

SMRRA General Meeting MINUTES
12th August 2023
Cooma Ex-Services Club 2pm

Present: Vice President & Public Officer Oliver Kaptanakos (OK), Treasurer Micheal Freeman (MF), Secretary Teresa Skowran (TS), & Ordinary Committee Members: Vele Civiljovski VC, Shawny Joint SJ, Charles Kalano CK

Association members & audience: approx. 30 people.

Apologies: Grantly Ingram (GI) Ordinary Committee Member

Online: VC relayed online live-stream for approx. 6 mins, from 2pm. Stopped due to technical issues.

Extra Ordinary Business:

Address by OK: OK declares the SMRRA President role open for nominations, that Andrew Thaler had nominated himself during the week. Call for other nominations. Only Andrew Thaler (AeT) nominates. No vote required, AeT elected unopposed. OK steps down from the table and sits at the rear of the room.

AeT takes over the chair of the meeting.

MF tenders his intention to resign from Treasurer role, and to withdraw from all committee roles with the exception of the RLUS committee where he proposed to remain president of that committee. MF remains in role of Treasurer for remainder of meeting.

OK tenders a verbal resignation as Vice President. OK states this will be put in writing during the week.

AeT gives an address to members to explain his background and interests for SMRRA.

MF explains current sub-committees and members of them:

RLUS - MF

SRV – OK MF ?GI

Roads - SJ

Rubbish/Waste Management - VC

Communications – ex MN now open for noms

De Merger – GI tbc

Resume published agenda for general meeting:

Rates

Roads

Rubbish

RLUS (Rural Land Use Strategy)

Aged Care

Council Audit

Guest Speaker- topic unknown

Aged Care- Ian Ware (IW)- can we write a letter to SMRC. MF states there is a draft. MF to provide draft top AeT/TS. IW ask for letter to include more questions re Yallambee Lodge:

- is it true
- done deal or not
- is it true sold for \$1
- has SMRC accounted for community funds
- will community be reimbursed for loss of asset
- what is impact on residents
- how will staff be treated (transferred/redundancy/sacked)

Motion IW. Seconded Nick Kilpatrick. Passed Unanimous.

Also concern regarding the Snowy River Hostel Berridale that was funded and physically built by community members from Adaminaby through to Berridale. It is a community asset. IW and others have the venues history.

RLUS SubComm report by MF

MF, VC +1 met Cnr Tanya Higgins in June (~6 weeks ago) for 1 hour. VC encourage forming 355 Committee RLUS.

Council Audit: AeT: two years into new council still not done. AeT explains idea of another council overseeing the process, the terms, recruitment, tender etc, that it can be conducted that way. Yet to see what SMRC councillors decide, but first audit process /version was not approved.

Guest speaker: Matt Notte (MN).

Investigated the water tank,. WH&S at 81 Commissioner St.

MN will compose a short report assessing risks to SMRRA members if they attend council building 81 Commissioner St as the SMRC has declared the building unsafe> The topic of seeking funding in the next SMRC meeting Thursday 17th of up to \$40million. MN will present on this WH&S topic on behalf of SMRRA at open forum SMRC meeting Thursday 17th.

MN has investigated the Cooma Water Tank that exploded in 2020 bushfire, to be put on next agenda.

Other Business:

From SMRC business paper >Social media Policy of SMRC (page 361): who decides what is offensive? What is shameful? Legal definitions or council-defined. Or per e-commissioner?

AeT. Has a great concern of over-reach, of over expense. Need more free speech to moderate free speech.

CK concerned that there is already residents who are closed off from SMRC communications, him being one of them, when their issue is long standing and still not resolved.

A SMRRA member will present on this topic in open forum in SMRC meeting Thurs 17th.

Footbridge over creek in Cooma. TS states bridge was washed away in flood, not replaced.

Clr Trisha Hopkins in audience gives update to say work approved to replace. Works Imminent. No time frame given.

Rail Trail vs Railway. Ian Ware from Railway and he would like to make a presentation. AeT Propose to invite both organisations to next SMRRA meeting to present update and outlook.

Peter Anderson- replacement Snowy 1 reservoir water tank, generators, fire/disaster preparedness. Present at next meeting, follow up with council.

Wild horses/Brumbies: is an issue impacting the area. AeT interested in presenting on this.

Next Meeting

Next meeting TBA, expect Cooma Ex-Servos, same time. Propose mid-term online meeting following council monthly meeting to discuss outcomes. AeT

TBC assume Sat September 9th- 2pm
Venue Booked by AeT.

END 16.30 hrs