MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING DATE: February 10, 2007          TIME: 9.30am

VENUE: Karuna House – Windsor

ATTENDANCE: Kim Hollow, Rachel Hannan, Donna Imeri & Jim Ferguson
QUORUM: Yes          APOLOGIES: David Wee, Chee Weng & Maeve Hollow

CHAIRPERSON: Jim Ferguson          SECRETARY: Rachel Hannam

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Minutes of the December meeting were confirmed

Moved by Jim Ferguson           Seconded by Kim Hollow           Accepted

2. CORRESPONDENCE:

IN-
   a. Aust Sangha Assocn Newsletter
   b. Office of Fair Trading – Annual Return of Association - to complete & return
   c. Australian Red Cross – seeking support for Summer Blood Boost campaign
   d. Multicultural Affairs Dept – advertising National Inter-Faith Festival
   e. Ordinary Mind Zen – membership renewal
   f. Losang Dragpa Monastery – membership renewal
   g. Griffith University Multi-Faith Centre – Workshop & Event notices
   h. Open Arms & DLIA – Dalai Lama tour updates & news
   i. Various BEQP emails
   j. Two BEQP applications

OUT-
   a. Various emails to BEQP maillist and others

3. TREASURER’S REPORT:

Started at $632.66 plus $50 cash. $100 from memberships from Losang Dragpa & Ordinary Mind Zen. Two d/d’s from Otpus for mobile phone gives $714.66 plus petty cash. Received tow donations totalling $510.00 specifically for BEQP program to be banked.

Moved by Kim Hollow           Seconded by Jim Ferguson           Accepted
4. BUSINESS ON NOTICE:

A. BUDDHIST EDUCATION IN QUEENSLAND PROGRAM (BEQP)

The initial training program has now ended and some 22 people have indicated interest in becoming Buddhist RI teachers as a result of the program, some not immediately but shows promise for the success of the program.

Issues that have arisen however, revolve around the management of these volunteers and it is now necessary to address insurance and monitoring of their Blue Cards etc. Jim has created a Register for both Applications and Blue Cards, accreditation of the teachers is now being examined by the Education Team of the BEQP.

A separate email address has been established for the BEQP at beqp_info@mail.com and one of the Working Group has been invited to maintain the BEQP section of the BCQ website.

Jim proposed that the BCQ approach Volunteering Queensland to join as a volunteer organisation and receive their benefits and resources and to formally approve my Neil Nhah to have FTP access to our website for BEQP purposes.

Moved by Jim Ferguson Seconded by Donna Imeri Accepted

B. NATIONAL INTER-FAITH FESTIVAL - MALENY

Jim confirmed that the BCQ has withdrawn the stall application but has also now affirmed Ms Sharka Bosakova to be the lay-Buddhist representative for the "Why I Love My Faith" segment of the festival after reviewing three potential applicants for the role. Jim also mentioned he may be the driver for Ven. Monchai Montagamo and also that he is hoping to have Chenrezig display BCQ brochures during the event.

C. DALAI LAMA IN AUSTRALIA TOUR – JUNE 13 IN BRISBANE

The Brisbane section of the Dalai Lama's tour hired Ms Jan Pether to liaise with all dharma centres and has disappointingy received a zero indication of support which concerns them. They have asked the BCQ to help further promote the tour and fund-raising with some suggestions tabled, asking we display them on our website and pass them on to as many people as possible. Jim moved that we do so and endeavour to foster support for the tour as much as possible and in all ways possible.

Moved by Jim Ferguson Seconded by Donna Imeri Accepted

D. GRANT SUBMISSIONS

A vote of thanks to Rachel Hannam for opening her home to the dinner held for Brian Ashen, the chair of the BCVic. A valuable discussion was held covering many aspects of our Council's early history and that of the FABC and BCVic. Some suggestions he gave may help us secure funding of our day-to-day operations.

As for grant submissions generally, no further advance has been made due to time constraints, but we will continue to work towards placing some submissions in the coming months. We agreed that it is essential that we secure sufficient funds in order to properly and effectively represent and support dharma in this state.
E. 2007 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Following on from the above subject, we noted that only six membership renewals have so far been received and two donations and that it is important for all centres to demonstrate both unity and support for the dharma in this state by endorsing the BCQ’s role.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS:

A. VIETNAMESE NEW YEAR AT RICHLANDS.

Jim tabled information on the celebration of the Chinese/Vietnamese New Year to be held at Richlands next week and for the committee to support this event. Jim will be attending as BCQ representative.

B. MOBILE PHONE HANOVER

Kim mentioned that as one means of following up centres for membership renewals etc, Maeve and he were happy to take over the mobile phone from Rachel and use the call allowance under our phone plan to contact centres etc as a more interactive part of our contact systems. This was agreed and the phone will be transferred as soon as possible. This also helps to reduce Rachel workload which is good for her.

C. BEQP LETTERS OF SUPPORT FROM CENTRES

Kim raised the point that it is essential that, for the BCQ to accept as valid, any Letters of Support for people wishing to become RI teachers under that program, that the centre be recognised as a member of the BCQ, since it is not possible to officially recognise any centre that is not a member of the BCQ due to lack of supporting information from that Centre. If the BCQ is to properly perform its duties of care under this program, to the extent of facilitating insurance etc. the Council must be fully familiar with any centre participating in the program and there should be a reciprocal recognition of the BCQ’s role in this program by those centres.

Moved by Kim Hollow  Seconded by Jim Ferguson   Accepted

MEETING CLOSED:  At 11:20 pm

NEXT MEETING:  March 24 at 9:30am at Karuna Hospice Services after FABC AGM.

Signed by President:___________________ Secretary:_________________ Date: __/__/07