

Nhulunbuy Town Board Inc.

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
Nhulunbuy Corporation Board Room, Nhulunbuy, Northern Territory
Friday 6 March 2015 at 10am

Present:

Angela MacMillan (AMac)	Chairperson (Nhulunbuy Corporation)
Sarah Thurgood	NT Government (NTG) Representative - Proxy for Jim Rogers
Chris Putland (CP)	Member
Lyn Percic (LP)	Member
Estelle Cuperus (EC)	Secretary

1. Apologies

Tracey Billot (TB)	Gove Operations (RTA) Representative
Sharon Georgonicas (SG)	Member
Jim Rogers (JR)	NT Government (NTG) Representative

AMac welcomed all members to the last meeting of the current Town Board. She advised that four nominations were received for appointment of the new Board. The first meeting of the newly appointed Board will be on 17 March 2015. Gavin Law is the only new appointment.

2. Conflict of Interest

None declared

3. Confirmation of Minutes – 20 January 2015

Moved: Chris Putland
Seconded: Lyn Percic
Carried

4. Business Arising from Minutes

- Recreational Facilities (16/13): The Creating Communities work being undertaken will assist with gaining the community's view on recreation facilities in town. CP mentioned that the consultants seem to have a few pre-conceived ideas such as that normalisation would not be beneficial for either RTA or NT Government. AMac will provide this feedback to the consultants.
- Beach access (07/14): A crocodile has been seen in the beach lagoon area and this will have to be taken into consideration when works start. AMac added that various Tourism Grants were announced recently and the Nhulunbuy Corporation will apply for funding to assist with these works around the beach access.
- Vet services (28/14): SG explained that consultant studies have been received by the East Arnhem Regional Council and should be considered at Council's next meeting. However, both the Council and NT Government are currently focused on the recovery effort after Cyclone Lam so there may be delays in this happening. SG added that there are two facets to the Vet Services issue:

Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:

Date:

1. Under the consultant study, the provision of vet services is a commercial venture and will require co-funding.
2. The facility and services operated in Yirrkala are focused on Animal Management. There is a limitation to this service and it is not designed to be used by Nhulunbuy residents.

SG assured the Board that the NT Government and Regional Council are taking this matter very seriously and a lot of work is happening in the background to reach a decision.

- Eftpos machine at Pool (46/14): Telstra will install 4G technology shortly. Board advises if Eftpos machine is bought, to make sure that it is activated before being sent over to Nhulunbuy.
- Animal Control (50/14): AMac reported that a group of about four wild dogs have been sighted near the Catholic Church. Two dogs have been eradicated, but as these dogs are close to the GAMs, Dargaville, and the park where people could be sleeping, Arnhem Land Pest Control can only shoot if they are absolutely sure of their target. They let the Police know when they are out. There is an increase in the number of people reporting sightings and clear patterns are emerging.

AMac said the Nhulunbuy Corporation has found that a number of pet dogs are not registered (only 145 dogs in comparison to over 410 this time last year). The Nhulunbuy Corporation is now reminding dog owners to register their dogs via a campaign on social media and the Arafura Times as well as letters. CP mentioned there are a number of houses with more than two dogs and asked if applications have been received for these. AMac said that the Nhulunbuy Corporation is enforcing the Animal Control By-laws and as such, issuing fines for offences.

- Fluoridation of town water (52/14): AMac confirmed that no fluoride is added to the drinking water in Nhulunbuy. Fluoridation is not a legislative requirement on the town lease.
- Taxi rank (49/14): AMac and Julie Bryce mentioned that original documented issues concerning taxis were around congestion on the road, taxis making u-turns and the number of taxis parking / double parking in the bay. Moving the taxi rank will not stop these issues. The Nhulunbuy Corporation has painted double lines on Westal Street which are enforced by the Police. The taxi bay has room for three cars and taxis should not be parking behind that. The Police can issue infringement notices if this is contravened. The Board agreed and went on to say that issues with the taxis started by drivers looking in at the Pool. A solution for this is to put up art panels along the fence.

5. Monthly Operations Report – January 2015

Report tabled and noted. AMac highlighted the following:

CEO

- NCL2020 SWOT analysis with all Nhulunbuy Corporation staff is underway
- Rio Tinto / Creating Communities Town Vision community engagement will be prominent in March

Airport

- Recruitment in progress for Senior Airport Operations Officer

Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:

Date:

Town Operations

- Potholes have started to appear with the return of the wet weather and road maintenance crews have been repairing these as part of the reseal preparation work
- YBE has assisted with the removal of park trees deemed as a risk to neighbouring houses
- Good feedback has been received about the fixing of stormwater drains, especially around Contractors
- Datjala Work Camp helped with the cleanup after the Cyclone Lam weather event and did a really good job

Community Services

- The Australia Day event was held at the Gove Aquatic Centre and it was a great day. The Nhulunbuy Corporation has taken some learnings away from the event to make it even better next year

6. Correspondence

In

- From the NT Government: amendments to Town Board Constitution accepted
- From Department of Lands, Planning, Environment: naming of Wuyal Park still in progress
- From Lisa Heathcote: request to sell fish on town lease (mobile)
Proposal to sell fish from freezer truck at the car park next to tennis courts every Thursday. LP asked if there was a hawkers' licence for instances like these. AM confirmed that there is not. SG says it was great to see economic development in town, but the tennis court car park did not seem like the best option. There is a afterschool care facility in the vicinity and the safety of the children could be a concern. LP was in favour provided that traffic issues are addressed. SG suggests that the location be discussed with Lisa. CP would like to see more detail around the proposal, addressing the impacts / concerns and how to deal with it, as well as the hours / days and alternative locations. AMac will circulate out of session for a decision.
- From Leigh Caffery: request to sell pizzas on town lease. Leigh will be focused on events and the monthly markets. The Board agreed to the proposal.

Out:

- To Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation: requesting removal of shade cloth. The deadline specified in letter was 13 February 2015. This issue has now been referred to the RTA Leasing Officer as Dhimurru has not complied with their original Development Application and the shade nets have not been removed.

7. General Business

- **Draft Caravan - Extended Stays policy**
Not tabled
- **Stop Sign follow up**
Report tabled. Recommendation: Intersections at John Flynn Drive / Melville Bay Road and Arnhem Road / Beagle Circuit remain as Give Way. The Nhulunbuy Corporation will reinforce the existing line marking and straighten the white road markers. Board agreed.

Secretary:

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Date:

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– **Street stall policy**

AMac said there is limited space around the walkways of the Town Centre where stalls can go and the Nhulunbuy Corporation is mindful of access and the number of people moving around. It rarely happens that two stalls are being held at the same time, but it is a bit congested. There used to be a two stall policy, but AMac said this has been revised to only one stall at a time.

– **Community Assistance Program**

The Board discussed the two applications that were received for the first quarter of the Community Assistance Program of 2015.

Applicant	Project	Amount Requested	Outcome / Reasons
International Women's Day	Luncheon	\$1,250	Successful Board agrees to subsidise \$20 per ticket sold up to the maximum of \$1,250
Gove Peninsula Festival	Shadow puppet show	\$1,250	Successful
TOTAL AWARDED		\$2,500	

– **Petition**

AMac tabled a petition received from Traudel Dursteler regarding the rebranding of the Nhulunbuy Corporation. There are 29 signatures opposing the new branding. AMac made it clear that branded items would only be replaced on a needs basis as the Corporation remains mindful of costs. It is important that the branding reflects the Nhulunbuy Corporation's new direction. LP acknowledged that the branding had been circulated amongst the Board for comment but asked if it was necessary for the Nhulunbuy Corporation to also consult with residents on this issue. The Board agreed that it was a business decision that did not require consultation.

– **Appointment as Director**

AMac informed the Board that she was recently appointed as Director of the Nhulunbuy Corporation and would now have a vote at Board of Directors meetings.

– **Disability access**

CP would like to place an item on next month's agenda to discuss disability / equity access in town. SG confirmed a meeting has been set up to discuss this issue with the person concerned.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting ended at 11:45am.

Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:

Date: