



# BUDDHIST COUNCIL OF QUEENSLAND INC. (IA29696)

*An Umbrella Organization Representing Buddhists and  
Buddhist Groups And Institutions In Queensland* ABN 69 825 774 318

-- Affiliated Member of the Federation of Australian Buddhist Councils Inc. --

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## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

**MEETING DATE:** June 19, 2010

**TIME:** 9:30am

**VENUE:** Karuna Hospice Services - Windsor

**ATTENDANCE:** Ven. Lhagsam, Kim Hollow, Chee Weng, David Wee, Jenny Le Neveu & Jim Ferguson. Guests: Julie Khoo and Ven. James Wilson of Jodoshu Centre.

**QUORUM:** Yes

**APOLOGIES:** Maeve Hollow and Clayton Wood

**CHAIRPERSON:** Jim Ferguson

**SECRETARY:** Kim Hollow

### **1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

Minutes of the August 8, 2009 Committee meeting were confirmed subject to the omission that Ven. Lhagsam had been present and not absent as described.

Moved by Jim Ferguson

Seconded by Chee Weng

Accepted

### **MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:**

Some matters have been placed in Business on Notice.

### **2. CORRESPONDENCE:**

#### **IN-**

1. Letter of support from Phoenix Press in response to our letter of appreciation to them for donating the freight excess of AUD470;
2. (email from) Qld Sangha Association detailing their progress since inception;
3. Request from book distributors for copies of our Q150 book including payment;
4. Offer to sponsorship for 2011 Queensland Week up to \$10,000, closing September – to discuss under General Business later;
5. Thank you letters from centres in receipt of the Q150 book;
6. Mind & Its Potential advertising for Sydney – 2011 “Happiness Conference” may be held in Brisbane!
7. \$100 donation from Jenny LeNeveu via Dharma Metta Garden
8. Invoice for the audit completed for \$150.00 due now.

#### **OUT-**

These items are for discussion as Business on Notice below

### **MATTERS ARISING OUT OF CORRESPONDENCE:**

Jim expressed a note of appreciation to Julie Khoo for her part in liaising with Phoenix Press throughout.

Moved by Kim Hollow

Seconded by Ven. Lhagsam

Accepted

### 3. TREASURER'S REPORT:

The bank balance as at 01/01/10 was \$645.45 and includes a total of 2 cents interest and a \$50 donation from Jodoshu, and \$5,50 for book p&p. Total funds therefore amount to \$849.95 before outgoings from the account, comprising Optus \$205.07, PO Box rental of \$79.50 and Q150 postage etc of \$300.00, totalling \$404.57, leaving a net balance of \$116.40. The \$100 donation is to be banked offsetting the only account outstanding for immediate payment to the auditor, of \$150.00, which will then leave a balance of \$66.40. Cash holdings are \$0.00 ie no petty cash held.

Moved by Jenny Le Neveu

Seconded by David Wee

Accepted

### MATTERS ARISING OUT OF TREASURER'S REPORT:

A point was made by Julie that the cash method applied is not a generally accepted principle of accounting as such method will not accurately disclose the actual transactions for the year. \$17,000.00 is a significant amount not reflected in 2009 financial year's accounts. The Accounts for the year just ended had been qualified by the auditor. This point was disputed since, at year's end, the outcome, in such a small organisation as ours with few transactions, is the same and that to maintain simplicity, cash accounting is quite acceptable – this was then agreed.

Jim raised the matter of proper accounting of donated contributions to meet expenses that have been happening for some time but not properly recorded as both a donation to, and an expense of, the Council. This was highlighted in the accounting for the Q150 acquittal and should change to identify such transactions. It was agreed that it would be sufficient for the invoice and/or receipt and/ or a declaration by the member confirming that payment in the interests of the BCQ was made, of a certain sum, on a certain date, for a specific purpose be received and recorded as both a donation and an expense, and that where volunteer hours are needed to accounted for that they be similarly recorded as "in kind" donations. This is to be applied from now on (ie this current fiscal year).

Moved by Jim Ferguson

Seconded by Kim Hollow

Accepted

### 4. BUSINESS ON NOTICE:

**Q150 Project Conclusion** – Jim confirmed that the Premier's Department has accepted our acquittal and thanked us for our contribution to Q150 celebrations.

Jim also advised he had distributed a further 100 or so copies of the book for various government departments, schools, Qld. Museum Loans, and dharma centres, by both mail and hand-delivery. He added we need to get these books out into the community and with about 600 remaining it would be good for the team to help distribute them. Chee suggested the GU-MultiFaith Centre and Ven. Lhagsam also proposed the Prison Service and similar. The important point is we all need to come up with some additional ideas and hopefully action them.

Jim also advised the compulsory copy to the Australian National Library must be sent, however sending to all libraries would not be viable – there are more than the number of books available just there. We should retain a small stock for future demand, but otherwise the remainder are best distributed to effective locations.

In considering feedback, Jim said we have received no adverse comments but many very positive comments. Other comments received have identified the professional quality and attractiveness of the book and the importance of photos. Some suggestions for improvement in any follow up edition include some information on Buddhism itself, quotes by readers and other personalities.

It was agreed that it is appropriate to send a letter of appreciation to Clayton for his commitment and dedication to this project.

**New BCQ Website** – Jim advised that the added content has been well received and we have also been the target of multiple weekly “hacking” attempts, all of which have been thwarted, but it does require regular logging in to delete the legacy of their efforts. We have around fifteen active users logged in at this time.

He added there has been no challenge to his articles on the flag or calendar, so we can consider the content satisfactory. Regarding the additional of further content, it was agreed that photos of centres, where provided, can be mounted in their listing, etc. and that photos per se are a positive contributor to the web appearance.

With regard to the inclusion of additional suttas, after a lengthy discussion and the need that any sutra should also be accompanied by appropriate teaching/s on it, and if the one sutra would be acceptable to or representative of all traditions, it was agreed that the Council will not feature suttas directly, but links to other sites that do would be acceptable.

**2010 ASA Conference in Brisbane this week** – Kim, Chee, Julie and Maeve have developed and effective sub-committee and are working well to ensure the event will be a success.

**REAC Buddhism Fact Sheet** – Jim previously circulated the “Fact Sheet” for comment and has now been sent to REAC. The last scheduled meeting for REAC was cancelled, so the sign off and formal adoption of these will now take place in August. Similarly, it is important that we can re-build the relationship with BESS to help progress the acceptance of their syllabus for 2011. Once again the QSA conference may again facilitate such opportunities.

**Letter of Support for Sangha Visa Applications** – Jim confirmed that the pro forma Letter of Support has been sent to the Vietnamese applicant and is now available for future use as required and approved by the Council.

**2010 BCQ AGM** – Membership renewals and proxies have been received in preparation for the AGM. The auditor’s report has been received and Noel Box has agreed to act for us next year.

## **5. GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- a. **QSA Update** – Received just days ago, a discussion was held on the excellent progress made by the Qld Sangha Association and the seemingly integrally-link BESS, with the serious dedication of Rahu Sarath-Chandra and his son Tan to both entities. Jim repeated his view that it is unfortunate that a real collaborative relationship between them and this Council was not achieved, but that given we have a good working relationship with the ASA, we should again try to connect with the Qld. arm and work together. Given also the changes to the RI accreditation rules it is important that we can help them in that capacity too. As the impact on ACARA also becomes apparent, we need to ensure matters of syllabus etc are supported wherever possible.

Given that the ASA Conference is imminent and they will be in attendance, it was agreed that we should try to make a meaningful connection with them during this opportunity and

aim to build a meaningful working relationship with them. It was also agreed that a Letter of Congratulations be sent to the QSA for their achievements to date.

Moved by Jim Ferguson

Seconded by Kim Hollow

Accepted

- b. **2011 Queensland Week Event** – The Qld Government has invited us to apply for grant of up to \$10,000 to hold a qualifying event for June 2011. It needs to be non-denominational and relevant to Queensland. Ven. Lhagsam mentioned there is a chance HH the Dalai Lama may be in Brisbane at that time that could be both a benefit (to the community) and a liability (as to availability to Mahayana sangha). It was agreed that we should access the details and then discuss at the next meeting, to decide if the Council should elect to submit a project for funding.

Moved by Jim Ferguson

Seconded by Chee Weng

Accepted

- c. **Future Format for BCQ Notices** – Kim raised the motion to formally elect that all future notices be deemed delivered when sent by email to members, centres and other parties, due to the cost and the apparent and comparative effectiveness of both methods.

Moved by Kim Hollow

Seconded by Ven. Lhagsam

Accepted

**MEETING CLOSED:** 10:55 am

**NEXT MEETING: (Confirmed)** Meeting Room - Logan North Library (Ph: 3412 4140)

Address: Cnr Sports Drive and Springwood Rd, Underwood 4119

Date: Saturday 10/7/10 Time booked: 9.30am- 12 noon

Signed by President: \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_/\_\_/2010