



BLAZING SWAN INC

Committee Meeting Minutes

Date:	Monday 14 August 2023
Time:	6:05 pm opened by Tim Viljoen
Place:	Online

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Blazing Swan Committee acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all First Nations Australia peoples today.

Attending	
Paul Castle	Ordinary Committee Member
Kimberley Strong	Ordinary Committee Member
Gerard Laumen	Ordinary Committee Member
Tim Viljoen	Deputy Chair
John McCann	Secretary

Apologies
Genevieve Howe
Lewis Viljoen
Jess Schwendinger
Sharyn Maes

Declaration of a Material Personal Interest (Conflict of Interest)
Lewis Viljoen is a Director of Easy Access, a company that might be invoicing Blazing Swan for services in March and possibly April 2023. Easy Access is also storing the Koasis Theme Camp shipping container.

Previous Minutes

Governance Items

Committee

- There will be two automatic Committee vacancies coming up at the AGM - the Secretary and one Other Committee Member. John McCann and Paul Castle indicated that they will be standing for election to these roles.

AGM - Constitutional Changes

- The Secretary outlined some changes to the Constitution that could be put to the membership at the AGM.
- The first proposed change was to remove the 'two year' appointment of first time Committee Members. This is not in the model rules for Associations. It was added to give extra security to first time Committee Members who might still be settling into the role after a year. It was up to the Committee to decide if this was actually necessary, but the Secretary observed that it introduced complexity into what should be a simple arrangement which would otherwise fit the membership's expectation that every Committee position should come up for reelection every year. **Tim Viljoen moved, "This Committee will put before the Membership at the AGM a proposal to change our Constitution to remove the special arrangement for first time Committee Members detailed in subrule 37(2)." Seconded Gerard Laumen. Motion carried.**
- The second proposed change was to give the Deputy Chair the power to convene a Special Committee Meeting. That power is currently only held by the Chair. Given that Special Committee Meetings are usually convened in response to an urgent situation there is a risk in only having one person with that power. **Tim Viljoen moved, "This Committee will put before the Membership at the AGM a proposal to allow the Deputy Chair to convene a Special General Meeting, as per subrule 43(3) and 44(5) at 44(6)." Seconded Gerard Laumen. Motion carried.**
- The third proposed change was to make it a pre-condition before filling any casual vacancy on the Committee, that the casual vacancy be advertised among the Association Membership. Given that the Secretary role must be filled within 14 days under subrule 40(2) the proposed period of advertisement for a vacant Secretary role would be 7 days, and in all other cases would be 14 days. At the end of those periods the Committee would exercise its existing power under subrule 40(1) to appoint a person to the Committee. **Tim Viljoen moved, "This Committee will put before the Membership at the AGM a proposal to require the Committee to advertise any casual vacancy on the Committee before proceeding to fill that casual vacancy. The period of advertising will be 7 days in the case of the Secretary role being vacant, and 14 days in all other cases." Seconded Paul Castle. Motion carried.**

AGM - Adoption of a Statement of Inclusion

- The Secretary proposed that the Committee put a Statement of Inclusion before the AGM for endorsement. He noted that the Radical Inclusion Principle did not preclude the Association from setting standards for its Event and its community - a point confirmed by our Burning Man Regional Representative, David Cake. **Tim Viljoen moved, "This Committee will put before the Membership at the AGM a proposal to adopt the following 'Statement of Inclusion':**

Blazing Swan Incorporated is committed to providing our Association Members, volunteers, contractors and event participants with an equal opportunity to be part of a safe community, workplace and Event. We believe in the inherent dignity, worth, unique attributes and human rights of all individuals. We respect people of all ethnicities, ages, abilities, appearances and gender identities and orientations - and all beliefs that share this respectful outlook

We ask our Association Members, volunteers, contractors and Event participants to show this respect to everyone in this community at all times, in person and online. We ask all members of our community to support and defend people who are being discriminated against or persecuted for reasons of their ethnicity, age, abilities, appearance, gender identity or orientation, or for their respectful beliefs.

Seconded Gerard Laumen. Motion carried.

AGM - Changes to the preamble to the 11 Principles

- The Committee agreed that the existing preamble to the 11 Principles needed to be changed to make it clear that the Consent Principle was actually a rule and a requirement at our Event and in our community. John McCann will put a proposed form of words to the Committee within 24 hours, and then seek to have it endorsed for presentation to the AGM.

AGM - Volunteer Benefits

- The Committee agreed that a charter of Volunteer Benefits would be taken to the AGM for endorsement. The charter would include the provisions previously discussed which included
 - Two free tickets for year-round volunteers, regardless of when they took up their role, or
 - One free ticket for 50 hours work, up to a maximum of two free tickets for 100 hours work, or
 - A discount of \$100 on the ticket price paid by anyone who does more than 12 hours volunteering work.
 - The endorsement of the Committee or relevant Head of Department will be sufficient to prove hours.John will put together a form of words to bring back to the Committee this coming Wednesday.

Organisation Structure - EventPlanner/Director, Assets Lead, Logistics Lead

- Lewi asked the Committee to look at and comment on the Event Manager role description by last Wednesday. Lewis and Paul had commented on the draft. John will make it ready for release by this coming Wednesday. John noted that the Event Manager role needed to be understood in the context of the Shift Manager roles, and the Event Planner roles - all of which were currently vacant.
- The Community Relations Manager has requested the creation of a position 'WTF Coordinator'. **Tim Viljoen moved, "This Committee endorses the creation of a volunteer role, 'WTF Coordinator' in the Community Relations Department."** **Seconded Kimberley Strong. Motion carried**

Insurance - Property and Public Liability

- There is no news on whether this has been renewed after expiring on 31 July 2023

Event Items

Kulin Site Remediation

- House and DPW have been contacted to provide volunteers for a site visit the weekend following Recombob to do a final clean up on site. It appears at the moment we have 4 out of the 6 to 8 people required. John will include a notice in the email going out to Members this week.

Event Items

2024 Event Theme Artwork

- Tim Viljoen moved, "This Committee accepts the artwork prepared by Timmy Howe and adopts it as official artwork for the 2024 Event, 'Neon Caravan'. The Committee thanks Timmy Howe for his beautiful submission." Seconded Gerard Laumen. Motion carried.

Tim Viljoen closed the meeting at 7:45 pm