



# Reconciliation Advisory Committee Minutes

Meeting held 10am on Wednesday 4 May – Nobbies Function Room

<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Apologies</b>		
1.1	<p>The Chair declared the meeting open at 10.19am</p> <p><b>Attendance:</b> Patrice Mahoney OAM (Chair), Kevin Love, Jane Jobe, (Nature Parks Board), Catherine Basterfield, Kate Adams, Anna Eggleton, Sue Keogh, Sarah Hain (minutes), Ashley Reed (Phillip Island Nature Parks), Uncle Anthony Egan (<i>Traditional Owner Bunurong / Trawlwoolway</i>), Aunty Bev Munro, Paul Patten, Sally O’Neill, and Michelle Stewart (guest).</p> <p><b>Apologies/Absent:</b> Danielle Auldish, Rosanna Martino, Shani Blyth (Bunurong Land Council), Ewan MacLeod</p>		
	<b>Acknowledgement of Country and Introductions</b>		
2.1	The Chair welcomed everyone and acknowledged Traditional Owners, Elders and Community members in the room.		
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes from Previous meeting</b>		<b>ACTIONS</b>
3.1	Minutes from the February 2022 meeting were approved.		<i>Sarah Hain to upload to website</i>
<b>4</b>	<b>Board Update</b>		
4.1	<p>The Board met most recently in March. Key discussion points included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In line with recent government directives, further Covid-19 restrictions are being lifted. Whilst a welcome change in many respects, it was noted that ensuring people feel safe whilst restrictions ease is very important. Some caps on visitor numbers at the Penguin Parade will remain in place in line with staff numbers and associated visitor ratios.</li> <li>An update was given to the board on the Penguin Parade boardwalk project. The design team are now working on designs, whilst several funding applications remain pending. A similar situation applies to the tracks and trails plan. Significant cultural heritage planning forms an important part of both projects. Important for us to be “shovel ready” in case of funding being made available.</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further to the imminent ending of the contract with Delaware North, an update on the tender process was given. Several responses were received with regards to the opportunity, Nature Parks are now in discussions with the preferred supplier. Negotiations will include the financial contractual arrangement, whilst key objectives will include the ability to service the conference and events area, and financial stability/sustainability.</li> <li>Business planning for 2023 is underway and meetings are commencing.</li> </ul>		
<b>5</b>	<b>Committee Updates</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
5.1	<p><b>Committee Updates:</b></p> <p><b>Nature Parks</b>  RAP update just been sent out this week. The next Planting Day will be held on 14 May at Penguin Parade. Staff and volunteers are invited to attend.  Nature Parks will be meeting with Reconciliation Australia on 6 May to discuss our next RAP.  Nature Parks are continuing to source suitable suppliers for our training needs, please share any suggestions.</p> <p><b>Bunurong Land Council</b>  Shani was not able to attend but sent an update advising that they are busy as normal, The AGM was postponed until the 14 May 2022. NRM has finished interviewing applicants and are looking forward to having their team in place soon and are also looking forward to discussing joint projects.</p> <p><b>Community</b>  Dark Sky So Shearwaters Fly has almost concluded. 24 local business agreed to turn off outdoor lighting to help reduce light pollution and support the campaign. Extremely good level of local community support for this campaign has been achieved.</p> <p><b>Bass Coast Health</b>  Looking forward to touring the new hospital later today, and to the official opening to the public around November. Cowes hospital work is also moving forward, BCA have met with the architects and the site has been confirmed to be on the old PICAL site.</p>	<p><i>Patrice Mahoney to share link to website with regards to local suppliers</i></p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Aboriginal Employment Strategy</b>		
6.1	<p>The draft strategy has now been circulated for review. Bunnerong Land Council provided a message to be added.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Naming within this document is under discussion, and an update will be provided at a later date.</li> <li>The strategy aligns to the current RAP and will be carefully fine-tuned to ensure alignment with the new RAP as it is developed. Deliverables are also closely linked to RAP deliverables. Next steps will include a closer look at the actions and what resources need to be assigned to achieve each action.</li> <li>A GAP analysis was identified as important first step and we will look at this being actioned in first stage of implementation.</li> <li>Existing policies and procedures that link to the actions may also need to be reviewed to ensure they align with the strategy.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Kate and Catherine to meet to discuss implementation plan</i></p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proof of Aboriginality was discussed. There is a need for this to be consistent and in place.</li> <li>• Support via mentoring will also be important to provide.</li> <li>• EOI for development of artwork has gone out, we have received 1 enquiry – this will close 8 May.</li> </ul> <p>Three roles soon to be advertised with the aim being to build additional roles as we implement strategy. The three roles are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People and Culture Officer</li> <li>• Senior Ranger Cultural Heritage</li> <li>• Field Services officer</li> </ul>	<i>Michelle Stewart to consult with DELWP about process for requesting proof of Aboriginality for identified roles</i>	
<b>7</b>	<b>2 Year Recovery Strategy</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
7.1	<p>This presentation has been included today to give the RAC a broader view of the Nature Parks current position.</p> <p>Due to the significant impacts of Covid-19, the presentation highlights that Nature Parks have been severely impacted due to the extended closures of the parks.</p> <p>The presentation gave an overview of proposed strategy and key initiatives being put in place over the coming months.</p>		
<b>8</b>	<b>Events Update</b>		
8.1	<p>Sorry Day – taking place at the Nobbies function room on the 26 May.</p> <p>Bridge walk – taking place on 31 May.</p> <p>BCRN finalising arrangements with Bass Coast Council team. Nature Parks to manage and develop all design work and submit all newspaper advertising. BCRN will oversee the media release and content for social media. Other agencies will then share social media posts to ensure consistency.</p> <p>Everyone is encouraged to support these events within their workplaces and communities.</p>		
<b>9</b>	<b>General Business</b>		
9.1	<p>BCRN has confirmed they will collectively be funding an online gallery for local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists. The original website required significant platform upgrades to ensure site stability and safety. This will be a continuous commitment for BCRN. This is a great initiative for the Bass Coast region as it creates a portal outside of our collective groups that can provide significant exposure for artists, an area that is not very well supported currently.</p> <p>Nature Parks website is currently undergoing some reviews and a request has been made for a pop-up Acknowledgement Banner to be implemented. This is currently under review and the technical requirements for this to be done are being assessed.</p>		

<b>10</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>		
10.1	10 August 2022		
	<b>Meeting closed</b>		