

Polio Advisory Committee Minutes

Friday 28 August 2009

Present

Geoff Dean, Martin Grillo, Michael Judson (acting Chairman), Mary-ann Liethof, Christine McAuslan (Minute Taker), Jo McKenna, Gordon McKinnon, Liz Telford and Peter Willcocks

Apologies

Jill Burn

Confirmation of 31 August 2009 Minutes

Moved Peter, seconded Gordon. All in favour.

Agenda Items

Welcome to Martin Grillo

Martin was welcomed to the PAC and gave a brief overview of his background. Martin is a social worker and has been involved in a paid work or volunteer capacity with a number of community organisations including CES/Centrelink, Lifeline, Disability Resource Centre and Essendon Legal Service.

The PAC members introduced themselves, all giving an overview of their background and participation in the PAC. There was a general discussion, following a comment from Martin indicating that he had not been aware of the Polio Network, and that there are still polio's in Victoria who also are unaware of the network and availability of support groups and services.

Martin was seconded to the PAC. All in favour.

Book Sub-Committee Meeting Update

- Liz Telford is no longer participating in the sub-committee
- A new working title has been suggested which better reflects the stories submitted - 'Surviving Polio: Polio Veterans Speak Out' (formerly 'Glimpses of Polio').
- Quotes received from 2 printers - \$11,880 (\$5.40 per book) and \$8,780 (\$4.83 per book) - both quotes inclusive of GST.
- Can pay \$12,000 from Special Purpose Polio account. Need to identify other funding sources for consultation, promotion, etc.
- Potential launch date Polio Day 2010 (more discussion to occur regarding that date).
- Decided on the following breakdown for chapters:
 - Chapter 1: Historical Background (to be compiled by Barbara Rossall-Wynne)
 - Chapter 2: The Importance of Families: Families coping
 - Chapter 3: Experience of Children: What did I do wrong?
 - Chapter 4: Experience of Adults: Changing directions
- Next meeting Monday 26th October with Barbara Rossall-Wynne and Fran Henke (editing)

Private Members Motion – Catherine King, Member for Ballarat

- Four members read to the motion
- Now officially recorded in Hansard

- Amount of funding required not included in the submission.
- Suggestion of \$8,000,000 for submission budget.

Polio Australia Update

- Another teleconference to be held to work out allocations in regard to the suggested budget of \$8,000,000.
- Business plan (relating to \$400,000) has been done.
- Look at raising funds from community. Mary-ann has created a sample registration brochure for pledges. Liz suggested targeting family members.
- Polio Australia website needs updating.
- Mary-ann to join other Polio Australia lobbyists Gillian Thomas (President of Polio Australia), Neil von Schill and Dr. John Tierny in Canberra on Tuesday 24th November.

Presentation to Latrobe University Prosthetic & Orthotic Students

- Mary-ann addressed first year P & O students regarding issues of support related to polio. Melissa Noonan from Limbs4Life also presented. The purpose of presentation was to give students a taste of the issues they will work with, and to offer a qualitative rather than a quantitative experience.
- Jill Pickering and Bronwyn Thomson have agreed to talk to fourth year students re the use of KAFO's in September.
- Jill suggested creating a brochure for students / take to orthotists.
- Michael suggested a general information sheet may be useful.
- Mary-ann to forward questions and sample brochure info to PAC for comment.
- PAC to send comments back to MAL prior to the next meeting.

Review of previous action plan

Service Satisfaction Survey

- The survey will go out with the Spring Polio Perspectives Newsletter. Michael indicated that it takes approx. 5 mins to fill in.
- A summary of the survey results will appear in the Summer edition of Polio Perspectives.

Check polio stories on PNV website

Jill has identified four stories on the website. Mary-ann will contact the writers to gain permission to use their story in 'Surviving Polio: Polio Veterans Speak Out'. Writers will need to sign the consent forms which Mary-ann has forwarded.

Send bookmark format to Mary-ann

Peter has sent the format to Mary-ann and was asked to forward it to Michael Judson.

Correspondence

Queensland's Spinal Injury Assoc. newsletter 'Imprint' featured 5 pages of polio related information in their July/August edition. Polio Awareness Week in Queensland is currently held In August. Polio Australia will align a National Polio Awareness Week to Post-Polio Health International's October timeframe.

Reports

Polio Community Officer

Mary-ann reported that:

- Post-Polio Network (NSW) put in a joint funding submission to The Marian & E. H. Flack Trust for \$20,000 to run a Polio Wellness Retreat in NSW. They have been granted \$10,000 and will now seek additional funds to ensure the project can proceed.
- Gillian Thomas (President, Post-Polio Network NSW and Polio Australia) has approached GlaxoSmithKline for an additional \$15,000 for this event.
- An accessible venue has been identified – St Joseph's – in Baulkham Hills, NSW (35 mins. from the Sydney CBD). A NSW member is checking out the facility.
- The retreat is planned to span a weekend in March 2010.
- The latest Polio Perspectives is now on the website and includes the Polio Day program.
- The first registration has been received.

General Business

- Michael had checked the PNV Ritchie account. There is \$600.00 in donations in the account.
- Michael asked for ideas regarding applicable topics to be included for the Polio Day presentation as his daughter may be facilitating the 'Introduction to the Internet' session. Areas identified were: search engines, saving documents, security issues, dropping out, scary things for new users like - if I press the wrong thing will I loose everything?, hotmail and yahoo addresses and accessing computers other than your own.

Action to be followed up

- Forward sample P & O brochure/handout info to PAC for comment. MAL
- Send comments on P & O brochure/handout back to MAL prior to the next meeting. PAC
- Send bookmark template to Michael PW

Date of next meeting: 12.00pm for 12.30pm - Friday 25th September 2009

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