

Polio Advisory Committee Minutes

27 October 2006

Present

Helen Bryant, Margaret Cooper, Michael Judson, Mary-ann Liethof, Christine McAuslan (Minute Taker), Gordon McKinnon (Chair), Jill Pickering, Barbara Watson and Cliff Wise

Apologies

Jo McKenna and Marilyn Grimme

Minutes of Previous Meeting held 22 September

Minutes Confirmed – Moved by Barbara, seconded by Margaret

Agenda Items

Polio Day Feedback

- Gordon: Good day. Congrats to Mary-ann and Michael for set up.
Margaret: Venue very good. Could have had another hour.
Cliff: Learnt some new things from Dietitian. Day had a good feel.
Jill: Great day, people mixed in well, including newcomers. Picked up lots of tips from Dietitian. Lots of people came who don't usually attend support groups.
Michael: Suggested an empty table at lunch would have been good for those in wheelchairs to gather around.
Barbara: Enjoyed herself and thought having food set up in the different rooms would have been a good idea.
Mary-ann: Approx 130 people attended. Possibly \$30.00 in the black. \$210.00 was spent on parking. It was reported that the handrails in the downstairs accessible toilet were missing.

Also much commented on: the shortage of sweets (many participants went without); the inappropriately large and unmanageable size of the rolls and the wastage with so many left over; and the fruit being served whole instead of cut up on a platter. Mary-ann advised that caterers were instructed to serve 'sandwiches' and 'fruit platters'.

Conveners' Meeting Feedback

- 16 of the 20 PNV groups were represented at the forum.
- The morning was spent with conveners introducing themselves and sharing information as to the activities of each group and how it operates. Lots of note taking took place.
- This was followed by participants taking part in one of three topic groups of their choice: Running groups; Networking; or Wider Expectations (all suggestions provided by conveners prior to attending meeting). Notes recorded on butcher's paper by each topic group were then shared with the wider group.
- The day went well with contact information shared between participants and arrangements to exchange newsletters.
- Mary-ann will write up all the butchers' paper feedback from the topic discussions and pass on to all PSNV groups, along with the COSHG self help kit for groups.

Talk at Probus Meeting

Jill spoke to approx 50 people at a Probus Meeting in Bulleen.

Review of Previous Action Plan

School Speaker Program

Subcommittee meeting postponed. Will discuss by email.

Review of PAC Reporting Procedures

Discussion took place regarding the Board changes to the PAC Guidelines and reporting procedures. It was understood that these changes were to protect both the Board and PAC from litigation. However it was also noted that the wording seemed to be a bit heavy handed.

A few minor clarifications were also discussed in regard to existing Guidelines.

Michael said he would like to think about rewording and email draft back to Mary-ann for circulation prior to feeding back comments and suggestions to Peter Turner and the Board.

PolioNetwork Website Update

Need to set secure site for purchases, e.g. DVD sales and donations. Wording etc to be tidied by Mary-ann and Jill once website administration established and training completed. All design tasks that InfoXchange is responsible for should be done by next week. Their quote for including a photo gallery is \$800.00. PAC decided against.

Newspaper Articles

- Mary-ann had a couple of calls as a result of Sharon Gray's article "*New symptoms for an old disease*" - The Age (10/10/06). Unfortunately, none of the follow up letters were published in the "Opinion" section.
- "*Rogue cab drivers face crackdown*" – The Age (16/10/06). Stated 50 drivers had their licenses cancelled
- "*June Middleton*" – Herald Sun (21/10/06). This article was originally to assist in the promotion of Polio Day. Unfortunately, no contact details were printed.

June Middleton and the Guinness Book of Records Update

Michael has had nothing to report back from the GBR.

Clinical Service Provider Brochure (final draft)

Last draft, including immunisation information, was presented to the PAC. Margaret raised issues relating to number of forms/strains of polio, use of the word 'disease' (change to 'condition') and types of vaccination.

Bumper stickers quote

Mary-ann received quotes for bumper stickers. Cheapest as follows:

One colour – 1000 \$570 / 2000 \$910

Two colour – 1000 \$705 / 2000 \$1,090

Will get quotes for bookmarks as stickers too expensive

Correspondence

- Letter sent to Patricia Scott, DHS Secretary in early Oct. There has been no response. Mary-Ann will follow up.
- Objection to Australian Railway Association Exemption Application. Response tabled. Current state of consideration is on website:
www.humanrights.gov.au/disability_rights/exemptions/ara/draftrec.htm

Reports

PQV Board

Cliff advised the draft Auditory Report shows \$400,000 profit. Draft Strategy Plan tabled. Further comment from Board to be included in November when launched at the AGM.

Polio Community Officer

- Jane Henderson from Polio Services Victoria will be attending Christmas Meeting instead of today. However, Jane advised Mary-ann that at a meeting PSV attended with DHS, they said it would be best to move PSV from Disability to Health funding. Everyone agrees but the next steps were not made clear.

General Business

- Helen reported on Coalition of Disability Launch in Geelong 2nd November day to visit local candidates for state election and 14th November Forum with Politicians and media attending.
- Need to second new member (independent) to PAC. Previous PAC candidate, Geoff Dean, was suggested and will be approached by Mary-ann. Any other suggestions to be emailed to Mary-ann.

Action to be Followed Up

Mary-ann to:

- Follow up on lack of response from letter to Patricia Scott, DHS Secretary
- Get quotes for bookmarks
- Circulate redrafted PAC Guidelines
- Approach Geoff Dean re PAC independent member vacancy

Date of Next Meeting

Friday 24th November 2006 at Moonee Valley Tabaret, Cnr Wilson & Thomas Streets, Monee Ponds – Ph: 9326 1277

Note: January meeting to be held one week early on 19th January due to Australia Day Holiday