

Polio Advisory Committee Minutes for Meeting 16 February 2007

Present

Margaret Cooper, Geoff Dean, Michael Judson, Mary-ann Liethof, Christine McAuslan (Minute Taker), Jo McKenna, Jill Pickering and Barbara Watson (Acting Chairperson)

Apologies

Marilyn Grimme, Gordon McKinnon and Cliff Wise

Minutes of Previous Meeting held 19 January

Minutes Confirmed – Moved by Michael, seconded by Barbara

Agenda Items

Polio Network website usage statistics

Mary-ann contacted Infoxchange regarding recording statistics of the number of hits on the PNV website. Infoxchange supplied usage statistics dating back to the website's inception in September. Statistics tabled at the meeting.

Mary-ann will check as to the number of PNV groups who have viewed the website. Geoff suggested school students could be encouraged to visit the website. Mary-ann touted the idea that the volunteers for the schools program could suggest student's research prior to the volunteers visit.

Possible DVD sales through Marcom Projects

The producer of PNV's DVD, Steve McCagnan, suggested that Mary-ann look into Marcom Products who are specialist distributors to educational bodies, government departments, libraries and similar entities. Following an exchange of emails, the Marcom Manager rang Mary-ann and suggested that PNV were under selling the DVD at the price of \$15.00. If Marcom were to distribute they would expect to charge \$30.00 plus postage and handling (keeping in line with other DVD's they distribute). A special price of \$15.00 could be retained for PNV members. Mary-ann will keep PAC posted on developments.

Donation of TV & DVD player from Rotary Club of Kew

Mary-ann advised the PAC members that a TV & DVD had been donated to PNV following their use at the "Polio: Truly Remarkable" Exhibition at the end of 2005/start of 2006. It was suggested that the TV be auctioned off amongst group members and the DVD be retained. Michael Judson offered to source the recommended retail price of the TV if Mary-ann emails him the brand and model number.

Review of previous action plan

Polio Special Purpose Budget for 2007-2008

Currently approx. \$22,000 in Polio Special Purpose account. Possibility of spending \$5,000-\$6,000 per year. Committee to decide annual allocations.

Margaret introduced the idea of publishing a history book of stories in recognition of the fascinating, unrecorded polio life experience stories that exist. Various other states have already published stories but not Victoria. The International Rehab Center for Polio in Framingham, MA, USA is doing a major

Oral History Project that Mary-ann would like to visit if she receives the Churchill Fellowship grant to go to the USA. Publishing could cost up to \$10,000. It was suggested that \$3,000 be budgeted for the project and raise capital for the rest through fund raising/grants/community service organisations, or web publish so history can be downloaded.

Referring to previous meeting discussions on the idea of purchasing a data projector, Mary-ann believes the cost of approx \$2,000 could come from her operational costs budget.

Other previous budget suggestions included printing new A4 posters with a new logo and a larger reprint of the "Information for Health Professionals" brochures. To protect our 'intellectual property' and identity, Michael initially thought we should apply for a trademark for the poster photo/logo but later modified that to just adding a copyright symbol ©

June Middleton's presentation & media coverage

Michael found at least 20 media references pertaining to June Middleton's presentation. He is creating a DVD of photos etc. There has also been a request from the U.K. Lincolnshire Post Polio Network to include the presentation information in their newsletter.

PAC thanked Barbara and Michael for attending the presentation and a unanimous 'Well Done!' to Michael recognising 'that without Michael it would never have happened'.

Sub committee report on Polio Day 2007 – Monday 22 Oct

Sub Committee meeting did not take place as two of the four members were absent. However, Mary-ann advised that the whole Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre (except the theatre) has been booked, and asked the members present to consider some example topics from the Canadian Post Polio Awareness Symposium 2006. Discussion ensued and the following suggestions were made:

- What is the State government doing for us? Speaker/s from DHS
- What are the Feds doing? Invite Federal Minister for the Ageing
- What is being done for people ageing with a disability?
- How to go about getting community care, eg. Carelink / HARP
- What other services are around?
- Invite medical professionals to attend, eg. College of General Practitioners

Ideas suggested for the day's format:

- Day should be longer – giving opportunity to chat or participate in forums
- Keynote speaker followed by panel discussion, then lunch, followed by concurrent workshops whereby people can choose to attend a topic of interest, continue socialising, or leave for the day

Jo advised that Judith Maddock from Keilor East Rotary Club has again offered financial support for Polio Day activities.

PAC to think of other suggestions for the day and feedback at 30th March meeting. Sub committee to meet one hour prior to March PAC meeting.

Correspondence

Response to DHS letter

Letter originally sent to Patricia Faulkner will be re-sent to Fran Thorn who replaces Patricia as Secretary of the Department of Human Services (**DHS**) as of 16 March.

Letter to GlaxoSmithKline re funding bookmarks

No response has yet been received following the request to GlaxoSmithKline to fund bookmarks.

DHS Letter to Hume Polio Self Help Group

Harry from the Hume Polio Self Help Group forwarded a letter to PNV from DHS Disability Acting Secretary Peter Allen referring to the new KAFO funding. The letter also made mention of Polio Services Victoria's requests for increased funding.

Reports

PQV Board

No Board member in attendance.

Polio Community Officer

Mary-ann reported that visits to all groups have been organised for the year. Hamilton and Western Region groups are no longer meeting. Mary-ann looking at doing an information session in Melton to see if there is enough interest to re-establish a group in the outer West. The new contact for Western Region lives in Melton.

General Business

Geoff has been in contact with Peter Ryan (State National Party Leader) and reported that he had met with Bronwyn Pike's chief advisors on Thursday 15th February. Geoff is yet to receive feedback from that meeting.

Suggestions were floated that there needs to be more meetings set up in Parliament House with politicians and the possibility of joining forces with other organisations with similar issues in fronting politicians.

Action to be followed up

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| • Ascertain the number of PNV groups who have viewed the website | MAL |
| • Keep PAC posted on developments regarding DVD sales through Marcom Projects | MAL |
| • Forward donated TV model no. to Michael | MAL |
| • Think up new slogan/caption for reprint of posters | PAC |
| • Ideas for Polio Day 2007 concurrent workshops | PAC |

Date of next meeting

Friday 30th March 2007, ParaQuad Victoria Boardroom, 208 Wellington Street, Collingwood.

Peter Turner, PQV CEO, will be attending this meeting.