses. Jim mentioned that time seems to solve the issues of past errors and as new appointments filter through the various government department registers they should cease, Kim stressed that we ensure all future mail refers to the correct P.O. box.
5. **Acknowledgement of Donation** – Kim reminded us of the need to formally acknowledge the kind donation of Rob Assink of \$100 by letter – Kim, as Treasurer, will do that.

**NEXT MEETING:**

**DATE:** September 2, 2006                      **TIME:** 9.30am                      **VENUE:** Karuna Hospice

**MEETING CLOSED:** 11:10 am

**CHAIRPERSON**.....

**SECRETARY**.....

**DATE:** .....