

Polio Advisory Committee Meeting
26th May 2006
ParaQuad, 208 Wellington Street Collingwood

In Attendance

Helen Bryant, Beth Clisby, Margaret Cooper, Marilyn Grimme (Minutes), Gordon McKinnon (Chair), Mary-ann Liethof, Jo McKenna, Jill Pickering, Mary Reid, Cliff Wise

Apologies

Barbara Watson

Minutes of Previous Meeting April 28th

Moved Beth Clisby, Seconded Jill Pickering

Agenda Items

- *Guest Speaker - Ingrid Kariuki, Team Leader, Multi Purpose Taxi Program, Victorian Taxi & Tow Truck Directorate (rescheduled from April Meeting):* Another apology. As June meeting already filling, will invite to July meeting.
- *2006 Rotary Shine On Awards:* Jill Pickering, Jo McKenna and Lyn Bates (Convenor S/E PPSG) were awarded a Certificate of Commendation at the Rotary International "Shine on Awards" presentation in Maryborough on Sunday 7 May. Mary-ann drove Jill to Maryborough to accept the Award in person. Jo and Lyn were unable to attend but their services to the community were read out. There was a fourth Polio survivor from Warragul presented with an Award and Mary-ann advised him about the PolioNetwork, which he had previously been unaware of.
- *Rotary Club of Kew donation to PolioNetwork:* Mary-ann has been asked to a meeting on 8 June to accept a DVD player that was used for their "A World Without Polio" exhibition earlier this year. She will take the DVD to the Convenor's meeting in October to pass on to one of the Support Groups as a prize.
- *Budget Feedback:* Cliff advised that the budget will be discussed at the Board Meeting next Monday. Mary-ann has requested an increase in funds for Polio Network operations and will forward the PAC's proposed expenditure for the Post Polio Special fund to Peter Turner to table at the meeting. Cliff said he will speak to the proposal and report at the next PAC meeting.
- *Invitation for CEO, Peter Turner, to attend July meeting:* Peter Turner has accepted the PAC's invitation to attend the July meeting.

Previous Action Plan

- *PolioNetwork Website Committee Feedback:* Jill advised on progress re web page. Prior to the PAC meeting, Andrew from InfoXchange had attended a sub-committee meeting to discuss logistics. Congratulations to the Committee who have worked hard on the web page design. It appears that the web page will be very comprehensive and will contain excellent detail.
- *Progress of Clinical Service Provider brochure:* Margaret and Marilyn have been working on brochure content for Professionals. Some discussion of wording, to be modified by Marilyn. Mary-ann will put it in draft brochure form, adding diagrams. There was also talk about information for people with non paralytic polio.
- *Contact with local MP re disability vs aged care payments & meeting with Telmo Languillier:* Margaret said she would only follow this up if nothing comes of previous discussions. (See Correspondence – Rosy Buchanan MP)
- *Rodney Angwin:* Research has not made any progress regarding early legislation specific to his circumstances. Mary R to contact Edith Hall.

Correspondence

- *Response from Rosy Buchanan MP:* An email response from Rosy was tabled which followed an email from Mary-ann asking if there had been any progress since a meeting with members of the Polio community, Rosy and Telmo Languillier in March. Rosy advised that Telmo was waiting until after the budget announcement at the end of the month.

- *Review of the Aids & Equipment Program: Invitation to forum for consumers – 2 June 2006:* Jill will attend forum on the 2nd of June and report back at the next meeting.
- *Post card from Jo McKenna:* Handed around following Jo's trip to Sri Lanka.

Reports

Cliff Wise:

- ParaQuad office renovation, architect involved. ParaQuad is checking with City of Yarra regarding parking permits. Independence Solutions may move out and Community Care staff move back to Wellington Street when all complete.
- Strategic planning process for ParaQuad Victoria will commence later in the year - Polio Network will be involved in this.
- The Robert Rose Foundation & TAC have funded the preparation of a booklet for families of people with new spinal cord injury. The first focus group for this project was held last week.
- Respite House at Williamstown - Official Opening 22/6. Invited Steve Bracks to open. Not sure if he will accept.

Mary-ann:

- Marcia Falconer presentation was positively received by most of the 80 participants. Mary-ann has found some further research supporting issues raised during the presentation in the Post-Polio Health International newsletter and will include in Spring Edition of Polio Perspectives.
- During June, visits will be made by Mary-ann to Sale (info session), Yarra Ranges (meeting), Geelong (meeting), Broadmeadows (info session), and Ballarat (meeting).
- ParaQuad Victoria is considering a feasibility study to look at numbers of people who contracted polio in the 20's-60's with a view to applying for Federal Gov funding to research how this impacts on services for people now experiencing the late effects of polio.
- Mary-ann will be applying for funding for a study trip to the USA in 2007. She advised that the production company that made the film Post Polio Syndrome: The Australian Experience may be interested in applying for their own funding to film the trip and make into a documentary.

General Business

- Jo McKenna asked about the PAC supporting the need for a service/s to provide emergency assistance. Margaret Cooper advised that this was a major issue for all disability service providers and was already being addressed by larger bodies.
- The Winter Edition of Polio Perspectives will be sent a little late.
- The PAC ballot paper needs to be reworded to enable people to vote for 2 candidates.

Action To Be Followed Up

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| • Ingrid Kariuki to be invited to July meeting | MAL |
| • Budget Feedback | Cliff |
| • Draft Clinical Service Provider Brochure | MAL |
| • Rodney Angwin info via Edith Hall | Mary |
| • Andrew from InfoXchange to be invited to June PAC meeting | MAL |
| • Review of AEP forum feedback | Jill |
| • Reword PAC Ballot Paper | MAL |

Meeting closed at 2.30pm

**Next Meeting – Friday 30th June 2006 at Paraquad, Collingwood.
Meeting begins at noon and includes a light lunch.**