

Nhulunbuy Town Board Inc.
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
Nhulunbuy Corporation Board Room, Nhulunbuy, Northern Territory
Tuesday 21 April 2015 at 8:30am

Present:

Angela MacMillan (AMac)	Chairperson (Nhulunbuy Corporation)
Jim Rogers (JR)	NT Government (NTG) Representative
Sarah Thurgood (ST)	Rio Tinto Alcan Gove Operations (RTA) Representative
Sharon Georganicas (SG)	Member
Chris Putland (CP)	Member
Lyn Percic (LP)	Member
Gavin Law (GL)	Member
Alyce Fredriksen (AF)	Secretary

NBNCo dial in:

Dion Ljubanovic	Regional Deployment NT - NBNCo
Hayley Connelly	Stakeholder Engagement - NBNCo
Peter Gurney	Community Affairs - NBNCo

1. Apologies

None

AMac welcomed all members, including newly appointed Secretary Alyce Fredriksen and newly appointed Rio Tinto Alcan Gove Operations (RTA) Representative Sarah Thurgood to the Town Board.

2. Conflict of Interest

None declared

3. Confirmation of Minutes – 17 March 2015

Moved: Gavin Law (GP)

Seconded: Chris Putland (CP)

Carried

4. Business Arising from Minutes

- NBNCo: NBNCo dialled into the meeting to discuss recent events. In particular, the electrical contractor (SEQ) has gone into administration. NBNCo are now trying to secure the services of another delivery partner to continue the roll out. NBNCo stated they are still committed to delivering the project. GL asked what percentage has been completed. NBNCo stated 20% with a revised completion date now around November/December 2015. NBNCo remain committed to rolling out the service in Nhulunbuy.

LP asked if it is possible to have access to public WiFi in the Town Centre once NBNCo has been rolled out. Other members of the Board said that this has the potential to cause anti-social behaviour and public WiFi has been withdrawn in other regional centres. AMac agreed to look into the possibility and report back to the Board regardless.

Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:

Date:

- Beach Access (07/14): AMac confirmed that the Nhulunbuy Corporation is preparing a submission for the NT Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program for financial assistance for the beach access walkway between Westal Street and Town Beach. AMac confirmed that RTA has agreed to donate an unused walkway to lie over the existing bridge to help reduce costs. The grant submission is due by 1 May 2015.

LP asked if the Nhulunbuy Corporation can clear the vegetation behind the Arnhem Club and Walkabout. AMac stated that this could be factored into future budgets but is not a priority at the moment.

- Vet service (28/14): JR said the East Arnhem Regional Council have reviewed the feasibility study and made the decision not to take up the vet service. JR stated this decision was impacted to an extent by the diminished number of registered animals in town and an inability to verify the sustainability of the practice.
- Disability/ equity access (03/15): AMac has spoken with a local disability advocate about accessibility throughout town. AMac said the Nhulunbuy Corporation has now ordered a new hoist to allow for access into the pool and will ensure that accessibility is factored into all future Corporation building/asset upgrades and developments.
- EFTPOS machine at Pool (46/14): AMac stated that Westpac is still of the position that Nhulunbuy currently only has 2G technology. With the recent upgrade to 4G, the new technology should be able to be rolled out in the coming weeks. AMac confirmed that the Nhulunbuy Corporation is continuing to pursue this but can only be guided by the financial provider.
- Animal Control (50/14): AMac said that domestic dogs continue to be an issue on the town lease. In particular, not all residents are registering their dogs nor applying for permission to keep more than two dogs. AMac confirmed that fines are continuing to be handed out for non-compliance and that the updated Animal Control By-laws are back with the Corporation's lawyers for review.

5. Monthly Operations Report – March 2015

Report tabled and noted. AMac highlighted the following:

CEO

- Recruitment is in progress for a Senior Airport Operations Officer and HR/Payroll Officer.
- AMac has set up a monthly meeting with Nhulunbuy Police Officer-in-Charge John Worrall. AMac attended the Tourism NT road show on 24 March 2015 and was pleased to see the amount of work that has gone into promoting the East Arnhem region by the NT Government.

Airport

- Request for Tender documents were sent out on 1 April 2015 to select contractors for the runway and town roads resealing works.

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Town Operations

- The employment of an in-house mechanic has seen the long term defective plant and equipment now being repaired. AMac stated the reliability of equipment is already improving.
- Road repairs have now been completed by Betapave in preparation for the reseal project.
- All works at the Nhulunbuy Community Garden have been completed by the Nhulunbuy Corporation under the MOU.

Corporate and Community Services

- Arnhem Land Pest Control have experienced difficulties recently with rubbish collection. This is due to residents overloading their wheelie bins or not placing them on the kerb in time.
- AMac confirmed that letters went out to Industrial Estate ratepayers on 16 April 2015 advising that the domestic rubbish collection service will commence at approved caretaker residences on 1 May 2016. The Board commented that this was a positive development.
- The Easter Craft Day and Egg Hunt was held on 28 March 2015 at the Town Hall. AMac said the event was a great success with little financial outlay.

In Kind Support:

Organisation	Support	Financial value
Nhulunbuy Motor Cycle Club	Tractor use	-
Arnhem Regional School Sport	Hindle Oval 1 and 2 (fee waiver)	\$248.50
Gove Touch Football	Hindle Oval 1 (50% fee reduction)	\$226
Total		\$474.50
Year to date total		\$1,518.20

6. Correspondence

In:

- Email from Charlie Willis - Gove Seafood proposal and business plan to mobile trade within the town lease

Out:

- Letter to Leigh Caffery - request to operate a mobile pizza trailer
- Letter to Lisa Heathcote - request to sell frozen fish on the Nhulunbuy town lease

Secretary:

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Date:

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7. General Business

– Draft Caravan - Extended Stays policy

Draft policy tabled. The significant change from the previous policy is allowing caravans to be parked in certain areas in Nhulunbuy for up to three months on condition of approval from the Nhulunbuy Corporation. LP raised concerns on behalf of the Gove Peninsula Progress Group about the policy possibly detracting from a potential business opportunity for people to open a caravan park in the future. The Board confirmed that this was not as great a concern as to warrant the policy not being adopted. ST stated that the policy can be reviewed in the future if a potential new business wishes to set up operation. JR and GL provided minor feedback on areas to be strengthened within the policy but overall the Board was in agreement to approve the policy. AMac will incorporate these comments into the final version.

– Volatile Substance Abuse

AMac informed the group that she has received reports from the Department of Health about the increase of Volatile Substance Abuse happening around town. AMac reminded the Board that items such as aerosols, glue and petrol need to be secured at all times. Some residents have had petrol from their boats drained.

– BP Water Tanks

SG shared her concern about the possible contamination of water from the BP fuel tanks. She is concerned about the environmental damage it may cause in the tanks in the ground. AMac said that she would find out who conducts testing of this area.

– Nhulunbuy Corporation 2015 Event Calendar

AMac tabled the 2015 Events Calendar which outlines the Nhulunbuy Corporation's events for the remainder of the year.

– Town Centre Painting

AMac confirmed the Town Centre painting and general clean up will commence on 4 May 2015 and continue to 26 May 2015. RTA have stated that work will occur between 8pm and 6am. The contractors will repair and wash the roof, blast the stairs next to Westpac, repaint all columns outside RTA-owned assets, repaint walls and coat the pebble walls with a protective gloss. GL raised concerns about ensuring the paint does not get washed down the drain.

– Water Quality in Town

AMac was advised on the morning of 21 April 2015 that RTA has confirmed some empty residential properties have minor elevated levels of lead and iron in the water. The RTA/Department of Health recommendation is for all town residents to flush taps for at least 30 seconds consuming the water. RTA is still undertaking investigations to identify the source. This information will be released to residents on 21 April 2015 with a link to the Australian water guidelines. ST is the best contact for this matter moving forward and information can also be obtained through the RTA Community Hotline on 1800 996 508.

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– **Mobile Vender Policy**

AMac informed the Board that the draft policy is in progress.

– **Telstra Reception**

CP raised his concerns about the four day loss of coverage in town week recently. AMac informed the Board that the Nhulunbuy Corporation was not warned that there could be a potential loss of reception/coverage to the town. It appears that Telstra had commenced an upgrade of mobile operations in town to 4G which was the cause of the coverage loss. AMac commented that Lynne Walker, MLA, has provided feedback to Telstra that any further potential interruptions to mobile or internet services should be clearly communicated to residents beforehand.

– **Town Swimming Pool Contract Review**

LP asked about the upcoming expiry of the town swimming pool contract. In particular, LP enquired as to whether the Nhulunbuy Corporation will advertise for a Maintenance/Garden Officer to look after the area. AMac informed the Board no decision has been made about whether to contract the management of the pool out again as yet.

– **Zoning in Town**

LP raised concerns about the zoning within the Nhulunbuy Town Centre. AMac confirmed that the zoning for the Town Centre is 'commercial', which includes business. It is therefore up to the owners of the property to decide who they lease their lots to and is not influenced in any way by the Nhulunbuy Corporation.

– **Building Permits**

LP raised concerns about the building permit procedure. AMac informed the Board that all site inspections are completed by the Nhulunbuy Corporation within a 24 hour period. All appropriate paperwork is completed and forwarded through to RTA who grant approval. AMac said that it is important to note that applicant paperwork needs to include engineering and building reports.

– **Deal Website**

AMac is meeting with Carley Scott (CEO, Developing East Arnhem) this week to discuss the economic development of the region.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting ended at 11:05am.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 19 May 2015 at 8:30am

Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:

Date: