



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: July 10, 2010

TIME: 10:15am

VENUE: Logan North Library - Underwood

ATTENDANCE: Ven. Lhagsam, Kim Hollow, Chee Weng, Maeve Hollow, David Wee, Jenny Le Neveu & Jim Ferguson.

QUORUM: Yes **APOLOGIES:** Julie Khoo

CHAIRPERSON: Jim Ferguson

SECRETARY: Kim Hollow

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Minutes of the June 19, 2010 Committee meeting were confirmed after draft amendments by Julie Khoo were included prior to this meeting. While the AGM can only be approved at the next AGM, it was agreed they could be mounted on the website as information.

Moved by Jim Ferguson

Seconded by Kim Hollow

Accepted

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:

Some matters have been placed in Business on Notice.

2. CORRESPONDENCE:

IN-

1. Jim's Blue Card Positive Notice was received after a 14-week delay.
2. Receipt for \$41 from Fair Trading for lodgement of the Annual Return
3. Optus a/c for \$12.10
4. Letter from Premier's Office re Queenslander of the Year application for 2011
5. Invitation from Thich Quang Ba of Canberra to attend service at his temple on 17/7/10.
6. Copy of FABC to Julia Gillard inviting her to visit a dharma centre in Australia.
7. Donation to ASA on behalf of BCQ, donated by Chee Weng

OUT-

These items are for discussion as Business on Notice below

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Jim's payment of \$41 to Fair Trading to be recorded as a donation to BCQ.
2. Chee's donation to \$50 to be recorded as a donation to BCQ.

Moved by Kim Hollow

Seconded by Chee Weng

Accepted

3. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Due to lack of internet access, no current balance is available of the account at this meeting but will be presented at the next. Jenny also reported that the CWealth Bank requires Jim and Kim to attend a branch to re-validate pre-existing authorities. Chee also tabled a cash \$20 donation from a shop at Sunnybank Hills and another \$10 as a donation in lieu of the BCQ Book from Kevin.

Moved by Jenny Le Neveu

Seconded by David Wee

Accepted

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF TREASURER'S REPORT:

Jenny mentioned that Julie is due \$30 to be reimbursed but the details need to be clarified before further discussion.

Moved by Jim Ferguson

Seconded by Maeve Hollow

Accepted

4. BUSINESS ON NOTICE:

Changing Mobile Phone Billing System – Kim advised the present BCQ phone plan is a very old plan and very costly per minute. After considering various options and considering the practices adopted by other Buddhist Councils, it was moved and agreed that we cancel the present post-paid Optus plan and convert to a \$30 Optus Pre-Paid plan.

Moved by Kim Hollow

Seconded by Jenny Le Neveu

Accepted

New BCQ Website – Jim has updated the website confirming the changes agreed at the last meeting: that all notices will be via email only, and a qualification on Sutta and it's resourcing and application.

Jim also added that inquiries are being generated from the public and being responded to promptly – he added that all responses are being qualified as “my personal view” and not on behalf of the BCQ itself.

The other issue is the current situation that has numerous attacks on our site by “blind-dialler” loggings that presently requires manual interception and control – Jim has asked Josh to resolve this for us and it may require some payment to buy the necessary software patch, but this will be examined. This is a serious matter since more sinister outcomes can result if not checked and has only arisen since inviting registration from members to host their material.

ASA Conference De-brief – Kim formally reported that the effort contributed by Maeve, David, Julie, Chee (and his own little team of drivers etc.) and Kim, was significant and pivotal to the success of the event and was fully supportive of the ASA organisers, headed by Sr. Susila and Ven. Chi Kwan Sunim. In essence, Jim commended the BCQ sub-committee on their effort and outcome and congratulated all who contributed for the excellent result. Chee asked for a Letter of Appreciation be sent to the other convenor for her help – address details will be provided by Chee.

UQ Meditation Research – Alex Scott – Jim mentioned the request received for experienced meditators, adding he has sent this to the Zen groups, Vipassana and a select number of other dharma centres seeking potential candidates.

Letters of Appreciation etc. – Jim circulated draft letters to ASA and Clayton and letters to Josh and BESS will follow.

World Swastika Rehabilitation Day – Jim also mentioned the receipt of a request from the Raelians to support their celebration of their own special use of the Swastika symbol and it's embedding in the Star of David. Given that the way the Raelians use the device differs substantially from how the Buddhist and pre-Buddhists apply it and what it means, after serious discussion it was resolved that the BCQ could not endorse their request.

2011 Qld Week Funding Application – Jim raised the potential to make an application for funding. There are tight and rigid criteria that means it cannot be an exclusively Buddhist-theme or topic. The funding is not a dollar-for-dollar deal, does recognise in-kind contributions but must include public liability of \$20m and Workcover for any event workers, volunteer or otherwise. The event must be held between 4th and 13th June 2011.

Other issues include reimbursements seem to be available only after payment has been made, but perhaps may be made against invoice – this has still to be clarified.

Having now learnt much from the Q150 exercise, we now realise the effort required to deliver such outcomes and we will need to be very time-conscious throughout the process. In evaluating the possible forms such an event might take, Jim proposed some form of policy forum that might permit the formulation of position statements that can be used by the Buddhist community, both locally and federally.

A detailed discussion followed that canvassed issues of insurance, format, promotion (*including Vesak @ Southbank perhaps*), keynote and other guest speakers, subject matter, and duration; leading to the recommendations that:

- we will consider delivering a mid-week ½ -day (3+hrs), or evening (perhaps 7:30pm onwards) forum on the topic of Euthanasia at a venue in Brisbane;
- we need to check any conflicts within the designated period;
- we need Letters of Support from two past and relevant referees;
- to inquire about insurance cover, potential venues similar to or GU-MFC (to seat 300 approx. and limited catering) and prominent speakers will be sought.

These matters will be further explored through shared research by the committee over the next 2-weeks and then to report back via email for further discussion, given we have only 8-weeks to lodge the grant application. If we come to agreement, then the Council will lodge an application.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS:

- a. **Baha'i World Religion Day – The Unity of Humankind – 16 Jan 2011** – A request has also been received for the BCQ to participate in their day and recite a meaningful verse etc in support of the above theme. It was agreed that Jim will deliver "***The Four Immeasurables***" and forward then a copy in due course for reproduction.
- b. **Ajahn Brahm's GU-MFC Talk 22 September 7-9pm** – Chee introduced the upcoming talk and he has agreed to lead this event. Ajahn Brahm is coming on a fully sponsored visit and has agreed to give a free dharma talk whilst he is here, and he now wants endorsements from the BCQ and QSA etc. He will also discuss the Qld Week event with Ajahn Brahm. We are most pleased to support this visit.

- c. **MoU with QSA** – Chee has also asked we extend the invitation to sign a local Memorandum of Understanding between our two organisations and it was agreed that this will be included in the letter to QSA we intend to send out.
- d. **Human Rights Framework Grant** – Kim raised the prospect of the BCQ also seeking funding under their grant program and Kim agreed to look into this avenue.

MEETING CLOSED: 12:20 pm

NEXT MEETING: (Confirmed) Meeting Room – Sunnybank Hills Library
Address: Cnr Calam and Compton Rds, Sunnybank Hills
Date: Saturday 7 August 2010 Time booked: 9.30am- 12:30pm

Signed by President: _____ Secretary: _____ Date: __/__/2010