

Polio Advisory Committee Minutes for Meeting 22 September 2006

Present

Margaret Cooper, Michael Judson, Mary-ann Liethof, Jo McKenna, Gordon McKinnon (Chair), Jill Pickering (Minutes) and Barbara Watson.

Apologies

Helen Bryant, Marilyn Grimme, Christine McAuslan and Cliff Wise.

Minutes of Previous Meeting held 25 August

Minutes Confirmed – Moved by Michael, seconded by Barbara

PSV Update: Jane Henderson

PSV Statistics – 99 new referrals since January 2006 and 434 referrals in total for 2006. PSV metropolitan clinic waiting list is now 3 months, bookings now taken for January 2007. Regional Clinic Dates; Bairnsdale Tuesday 3/10/06 and Bendigo Wed 29/11/06.

Funding Submission – PSV has now been in discussions with DHS for 1 year relating to a request for increased funding for the service. DHS are meeting with PSV on 13/10/06.

Government Interpreting Service (VITS) – PSV has had access to interpreting services since June 2005 via a state government funded language program - vital in providing a fair and equitable service for NESB clients. From October 2006, PSV cannot directly access funded interpreting services but instead will be part of a “pool” of money received by SVH.

PSV Research Submission – The PSV application for the Post-Poliomyelitis Research Grant to Post-Polio Health International was not successful.

PSV Student – a 4th year physiotherapy student is doing an elective placement with PSV for the next 4 weeks.

PSV Donation – A private donor has funded one E-Knee purchase for a PSV client.

Agenda Items

Beth Clisby Resignation: Beth, who resigned from the PAC in September, was sent a card by the Polio Network Co-ordinator on behalf of the PAC members, thanking her for her valuable contribution and wishing her well for the future.

Guest Speaker: Peter Hibbert – Multi Purpose Taxi Program Review
The Taxi Directorate has engaged Peter Hibbert (Scope Transport Manager) to conduct a review of the Multi Purpose Taxi Program and recommend scheme improvements. Peter will look at areas such as driver training, ‘on-time’ bookings, the central bookings, meet Program users, Taxi Drivers and the Directorate before presenting his findings to the Taxi Directorate at the end of 2006. Peter aims to be in a position to provide an update of his review to the January PAC meeting. Mary-ann will include information about the program in the next edition of Polio Perspectives.

Polio Roll Call Display: Michael presented the revised Polio Roll Call of 730 names to date to the PAC. Michael aims to have the information also available on CD and DVD eventually to enable viewing in any format. The PAC thanked Michael for the hours of work he has donated to the revised format to date.

Review of Previous Action Plan

Review of PAC reporting procedures: The revised procedures will be circulated shortly and placed on the Agenda for the October 27 meeting.

Polio Day / Raffle: The Lions Club of Mordialloc-Mentone and the Rotary Club of Keilor East have both kindly donated money towards car parking for Polio Day visitors. The Safeway at Broadmeadows donated a \$40 voucher and other raffle donations will now be raffled on Polio Day, with the proceeds used to offset Polio Day costs.

PolioNetwork Website Update: The beginnings of the website can now be located at www.polionetworkvic.asn.au and should be ready to 'unveil' on Polio Day. The website will be reviewed after about 6 month's operation. Discussion took place about only listing brief summaries for each PAC member on the PNV web. Please forward any additional web feedback by email to Mary-ann.

School Program - Call for volunteer speakers: Mary-ann received a good response since requesting volunteer presenters in Polio Perspectives. She will work towards building and promoting the program to commence in the new school year.

Christmas Party Venue: The venue has been booked at Flemington racecourse, same venue as last year.

June Middleton and the Guinness Book of Records Update: June Middleton's application papers have been sent to the Guinness Book of Records. The PAC discussed briefly the presentation on Polio Day, assuming the application is successful.

Progress of Clinical Service Provider Brochure: Deferred to the October 27 PAC meeting.

Correspondence

Draft letter to Patricia Faulkner, Secretary of DHS, discussing the need for action on PSV funding was approved by PAC.

Strategic Development Forum Group was tabled

Letters were tabled inviting displays for activities put on by Myrtleford DisAbility Action Group and Central Access (Hume Region). PNV service brochures have been sent for the displays.

The Equal Opportunity Commission of Victoria: Taxi Accessibility Project email sent by ACROD was tabled - it has already been circulated to PSG's via email by Mary-ann.

Reports

PQV Board

No report was available due to both Cliff and Helen's absence.

Polio Community Officer

Visited Professor Ian Frazer, noted immunologist and Australian of the Year, in Brisbane on Monday 18th September. The purpose was to film an interview with him regarding polio and the continued need for immunisation. This film may be available for screening in one of the rooms available on Polio Day. The transcript of this interview will appear in the next edition of Polio Perspectives.

Applications by Mary-ann Liethof and Jill Pickering for the Ethel Temby Study Tour Award to visit the USA in 2007 have been hand delivered to DHS.

Following the August PAC meeting, Mary-ann went to interviewed Niels Fransdon, producer of the Danish film "The Epidemic". Niels was also the international guest at The Other Film Festival, which Mary-ann attended together with only one other couple from the network. The transcript of this interview will appear in the next edition of Polio Perspectives.

New Zealand PPS President has invited Mary-ann to speak at a PPS meeting in 2007, all expenses paid.

Mary-ann was contacted by Sharon Gray, a columnist with The Age, who will be printing an article on polio to appear on 10/10/06. Hopefully, this will be additional publicity for Polio Day.

Polio Day attendance forms are coming in slowly. Mary-ann has asked 3 staff members and 1 volunteer to help out on the day so that all polio's can relax and have a good time.

General Business

PAC Member Replacement: Co-opting someone to replace Beth until the next PAC elections – Deferred to Oct 27 meeting.

Accessible Public Transport Action Plan 2006 – 2012: Jill reported on the formal release by Peter Batchelor of the Accessible Public Transport Action Plan 2006 – 2012. The Federal Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (the DDA) prohibits direct and indirect discrimination on the grounds of disability in a wide range of areas including transport and infrastructure. The Plan outlines activities to comply with the *Federal Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the accompanying *Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002*. Please contact Mary-ann if you would like a copy of the 4 page Summary of actions to be carried out. Mary-ann will include information regarding the Action Plan in the next edition of Polio Perspectives.

Train exemption request: Discussion took place regarding the Train exemption request still with HEROIC and whether it would delay implementation of the newly released Transport Action Plan. The PAC will send a follow up letter to HEROIC to ask the status of the exemptions for train compliance.

Bumper Stickers: Barbara suggested that one of the ways of getting the services of PNV out to the general community may be to have bumper stickers printed. Mary-ann will get quotes with further discussion deferred to the October 27 meeting.

Rotary Club of Ballarat South Community Raffle: Gordon raised the idea of using this Community Raffle for next year's Polio Day. The idea is that not-for-profit organizations like PQV sell tickets for \$2.00 and keeps 80% of the proceeds. 2006 prizes are cars. However, raffle is sold throughout community, not just polio groups.

Action to be Followed Up

- Multi Purpose Taxi Program Review information in PP ML
- Revised PAC Guidelines to be circulated ML
- Transcript of interview with Niels Fransdon in PP ML
- Accessible Public Transport Action Plan information in PP ML
- Bumper sticker quote ML
- More information on Ballarat Rotary Raffle Gordon
- Co-opting a replacement for Beth until the next PAC elections – October meeting
- Clinical Service Provider Brochure – October meeting

Date of next meeting

Friday 27th October 2006 at ParaQuad Victoria Board Room, Collingwood