

PRESENT:

Ms Chris Fajks – Laurieton Lions Club
Mr Andy Neal – Wauchope Rotary Club
Mr Greg Cavanagh – Wauchope Lions Club
Mr Mal Merrick – Tacking Point Lions Club
Ms Liss Sines – Community Representative
Mr Richard Gander – Community Representative
Mr Stewart Todd – Group Manager, Governance & Executive Services
Mrs Jenny Mead – Port Macquarie-Hastings Council

The meeting opened at 8.35 am. The purpose of the debrief meeting is to discuss the activities held on Australia Day 2012 across the Hastings.

Jenny opened the meeting and thanked all present for their ongoing commitment to the preparation of the Australia Day Celebrations staged across the Local Government in 2012.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Will Jamieson, Denise Templeman, Ross Peberdy, Pennie Evans-Lord .

Mal Merrick advised that Ross Peberdy has indicated that he will be stepping down from his role on the Australia Day Sub Committee. Mal Merrick to confirm who from Tacking Point Lions Club will be named as their new representative on the Committee.

Consensus:

1. That the apologies received from Will Jamieson, Denise Templeman, Ross Peberdy and Pennie Evans-Lord be noted and accepted.
2. That Mal Merrick confirms who from Tacking Point Lions Club will be named as their new representative on the Committee.

03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Amendment:

That Mal Merrick be marked as attending the meeting held on 20 January 2012

Consensus:

That the minutes be amended to show that Mal Merrick attended the Australia Day Sub Committee Meeting held on 20 January 2012.

04 AUSTRALIA DAY AMBASSADOR

General consensus is that the Committee were very happy with the allocation of Ambassadors. Committee impressed with the amount of time each of the ambassadors spent having photos taken, signing autographs with members of the community during their time in the Hastings. Comment received that Ambassadors should do more research into their area they are visiting as it would prove quite beneficial to the visiting Ambassadors.

Jenny advised that the Committee's Comments will be included on the Australia Day Council Feedback form to be completed and returned to the Australia Day Council of NSW.

Consensus:

1. That the comments regarding the Ambassador's willingness to have photos and sign autographs be included on the Australia Council Feedback form.
2. That the suggestion be included on the feedback form that the Ambassadors should do more research on the Local Government area they are visiting.

05 AUSTRALIA DAY BUDGET

Due to all outdoor activities being cancelled prior to Australia Day 2012 due to the continual wet weather, all clubs were asked to submit a revised budget. Revised budget provided by Laurieton Lions Club and Wauchope Rotary/Lions Club . Tacking Point Lions Club yet to provide revised budget. TPLC to submit as soon as practicable. All invoices yet to be provided.

Consensus:

1. That a review of the revised budgets be undertaken by Stewart and Jenny.
2. That the once the review is complete, cheque requisitions be prepared and cheques drawn and forwarded to each of the Laurieton Lions and Wauchope Rotary/Lions Clubs to cover the expenses incurred in staging the revised Australia Day 2012 activities.
3. That Tacking Point Lions Club submits their revised budget as soon as practicable.

06 AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Feedback sought from the Committee regarding the Australia Day Awards Presentation Evening. Majority of the Committee felt that the the Awards Night went well and happy with the event's format, timing and Ambassador's role. Comment noting that the Bar was open prior to the 6.00pm start time as arranged with Glasshouse staff.

Suggestion put forward regarding the award categories, that in the future, should only one nominee be received for a category, this nomination is "rolled into" another category. Suggestion put forward that all Service Clubs should be contacted in lead up to Australia Day Awards opening. Jenny advised that this has been undertaken, in writing and via email. Problem experienced with addresses of service clubs and often letters are returned to sender as address has changed but Council not notified. One committee member

expressed disappointment that the event lacked “theatrics” and this year there was no PowerPoint presentation of the Précis booklet as compiled and displayed as in previous years. Jenny explained that no PowerPoint compiled this year as this was the first time taking into the theatre, and the expenses incurred with holding the function inside the Theatre as opposed to the Mezzanine level last year or Rydges the year before. Discussion took place. Suggestion put forward to that the Committee that all ideas and suggestions on how to improve the event are welcome and to be brought to the first meeting for Australia Day 2013 to discuss.

Consensus:

1. Comment regarding bar opening times noted.
2. Committee asked to bring back ideas/suggestions for the Awards Night Format to the first meeting of the Australia Day Sub Committee for Australia Day 2013.

07 AUSTRALIA DAY ACTIVITIES - CAMDEN HAVEN

The committee reminded that unfortunately due to the continual wet weather experienced in the lead up to the event that the entire Australia Day Celebrations planned for Bruce Porter Reserve had to be cancelled. Jenny tabled an email received complaining that no alternate venue had been provided in the Camden Haven unlike Wauchope or PMQ. Discussion took place regarding availability of wet weather venues and three venues have been identified as being suitable to hold the Australia Day celebrations, including the Laurieton United Serviceman’s Club who contacted Council directly. All event collateral and flags returned at meeting.

Consensus:

Those Laurieton Lions Club representatives who sit on the Australia Day Sub Committee discuss the options available for wet weather venues with the other members of the Laurieton Lions Club. Australia Day Sub Committee members to bring back to the first meeting for Australia Day 2013 and advise the Committee of the results of these discussions.

08 AUSTRALIA DAY ACTIVITIES - WAUCHOPE

Wauchope Lions/Rotary representatives present advised that taking the Official Program into the Rotary Hall this year resulted in the best Australia Day ceremony being held for many years and that the Lions/Rotary have decided that for all future Australia Day celebrations planned for Wauchope, the Hall will be used for the Official speeches etc... Jenny expressed concern that the size of the hall will impact on the public from participating in this part of the event as the hall only has a capacity of around 120 people. Lions/Rotary representatives asked to discuss further with the other members of their service club and bring details to the first meeting for Australia Day 2013.

Jenny asked if any of the Lions/Rotary Club representatives attended the Bain Park All Abilities Playground meeting. Feedback is that they hadn’t. Jenny tabled plans showing Options 1 and 2 for those interested in viewing. No feedback to provide to Council staff from the Wauchope Lions/Club representatives present. All event collateral and flags returned prior to the meeting.

Consensus:

1. Those Lions/Rotary Australia Day Sub Committee representatives discuss further with the other members of their service club the proposed use of the Rotary Hall for the Official Program and bring details to the first meeting for Australia Day 2013.
2. That the information be noted that no one attended the Bain Park All Abilities Playground proposal meeting and had no feedback to provide Council staff regarding the impact on future Australia Day Celebrations staged at Bain Park.

09 AUSTRALIA DAY ACTIVITIES - PORT MACQUARIE

Representative from Tacking Point Lions Club advised that all outdoor activities had been cancelled by 2.00pm on 25 January 2012. All contractors had also been notified by this time that their services were not required on Australia Day 26 January 2012. Market Stall holders cancelled stating risk too high.

Representative complained of level of noise experienced during official program from not only members of the public on the ground floor but also traffic noise generated outside the venue. Suggestion made that official program should be staged at the Glasshouse but held within the theatre to avoid noise issues.

That TPLC Australia Day Sub Committee representatives discuss further with the other members of their service club proposed ideas/changes to the official program for Port Macquarie and bring details to the first meeting for Australia Day 2013. Flags have been returned. All other event collateral yet to be returned. TPLC to contact Council and arrange mutually suitable time to return.

Consensus:

1. Complaints regarding the noise generated during the program have been noted.
2. That TPLC Australia Day Sub Committee representatives discuss further with the other members of their service club proposed ideas/changes to the official program for Port Macquarie and bring details to the first meeting for Australia Day 2013.
3. TPLC to contact Council to arrange mutually suitable time to return event collateral.

10 GENERAL BUSINESS

Suggestions put forward

Move entire Official Program for Port Macquarie to the Glasshouse Theatre permanently.

Cadets to be engaged earlier in the year for future Australia Day Celebrations.

Possibility of engaging seaplane to be to do fly past as part of celebrations on Westport Park and Hastings Community Transport to be a part of the day's celebrations.

Disappointment expressed by member regarding fees and charges associated with use of

the Glasshouse.

Idea of a flotilla being a part of the Port Macquarie celebrations was put forward.

The Committee was advised that post the Council election in September 2012, the Committee will again have Councillor Representation. As a result there would be a recommendation to roll up the Minutes of the Australia Day Sub Committee to Council for information to all Councillors.

Consensus:

1. Committee members to liaise with other members of their respective service clubs about the ideas/suggestions/disappointments expressed and bring back suggestions for enhancement of the activities proposed across the Hastings Local Government area.
2. Timeframe regarding contacting Cadets, Seaplane, Hastings Municipal Transport and other groups such as 48th Regiment be discussed as the first meeting for Australia Day 2013.
3. That the Committee note that post September 2012 Council Elections, the Minutes of the Australia Day Sub Committee will be reported to Council.

Next Meeting:

First meeting to discuss Australia Day 2013 to be held on Friday 22 June 2012. Venue to be advised.

No further items were discussed.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9.47am.