

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: 9th July 2005

TIME: 1.10pm

VENUE: Karuna House

ATTENDANCE: As Per Attendance Book

QUORUM: Yes

APOLOGIES: Jay Maharage, Peter Lester

CHAIRPERSON: Jim Ferguson

SECRETARY: Lynn O'Connor.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Moved: Siri Fernando

Seconded: Terry O'Connor

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Buddhist Holy Relics Exhibition – Jim gave explanation of the Exhibition.
Date is 21st – 28th August at Phat Da Monastery, Inala.
Jim suggested that the BCQ be represented on the day.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Chee Wong

2. Jim contacted the Buddhist Council of New South Wales, via email, requesting they update our information. A reply was received from Graeme Lyall. This was tabled.
3. An email of congratulations was received from Sol Hanna (BSWA). He also offered Web Hosting and Design. It was noted that the offer was made. We currently have free Web Hosting and Design from Hennie van Dyk.
4. Tele-Conference of the FABC. Jim is going to sit in on this and see how the FABC functions.
5. Email from Rahu Sarath-Chandra about a Self Development Program he will be giving. Tan Sarath-Chandra gave a brief rundown on how this will be conducted.
6. Brochures from Andrew Balkin re teaching tour of Ngakpa Karma Lhundup Rinpoche.
7. Bank Statement
8. City of Brisbane. Media release about 2005 Asia Pacific Cities Summit.
9. Renewal of Terry O'Connor's Blue Card for Volunteer Teaching of minors. Jim proposed that the BCQ support Terry's renewal of his Blue Card.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Siri Fernando

Motion Carried

All mail was tabled.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

There is nothing to report. There has been no activity on the account. Jim has given the bank the details for the new signatories.

Secretary requested \$20.00 towards her phone account, 25 blank CD's to transfer the recorded minutes to and 3 archive boxes to store all past paperwork.

Jim will supply Cd's and archive boxes.

Siri requested the Ledger books from Lynn O'Connor. It was explained that the previous Treasurer didn't have any Ledgers as there was very little activity on the account. Also, the Auditor did the audit from receipts and bank statements.

Kim Hollow proposed that Lynn O'Connor be given a cheque for \$40.00 for phone account; this is for last two months.

Moved: Kim Hollow

Seconded: Jim Ferguson

Motion Carried

BUSINESS ON NOTICE:

AIMS AND OBJECTS

To simplify things, Jim proposed that we eliminate Group (E) "Promotion of status, interests, rights and privileges of Buddhists" of the Aims and Objects.

1. 2.15 under Group (E). "To facilitate the expression of the Buddhist perspective on matters of interest to society". Be moved to 2.5 in Group (B).
2. 2.16 under Group (E). "To promote, protect, nurture and defend the interests of Buddhism in Australia". This is already covered under 2.8 in Group (C).
3. 2.17 and 2.18 are duplicated in 2.8 of Group (C). These are not needed.
4. 2.19 is covered in 2.5 under Group (B).
5. Make a subtle change to 2.8 under Group (C) – Change this to "To promote Buddhist Groups and Buddhists in Australia, in their rightful aspirations."
6. Alter the heading of Group (A) to read "Bringing together all Buddhist Groups and Buddhists".
7. Alter the heading of Group (B) to read "Representation of all Buddhist Groups and Buddhists".
8. Replace the heading of Group (C) from "Helping Buddhist Groups" to "Supporting Buddhism".
9. 2.8 under Group (C) altered to say "To support Buddhist Groups and Buddhists in Australia in their rightful aspirations".
10. 2.15 under Group (D) is adequately covered under 2.2 in Group (A). "To facilitate the exchange of information and resources among Buddhist Groups".
11. 2.14 under Group (D) to be struck out.

Tan Sarath-Chandra feels it is not necessary to change or remove any of these things. A long discussion followed. Jim explained that to impart a level of professionalism it is better to keep it simpler and get rid of duplications.

Tan also feels that it should only be Buddhist Groups, not individuals that are represented by the Council. Further discussion ensued at length about this aspect.

POWERS

1. 3.22 – The word Association appears twice. It needs to be replaced with the word Council.
2. 3.25 – Replace the words "To form or participate in" with "To support" a Federation of Buddhist Councils of Australia, etc.
3. To introduce 3.29 and 3.30, the not for profit clause and the dissolution clause. These two clauses are not there at the moment.

Jim moved that all the amendments as discussed be accepted as the new Objects and Powers, under the Model Rules of the Buddhist Council of Queensland to subsequently be submitted to the next General Meeting. After acceptance, to then be submitted to the Office of Fair Trading.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Terry O'Connor

Motion Carried

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Jim suggested that to show a genuine commitment and also to show proof of currency, we should re-instate membership fees. All committee members felt it is reasonable to re-introduce membership fees.

Terry O'Connor moved to re-instate three types of membership fees from the 01.01.2005. The fees to be set at

1. Group (Institutional) Membership - \$50.00 per annum
2. Individual Membership - \$20.00 per annum
3. Family Unit Membership - \$30.00 per annum

Moved: Terry O'Connor

Seconded: Kim Hollow

Motion Carried

POLICY MANUAL

A discussion on the need for a Policy Manual was held. Jim requested that the committee think about ideas for this. We will create this at the next committee meeting.

MOBILE PHONE

After some discussion, this was deferred to the next committee meeting.

BROCHURE

Jim has produced a draft brochure. All comments, thoughts and suggestions are invited to improve or amend the draft. One suggestion was that we have a sponsor. It was also decided that the Dhamma School be included in the brochure. After a discussion on various aspects of presentation of the brochure it was decided that Chee Wong would be endorsed to approach Chung Tian and Amitabha Temples and other Centres as he may choose as the BCQ representative and try to get their support for the BCQ.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Kim Hollow

Motion Carried

PUBLIC LIABILITY

Jim moved that we accept the Public Liability offer of \$700.00 as soon as we obtain the money.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Kim Hollow

Motion Carried

MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

1. This is to be held on the October 2nd 2005 at Roma St, Parklands. It was decided that we would go ahead with participating in this. We had a general discussion on the way the stall can be set up and managed.

Jim moved that the Council proceed with the application to be a part of the Multicultural Festival.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Tan Sarath-Chandra

Motion Carried

2. Chee Wong offered to approach the Cambodian Temple to see if they might loan the Council some Buddhist and Australian flags for the day.
3. Do we keep the manning of the stall within the committee or do we open it to all Buddhist centres?
4. It was suggested that we allot one hour slots to the Centres. They can bring their own literature and discuss their own Centres information.

Jim proposed that with the next General Meeting notice, we include an invitation to all representative groups to participate in and contribute to this event, the Queensland Multicultural Festival on the 2nd October 2005. Giving them the opportunity to represent themselves at the stall, for a one hour period through the day.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Terry O'Connor

Motion Carried

Business on Notice – Next Meeting

1. Nembutshu Sect
2. Press Releases and Media contact in general
3. Internet as main communication medium

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Place – Karuna House

Date – 13th August

Time – 1pm

FEEDBACK

Jim – Long but rewarding

Tan – Productive

Terry – Achieved good results

Chee – Good meeting

Kim – Very productive

Siri – Very progressive

Lynn – Lots covered

Meeting ended with a Dedication by Jim Ferguson.

MEETING CLOSED - 3.35PM

CHAIRPERSON.....

SECRETARY.....

DATE.....