

TCA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES **[CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT]**

Date: 7th July 2022

Location: Mecure Hotel Alice Springs

General Meeting commenced at 6.00pm

1. Welcome and Apologies – Chair

Present: As per attendees register

Apologies: As per attendees register

Chairperson: Patrick Bedford

Welcome by the Chair, Patrick Bedford, who acknowledged the traditional owners of the land, and thanked all our members coming along for this General Meeting. Patrick also noted the meeting was being streamed via the TCA Teams meeting link and welcomed all members watching.

The Chair recognised and welcomed:

- Matt Paterson , Mayor of Alice Springs Town Council
- All our Life Members present
- Members of TCA

2. VALE Bob Kennedy

The Chair sadly acknowledged the loss of a TCA Life Member, Mr Bob Kennedy and gave an overview of his strong commitment to tourism and central Australia.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – April 2022

MOTION: That the minutes of the General Meeting held April 2022 be accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Steve Shearer

Seconded: Grant Whan

CARRIED

4. Guest Speaker

Mayor Matt Paterson addressed the meeting and provided an update on Council's new strategic plan with key emphasis on the elements of this plan that impact the tourism industry.

Other topics included crime and safety issues and funding that has been provided to the community over the past few months from the Territory and Federal Governments

The Chair thanked the Mayor for attending as well as his commitment to TCA as the ASTC rep on the TCA Board.

5. Chair's Update

The Chair spoke of the numerous meetings he and the CEO have had with the incoming Minister for Tourism and Hospitality Nicole Manison. A big part of these meetings was advocating on relevant issues such as workforce challenges, Mereenie Loop Road and the new Visitor Information Centre.

The Minister has now confirmed the land for the new VIC has been procured by the Government and work to start the design element will be led by DIPL.

The Chair also spoke of a frank meeting with the Chief Minister around the Crime and Safety and the need for more resources

6. Finance Update & Treasurer's Report

The Chairperson welcomed TCA's Treasurer Ms Jodie Summers to provide the financial report.

As at 31 May, TCA is reporting YTD revenue at \$4.65M, with comparative expenditure of \$4.8M, resulting in a YTD deficit of \$19K.

Based on the month of June performance, currently being finalised for year end, it is expected this to land around break even or a slight deficit result for the year. The Treasurer thanked the hard work of the TCA team who have managed the financials carefully to achieve this in what has been another challenging year.

Some key financial points since our last meeting include:

- **Commission on Visitor Information Centre Sales** continues to be strong, with Commission for the previous 3 months totalling \$57K.
- **Retail Sales** were slow for the summer months but have come back strongly. Sales for the last 3 months were \$75K.

- We will finish the year above budget against both these revenue streams.
- **Mine Tours in Tennant Creek** have performed very well. Tours are now offered consistently every day, morning and afternoon. As a result, we are seeing a steady growth in revenue.
- Unfortunately, we will not make budget on **Consumer Shows and Co-op Marketing** this year with only a couple of members joining TCA at the Caravan & Camping Shows following another challenging year for the industry.
- \$1.2M of the Austrade COVID Recovery grant was spent supporting our members in the past 3 months on promoting our events strategy, the drive market and charter flights into the region.
- **Bookeasy Commissions** remain high but appropriately reflect the higher than anticipated revenue.

MOTION: That the Financial Report be accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Karl Bajzik
Seconded: Lynne Peterkin
CARRIED

7. TCA Operations Report

CEO Danial Rochford presented the TCA Operations Update, key items included:

- Very busy time in the Visitor Information Centres
- \$2.5M in sales in the financial year
- Advocacy work being done on Federal Government promises (Mereenie Loop Rd and NAAG). Work with the NTG on the new VIC, Workforce issues and Crime and Safety.
- QANTAS decision to decrease capacity into Alice Springs from Adelaide
- TCA will be launching our single biggest marketing campaign next week with Flight Centre
- TCA will be rolling our new maps with advertising
- Working with events being done by TCA's Events Specialist Karan Bhuta
- Financial Fitness Fund has now conclude with almost 10% of TCA's membership benefited
- Work on Brolga Award submission with members
- Raft of new funding programs

The CEO also publicly thanked the TCA for all their support over the last few months for all their support to the region and our members.

8. New Members Update – Since March 2021

The Chair tabled the new members.

- Channel 9 Darwin
- Arltunga Bush Pub and Eco Retreat
- McDonalds Alice Springs
- Mary River Wilderness Retreat
- Corroboree House Boats
- 8CCC Radio
- Barkly Homestead
- Ltyentye Apurte Traditional Craft Centre
- Kulgera Roadhouse

9. Strategic Plan

CEO Danial Rochford gave a short presentation on the draft strategic plan for members. The CEO informed everyone that there will be a period of open consultation on the strategic plan over the coming months with feedback warmly received.

10. Special Resolution

The Chair informed the meeting that a special resolution had been moved following the Board's recent review of the constitution. A number of changes had been identified in the document that warranted change.

As per the requirements under the Act the Special Resolution had been circulated to all members.

MOTION: That the following changes be made to the TCA Constitution

Board Definition

Delete the words "eight to" and "three" and add in the words "four" to replace the word "three" and the words "Barkly Regional Council," after the reference to Alice Springs Town Council. The new clause will now read:

"Board means the Management Board of the Association and shall be called a Board. The Board is comprised of ten elected Board Members and up to four non-voting Stakeholder representatives nominated from Tourism Central Australia's key stakeholders; Alice Springs Town Council, Barkly Regional Council, Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission and Tourism NT.

It is proposed that the current section 23 and Part 2 Additional Details be deleted and be replaced with a new section 23 that reads:

23. Composition of the Board

(1) The Board shall consist of 10 elected Board Members serving for two-year terms with 5 of these Directors being elected annually at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with Division 3 of the Constitution.

In addition, the following organisations are invited to nominate persons to fulfil Stakeholder positions, without voting rights on the Board. These invitations will be sent when notice is given for an Annual General Meeting. Stakeholders will be invited to serve a two-year term. Stakeholder representatives include:

- One (1) person appointed by the Chief Executive Officer of Tourism NT (or their renamed and/or equivalent organisations from time-to-time) based in Central Australia or their delegate;*
- One (1) person appointed by the Chief Executive of the Parks & Wildlife Commission (or their renamed and/or equivalent organisations from time-to-time) based in Central Australia or their delegate;*
- One (1) person appointed by the Alice Springs Town Council (or their renamed and/or equivalent organisations from time-to-time), such a person to be an Elected Member of Alice Springs Town Council or their delegate.*
- One (1) person appointed by the Barkly Regional Council (or their renamed and/or equivalent organisations from time-to-time), such a person to be an Elected Member of Barkly Regional Council or their delegate.*

(2) The Board will consist of the following positions:

- (a) a Chairperson;*
- (b) a Vice-Chairperson;*
- (c) a Secretary;*
- (d) a Treasurer; and*
- (e) any other elected member provided for in the 23(1). Unless elected directly as a separate office holder, the Board must appoint one Board Member to be the Association's public officer.*

Moved: Patrick Bedford
Seconded: Jodie Summers
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. General Business

1. Brolga Awards

Stuart Ord from Tourism Northern Territory spoke to the upcoming Brolga Awards and encouraged TCA members to consider putting in a nomination. Alice Springs will host the Brolga Awards in 2022.

2. Key issues

Steve Shearer spoke to the meeting raising important issues such as the crime and safety issues indicating that the crime situation is worst he has ever seen. He was happy that the for-sale sign on the new VIC will be coming down. He also raised issues relating to Bath Street – closing one of our busiest streets in the middle of our peak season.

Rex Neindorf also raised the crime and safety issues with reference to the loss of productivity on having to constantly supply video footage to the police which can take hours out of the day.

3. New Product Presentations

- Keith Hopkins, the Mercure Hotel's GM
- Ola and Dominic representing the Henley on Todd Regatta
- Drew Hamilton representing AAT Kings

12. Meeting Closed

With no further business the meeting was closed at 7.30pm.

13. Attendees Register

Toni	Ryland	Shebah
Grant	Whan	Business Enterprise Centre NT
Michelle	Pettit	Hello Alice
Nick	Prus	Transport Hall of Fame
Clare	Drabsch	Trek Larapinta
James	Acklin	Alice Springs Walking Tours
Robert	Smits	Aboriginal Fabric Gallery & NT Soaring
Jill	Catchlove	Parks and Wildlife (DEPWS)
Janette	Ganderton	Aboriginal Fabric Gallery and Nt Soaring
Kathy	Fritz	Kathys Place Bed and Breakfast

Penny	McNamara	AAT Kings
Drew	Hamilton	AAT Kings
Gayle	Shearer	Lasseters
Nicky	Oosthuizen	Alice Springs School of the Air Visitor Centre
Karl	Bakzik	Yubu Napa Art Gallery
Steve	Shearer	Thrifty
Rick	Farmer	Yuba Napa Art Gallery
Dominic	Miller	Henley on Todd Regatta
Ola	Rzeszowska	Henley on Todd Regatta
Lincoln	Van Der Zwaag	DITT
Jodie	Summers	CDU
Stuart	Ord	Tourism NT
Chrisey	Gorrey	Tourism NT
Lynne	Peterkin	Lynne Peterkin
Stacie	Bodnar	Alice Springs Convention Centre
Karen	Lau	Alice Springs Convernition Centre
Chris	Day	Parks and Wildlife
Colin	Leel	Vatu Sanctuary
Kimberley	Morgan	Wild Honey Travels
Patrick	Bedford	Emu Run Experience
Kim	Shegog	Kim's Handyman Services
Rex	Neindorf	Alice Springs Reptile Centre

14. Attending Online

Andrea	Lehman	Outback Ballooning
Silvia	Sarah	

15. Apologies

Robyn	Lambley	Robyn Lambley MLA
Raelene	Ohlson	Crowne Plaza Alice Springs
Nicol	Walsh	Chamber of Commerce
Jay	Walker	CDU
Brendan	Heenan	Wintersun
Roslyn	Premont	
Janette	Thomas	AAT Kings
Jade	Rooke	Alice Springs Convention Centre
Dale	Mclver	Alice Event Management & Consultancy