

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: March 25, 2006

TIME: 9.40am

VENUE: Karuna House

ATTENDANCE: As Per Attendance Book

QUORUM: Yes

APOLOGIES: Chee Weng

CHAIRPERSON: Jim Ferguson

SECRETARY: Jim Ferguson (Acting)

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Moved: Kim Hollow

Seconded: Rachel Hannan

Accepted

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

None – refer to business on notice

CORRESPONDENCE:

IN: Kim collected mail; Jim received emails from FABC seeking \$50 annual dues & Amitahba Buddhist Centre cancelling membership since their affiliation with Pureland College. Kim reported Langri Tangpa & Ayra Tara Buddhist Centre membership renewals received and an invitation to attend a Women's Walk at Southbank – the lateness of notice prevented any BCQ representation, also Optus \$9 account. Siri tabled a letter from his Centre seeking BCQ support for funding application.

OUT: Kim replied to Women's Walk apologising for non-attendance. Jim has forwarded the integrated new Rules and membership structure to the Office of Fair Trading and now form our official document. Jim has mounted this on our website.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Kim Hollow

Accepted

MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

None.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Siri reported that apart from the \$100 now received the situation has not materially changed other than the accounts presented for payment – both approved.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Rachel Hannan

Accepted

BUSINESS ON NOTICE:

a. Policy Manual – the inclusion of the Child protection risk management is more onerous than expected and hopefully will be completed sometime next week

b. Blue Card applications – Rachel will process the person she knows who is willing to provide education and Jim has also processed one from Sandra Filla to be similarly available. Discussion highlights the on-going need for Blue Cards and education is likely to become a significant part of Council activities into the future. Chee also has to sign his application.

c. Brisbane State High RE teachers – Tony is very happy with our teachers, has completed their induction and Jim will send a letter of introduction to him to cover their representation. If additional information is needed Jim can email them for their details.

d. FABC Teleconference Sunday Feb 25 – Jim reported outcome of teleconference and described the donation from the Nembutsuchu sect to the FABC of about \$29,000 via Ajahn Brahm in WA. The request that BCNSW be given around \$4,500 of that for Vesak Insurance was deferred until they tested their own resources first. A statue of Buddha to be paid for and made by FABC for the Japanese temple was passed by the other states with Qld voting against the issue. It has been principally agreed that each state should be entitled to seek \$1,000 for special projects from those funds. The idea of a unified Internet presence was also raised and voted on by the states and was again passed by the states with Kim voting for a variation and Jim voting for more diligence before a decision, however the vote favoured using a solution developed by Sol Hanna and hosted by SmartyHost. The point was made that NSW seems to be well resourced from a couple of benefactors that allows them not to charge membership fees. Brian Ashen also expressed his concern for our decision to represent individuals rather than centres. Kim reports that since then the new site is operational and that Qld's details are still incorrect. Jim also mentioned that our own site is up again and the renewal extended 2 weeks due to the delay in re-activating it. Rachel commented on her web "Buddhism for Mothers" that suggest ultimately that all serious practitioners will align with a centre/teacher at some stage, Jim adding that that is how Buddhism developed over the centuries.

e. Multi-Cultural Festival 2006 – Jim suggested BCQ approach FABC for the \$1,000 to fund this event and to seek interested partners. Rachel offered ThanLe to possibly help with the catering aspect; Kim also said that Chee has volunteered to also provide catering. Jim proposed we prepare a business case for the event to submit to the FABC and with the support of those mentioned and to move forward to participate in that event.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Rachel Hannam

Accepted

f. Website and Internet presence – All have had a chance to review the draft site and consensus is that it is a good start, simple, clean and should include the Buddhist flag and more content ie graphics and information. Discussion led to the desire to make our website the way for centres to disseminate their program information to all – citing Karuna's ad for Buddhism teaching, volunteers, Lama Choedak's and Rachel's Roshi's teaching visit etc. Jim moved that we seek Josh to move to the next stage and develop further and to discuss in more detail.

Moved: Jim Ferguson

Seconded: Kim Hollow

Accepted

g. 2006 AGM Date – Saturday, May 20 at 10:30am at Karuna (subject to confirmation). Jim sought to list Committee member's attendance record as part of his President's report for the year – agreed. Now

we have ratified the new rules, we will have to go through our membership renewals to determine the new register for the AGM and Jim will have this ready – it will be based on individuals now and not centres.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- a. Kim raised the need for electronic letterhead for members to be able to use, Jim said he will email it to all members for their use, with the reminder to table any correspondence generated.
- b. Siri sought a support letter from the BCQ for their request to the Government for land for their new temple – agreed.

NEXT MEETING:

DATE: April 29, 2006

TIME: 9.30am

VENUE: Karuna Hospice

MEETING CLOSED: 10:43 am

CHAIRPERSON.....

SECRETARY.....

DATE: