



Reconciliation Advisory Committee Minutes

Meeting held 1pm on Wednesday 9 August 2023 – The Nobbies

1 Welcome & Apologies		
1.1	<p>The Chair declared the meeting open at 1.09pm</p> <p>Attendance: Patrice Mahoney OAM (Chair), Kevin Love (Nature Parks Board), Jane Jobe, (Nature Parks Board), Bev Munro (Nature Parks Board), Catherine Basterfield, Kate Adams, Uncle Anthony Egan (<i>Traditional Owner Bunurong / Trawlwoolway</i>), Ashley Reed, Paul Patten (online), Anna Eggleton, Sarah Hain (minutes), Rosanna Martino, Ewan Macleod and Andrea Love, Les Briggs and Dion Triptree.</p> <p>Apologies: Sally O’Neill, Lyndon Firmin</p>	
2 Acknowledgement of Country and Introductions		
2.1	<p>The Chair welcomed everyone, and Patrice Mahoney acknowledged Traditional Owners, Elders and Community members in the room.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Dion Triptree, Andrea Love and Les Briggs as observers.</p>	
3 Minutes from Previous meeting		ACTIONS
3.1	Minutes from the February 2023 meeting were adopted as a true and correct record of the previous meeting.	<i>Sarah Hain to upload to website</i>
4 Board Update - Chair		
4.1	<p>The Co-Chair Kevin Love gave the following update:</p> <p>BOARD CHANGES</p> <p>In June, the board recognised the significant contribution of outgoing Board members, Jane Foley and Danielle Auldish, who had reached the end of their term. The board was pleased to hear that Michaela Salvato was re-appointed for a further term and that Bev Munro and Michelle Dickson were appointed as Board members from 1 July 2023.</p> <p>NEW GENERAL MANAGER TOURISM</p> <p>This month we welcome the appointment of General Manager Tourism, Mark Anderson, after sadly saying farewell to Peta Wittig.</p>	

<p>VISITATION</p> <p>Visitation to the Nature Parks has been stronger than expected, resulting in the organisation reaching 80% of its pre-COVID revenue from admissions June YTD. Financial recovery has been driven primarily by domestic visitation. International visitation continues to grow consistently but remains below pre-COVID numbers.</p> <p>ANNUAL BUDGET AND BUSINESS PLAN</p> <p>In May, the board endorsed the organisation’s Annual Budget and Business Plan for FY24, which predicts that revenue generated from tourism operations will be sufficient to pay for all operational expenditure for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>NATURE PARKS’ STRATEGIC DIRECTION</p> <p>In 2021, Nature Parks revised its strategy to reflect the “recovery” nature of the business as it emerged from the significant impacts of COVID-19, and the Future Directions strategy was adopted for 2-3 years. This strategy has been updated to reflect the current needs of the organisation for 2023-24 and can be found on the Nature Parks website.</p> <p>RISK REVIEW</p> <p>In June, the board reviewed and endorsed two strategic risks associated with the Nature Parks’ tourist attractions, commercial operations, visitor experience and service continuity.</p> <p>PENGUIN PARADE BOARD WALKS AND VIEWING STANDS PROJECT UPDATE</p> <p>The project has continued to finalise design works and complete planning processes, and an Expression of Interest process commenced this month to assess interest from potential tenderers.</p>		
<p>5 Committee Updates</p>	<p>ACTIONS</p>	<p>STATUS</p>
<p>5.1 Nature Parks</p> <p>Guidance from the Victorian Public Sector regarding the Referendum to recognise the First Peoples of Australia was received with advice that Public Sector staff should inform themselves about the subject matter to make an informed decision but that consideration should be given to the sensitivity of the matter to First Nations people when speaking about it in the workplace. Basically, the advice is to maintain an impartial position and be mindful of impacts on others when undertaking any actions and/or communications in the workplace.</p> <p>All items will be addressed in other agenda items.</p> <p>Bunurong Land Council</p> <p>No update provided.</p> <p>Community</p> <p>Paul informed the Committee about the recent Children’s Day event in Wonthaggi and that it was successful with 60-80 people in attendance, they had a Smoking and Welcome to Country and lots of fun activities for the kids. Everyone has fun and he thanked everyone that supported it.</p>		
<p>6 Events Overview</p>		

6.1	2023 Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tunnerminnerwait Maulboeyenner – 100 pax • National Sorry Day – 150 pax • National Reconciliation Week – Reconciliation Forum – 100 pax • NAIDOC Art Exhibition – 60 pax (at Opening) • National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children’s Day - 60 pax <p>Overall great numbers, participation at events has increased from 100 (2016-17) to 2000 (2022-23)</p>		
7	2019-2022 – RAP Incomplete Deliverables		STATUS
7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 84 actions in total • 63 completed • 9 not completed • 12 still in progress 	<i>Community Engagement Officer to share detailed presentation</i>	
8	RAP Development Update		
8.1	Stage one has been completed. The process has taken slightly longer than expected but we are still on track to present the final proposed strategy to the Board in September this year. We still hope to launch in early 2024 and then a Roadshow will take place to inform and share the new RAP with all Nature Parks teams.		
9	Yarning Circle Update		
9.1	<p>This project is going well. To date we have held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 x sessions with artists • 1 x session with Community • 2 x sessions with visitors <p>First Nations artists, Arieta Fergie, Lenna Scholtmeyer and Rhylee Duell doing fantastic work on the painting and mosaic artworks for this cultural space. We’ve also held a Community Planting Day where they got to connect with Traditional Owners and members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community, and two public art sessions with visitors over the June-July school holidays where we created mosaic pavers.</p>		
10	General Business		
10.1	Nil		
	Next Meeting – 8 November 2023		
	Meeting closed at 3.00pm		