

# **Polio Advisory Committee Minutes for Meeting Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2007**

## **Present**

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Margaret Cooper, Marilyn Grimme, Jane Henderson (PSV) Michael Judson, Mary-ann Liethof, Christine McAuslan (Minute Taker), Jo McKenna, Gordon McKinnon (Chairperson) and Barbara Watson.

## **Apologies**

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Geoff Dean, Jill Pickering and Cliff Wise

## **Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting held April 27th**

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Minutes confirmed: Moved Michael Judson, seconded Margaret Cooper.

Margaret requested the word 'she' be deleted from 'she/PAC' in the first line of paragraph 4 under agenda item beginning New General Manager. All in favour.

## **Agenda Items**

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### **Visit to Office of Disability to discuss PSV funding**

Margaret has emailed and phoned the Office of Disability regarding a meeting with Clare Thorn. Meeting date yet to be confirmed.

### **Social policy and advocacy**

No further discussion required on this item.

### **Disability Act 2006 Summary**

ParaQuad Information Officer, Janice Florence, has compiled a summary of what is happening and the key point requirements for the Act. All agencies have to comply with the key points and will be audited. Copies of summary handed to PAC members.

### **NZ Presentation**

Mary-ann showed the PAC the PowerPoint presentation used on her March trip to NZ.

## **Review of previous action plan**

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### **Reprint of brochures & posters**

Currently at the printer and expected delivery Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May

### **Marcom Projects Agreement**

Marcom have yet to respond to recommendations. Mary-ann to follow up.

### **School Speaker Program Progress**

Two dates have been set for the training sessions for the 17 people on the training list, giving opportunity to attend either on a Thursday or a Friday. If volunteers are not able to attend either training session, they will remain on the training list (as all speakers for the program have to train prior to presenting).

A volunteer kit will also be provided which includes the requirement for permission for a Police Check.

## **Correspondence**

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### **Invitation to Peter Ryan to attend Polio Day**

An invitation to Peter Ryan MP to participate in Polio Day has been approved by Peter Turner and forwarded.

## **Reports**

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### **Polio Services Victoria**

Jane Henderson reported:

- She had attended the Think Tank in NSW.
- Dr. Genevieve Kennedy is back from long service leave.
- Budget planning for 2007-2008 is underway.
- A meeting was called by Jocelyn Bout (DHS) for the 15 May. Jocelyn had a meeting scheduled with her unit manager and needed to make sure she was up to date when passing on information. She has consequently verified the orthotics waiting list with Darren.
- Aids and Equipment waiting list should be cleared within a few months.
- PSV should be funded under DHS Health rather than current Disability.

Mary-ann referred to WA model 'Late Effects of Disability Clinic' and queried Jane regarding any interest for PSV in this model. The clinic is for any neurological or muscular/skeletal condition e.g. Multiple Sclerosis, Cerebral Palsy, and Rheumatoid Arthritis. Staffing consists of 2 specialist physiotherapists and a nurse (no doctor in the clinic). Clients are generally seen for one only two hour session. Other services are sourced and referrals made to the hospital.

PAC will continue to observe this model. Margaret mentioned the US based Post Polio Center at Ranchos Los Amigos as another model.

### **PQV**

No report due to Cliff Wise's absence.

### **Polio Community Officer**

Mary-ann reported that she has been in contact with Centrelink and DHS regarding participation in Polio Day. She is waiting for a response from DHS and despite the prolonged effort required in reaching the appropriate person in Centrelink via accessing the 1300 number, has been able to email the program to the Manager at Darebin Centrelink, who will follow up with a suitable representative.

Mary-ann will be actively looking for donations for the 2007 Polio Day e.g. service clubs. It is likely that financial assistance will once again be provided through the Lions Club of Mentone-Mordialloc, and Keilor East Rotary Club.

It is likely that a greater emphasis on donations/sponsorship will be required for future Polio Days to ensure the quality of venues, presentations and catering at minimal cost to the attendees.

## **General Business**

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- Margaret raised her concerns regarding members' difficulties in obtaining attendant care.
- The issue was raised regarding PAC members and volunteer status in terms of the Mobility Allowance. Mary-ann would need to provide statement as to volunteer involvement and number of applicable hours.
- Mary-ann's leave in September/PAC related issues (due to her absence) to be placed on the Agenda for the June meeting.

## **Action to be followed up**

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- Visit to Office of Disability: Margaret still pursuing meeting date.
- Polio Day presenters: Mary-ann still following up.
- Marcom Projects Agreement: Mary-ann to follow up.

**Date of next meeting:** Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2007, ParaQuad Victoria Boardroom, 208 Wellington Street, Collingwood.

**Note:** Peter Turner to attend with new GM, Community Services, Lindie Spurr.