



Tourism Central Australia

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 25 February 2009 Crowne Plaza

Meeting Commenced 6:10 pm

Chairman Ren Kelly welcomed all to the meeting acknowledging the Minister for Tourism Dr Chris Burns, CEO Tourism NT Maree Tetlow, Alice Springs Mayor Damien Ryan and Chamber of Commerce Executive Officer Kaye Eade.

Dr Chris Burns then launched "Strengthening Tourism for Alice Springs and the Red Centre" and addressed the meeting, followed by:

Mayor Damien Ryan and Kay Eade.

The business session then commenced.

WELCOME & APOLOGIES

PRESENT: *As per the attendee's register*

APOLOGIES: *As per the apology register*

CHAIRMAN: Ren Kelly

MINUTES: Merrilyn Mclver (TCA)

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

September minutes previously circulated, No quorum at November meeting so no business conducted.

A motion was put that 'the minutes of the previous meetings be accepted'

Moved: Don McDonald

Seconded: Lynne Peterkin

Motion carried.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Business to include either September or November meetings

3.1 Sideways Facing Seats:

Issue was referred to the Transport Sector at the November Meeting where the matter was resolved. As current legislation allows for the use of the questioned vehicle under NT Motor Vehicle Registration regulations, the Transport Sector meeting group resolved to support the legislation.

3.2 TCA Anti Discrimination Paper:

TCA has delivered to the Anti Discrimination Commission a paper outlining TCA's intended Anti-Discrimination policy - waiting for them to come back to us with approval. Paper will be available for all members once finalised. TCA have met with the Lhere

Aretepe Aboriginal Corporation so as to allow for the information regarding appropriate behaviour when in town be distributed to all visitors to our region.

General Manager advised the Anti Discrimination Commissioner, Mr Tony Fitzgerald had died earlier this week and led a moments silence in respect.

- 3.3 2009 Meetings
Calendar available on website under membership

A motion was put that the actions of the Transport sector be endorsed.

Moved: Wayne Thompson **Seconded:** Phil Walcott

Motion carried.

4. GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT:

As tabled

4.1 The Chairman advised Executive Members portfolios will be distributed to members and members are invited to contact appropriate executive portfolio with any matters of concern.

4.2 The General Manager advised the employment Survey circulated to over 300 members, revealed this membership is responsible for over 500 jobs in Central Australia. He urged members to complete this survey so we have accurate statistics.

4.3 The Chairman advised it is the intention of the Executive to encompass the entire area of the Barkly region, Tennant Creek, Ayers Rock and down to the southern border during the year.

The General Manager has recently been to Tennant Creek and the Executive will be meeting in Tennant Creek and Ayers Rock in the next few months. The Chairman visited members on the way to Ayers Rock this week so is beginning to get around to as many remote operators as possible

The Executive have goals for a number of projects which will be put before general meetings. A Strategic Planning meeting has been organised for early March to put these goals in place.

The Chairman invited members to contact him on any matters that are of concern taking into account issues such as dry town legislation, anti-social issues, etc.

Wayne Thompson queried the funding of the Chairman's recent meetings with remote operators. The Chairman replied the transport was funded by taxpayers through his role with the Federal Govt. all else was the Chairman's time. These meetings allow the opportunity for the Chairman to meet with members whilst also on Federal Govt. business in the area. These meetings were very beneficial and informative collecting information as well as being proactive with our remote members.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 Employment Survey Statistics:

The General Manager advised we have received approx 48 replies resulting in around 500 families directly involved through this employment. Requested those members who have not replied please do so.

Wayne Thompson queried the breakup of these figures. The General Manager replied the tabled results are a preliminary count for the Alice Springs area and a further count on other sectors will take place. These statistics will build a picture for our town and our industry.

5.2 Future Accommodation/Retail/Attractions/Restaurant meetings:

Suggested a choice of monthly or quarterly meetings be held. A show of hands confirmed quarterly structured meetings are preferred for this sector. The General Manager reiterated that TCA only facilitates these meetings, with the sector members running and chairing the meetings.

A motion was put that ARAR Sector meetings be run on a quarterly basis

Moved: Kel Davis **Seconded:** Phil Walcott

Motion carried.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Lynne Peterkin advised that Deb Rock is back in town after being away in France. Deb has established a B&B in Alice Springs and was warmly welcomed by the members.

6.2 Dale McIver called for a tourism based Events Sector to be established to cover the events side of the industry. Suggested matters which could be discussed would be the lengthy legislation and acts involved in events, along with interacting with others in this area.

A motion was put that an Events Sector commence on a quarterly basis and invitations be sent to those in this area

Moved: Dale McIver **Seconded:** Liz Martin

Motion carried.

6.3 Neil Aitken suggested a survey on information from a web point of view be distributed i.e. how many operators use as a booking engine. The Chairman suggested Neil help Letetia with her present web research on this and Neil accepted.

Jo-Anne Harkin advised she has done some auditing in this area and can assist.

The Chairman commented we need the input of both TNT and expertise of Neil to pull together.

Wayne Thompson (Dyson's/Cobb & Co) has offered to provide a free bus service from Tourism Central Australia in Gregory Terrace and Lasseter's Hotel/Casino to the Turf Club and return for the next General Business Meeting (27th May).

Meeting closed: 7:15 pm

Next Meeting: Alice Springs Turf Club