

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

**Date:** 17 March 2021

**Location:** DoubleTree by Hilton

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*General Meeting commenced at 6.07pm*

### **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, Patrick also noted the meeting was being streamed via the TCA ZOOM meeting link and welcomed all members watching.

The Chair recognised the Welcomed our VIP guests.

- Robyn Lambley MLA
- Damien Ryan, Mayor of Alice Springs Town Council
- Jeffery McLaughlin, Mayor of Barkly Regional Council
- To all our Life Members present

### **2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – 19 November 2020**

**Motion:** That the minutes of the General Meeting held 19 November be accepted as a true and correct record, subject to the changes noted.

Moved: Mark Anson

Seconded: Steve Shearer

**CARRIED**

### 3. Chair's Update

Patrick Bedford presented the Chairperson's update, key items included:

- **Condolences given for Peter Severin** – one-minute silence.
- **Mereenie Loop advocacy** – TCA feels it is a very important piece of infrastructure and needs to be sealed. Letter circulated amongst membership that can be used as a template for members to send to Chief Minister.
- **Meeting with Minister Fyles** – advocating support for tourism businesses in Central Australia. Funding for charter flight packages.
- **Meeting with Minister Manison** – in conjunction with Chamber of Commerce on community safety matters.
- **Motion from Board Meeting** – presented to membership motion that was carried at March TCA Board meeting - *that TCA calls on the Northern Territory Government to immediately launch an independent enquiry into community safety, and the negative effect on members, businesses and community in Central Australia.*

**Discussion on motion:** feeling that the motion does not go far enough. Call for NT Government Ministers to attend Alice Springs. Suggestion that when TCA board members and staff meet with Ministers, this gets distributed to members. Discussion on strategies like youth curfew.

Steve Shearer suggested new wording to include the sentence: 'immediately launch substantial action to ensure community safety, concurrent with an independent enquiry'.

Concerns raised about potential length of time an enquiry would take.

Nicole Walsh provided verbal report on outcomes from meeting with Minister Manison.

**New motion:** *That TCA calls on the NT government to immediately launch substantial action, concurrent with an independent enquiry, to ensure community safety and stop the negative effect on members, businesses and community in Central Australia.*

**MOTION:** That this motion be received and accepted.

Moved: Steve Shearer

Seconded: Steve Baldwin

Against: Wayne Thompson

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** That the Chair's Report be received and accepted.

Moved: Steve Baldwin

Seconded: Lynne Peterkin

**CARRIED**

#### **4. Finance Update & Treasurer's Report**

David White as Acting Chair of the Finance & Risk Sub-committee presented the financial update, key items included:

- Positive numbers following the NT Government voucher scheme.
- Retail sales on budget.
- 60% up on income year to date.

**MOTION:** That the Financial Report be accepted as a true and correct record, subject to the changes noted.

Moved: Dale McIver

Seconded: Steve Baldwin

**CARRIED**

#### **5. TCA Operations Report**

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

- Acknowledgement of passion of the membership
- Sale of King's Canyon Resort - Substantial investment to be made into property by G'Day Group
- Access to Glen Helen
- Roadhouse to Recovery Grants
- Listing by Infrastructure Australia of Outback Way as a major project
- New Event for Central Australia – Dark Skies Festival
- New multi-day walk between Uluru & Kata Tjuta
- Expressions of interest– multi-day walk at Watarrka NP
- Haasts Bluff community – Memory Mountain project
- Improvements at RFDS facilities
- Re-opening of Hermannsburg precinct

- Austrade Funding – extension of summer on sale campaign, launch of multiple trade campaigns, major national campaign with automobile societies for drive market.
  - Advocacy – crime issues, JobKeeper, flights announcement
  - National Park Fees
  - Mereenie Loop Road – call for support from membership
  - Voucher Scheme
  - Events focus
  - Marketing campaign with Imparja
  - Great deal of activity in the Barkly – TCA taking on management on Battery Hill Mining Centre and Tennant Creek Visitor Information Centre. Barkly Regional Council passed a motion welcoming TCA to continue work in TC.
  - Marketing – TCA attending all caravan and camping shows in Australia. Critical to increase drive market. Large increase in attendance at shows, with strong desire to come to Central Australia. Increase in production at Jayco.
  - ‘Always on’ approach to marketing – report given on TCA restructure and staffing to assist this.
  - Industry support – recently received \$87,000 funding for the financial fitness fund.
  - Visitor Information Centre – large upsurge in reservations with voucher scheme in place. Renewal of voluntary tourism ambassador program in VIC, providing seven-day coverage.
  - TCA broke records for social media performance – kangaroo video reached 14 million people globally.
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- **Discussion:** Events focus for future funding

**MOTION:** That the CEO Operations Report be received and accepted.

Moved: Lisa Goode

Seconded: Brenton Schild

**CARRIED**

## 6. New Members Update – Since November 2020

The CEO tabled the new members.

## **7. Guest Speaker – Joanne Townsend**

CEO of Department of Environment, Parks and Water

- Ms Townsend provided an overview of the role of the Department, particularly related to management of 85 National Parks in the NT.
- Raised the issue of current collection of money in national parks, and how this process needs to be modernized.
- Outlined timelines for the introduction of park fees, thanking the TCA membership for their advocacy.
- Neva McCartney spoke to fees and charges in NT Parks, covering reasons for change, comparisons with other states and territories, software for online booking and considerations for tourism operators.
- Questions taken from the floor.

## **8. General Business**

### **1. New Product Presentations**

- Alice Springs Helicopters
- Wild Honey Travels
- Memory Mountain
- Dark Skies Festival

### **2. Graffiti**

- Steve Shearer spoke to this item. Issue with graffiti not being cleared on roads managed by NT Government.

### **3. Visitor Guide**

- Tracie Hall spoke to this item. Requesting information regarding tender process for visitor guide. Further discussion on this matter.

## **9. Meeting Closed**

With no further business the meeting was closed at 8.10pm

## 10. Attendees Register

Allan	<b>Sommerville</b>	Qantas
Amanda	<b>Charlton</b>	Kings Creek Station
Andrea	<b>Lehman</b>	Outback Ballooning
Andrew	<b>Soo</b>	Tourism NT
Anna	<b>Dakin</b>	Anna Dakin Consultancy
Ash	<b>Severin</b>	Curtin Springs
Audrey	<b>Fournier</b>	Outback Tour Services
Bill	<b>Wilcox</b>	G'Day Mate Tourist Park
Brendan	<b>Heenan</b>	Big4 Macdonnell Range Caravan Park
Brenton	<b>Schild</b>	Finke River Adventures
Chris	<b>Day</b>	Parks and Wildlife Commission
Chris	<b>Telenta</b>	Bookeasy
Clare	<b>Drabsch</b>	Trek Larapinta
Dale	<b>Mclver</b>	Alice Event Management & Consultancy
Damien	<b>Ryan</b>	Alice Springs Town Council
Danny	<b>Falzon</b>	Earth Sanctuary
David	<b>White</b>	Voyages
Eliza	<b>Nolan</b>	Tourism NT
Estelle	<b>Marshall</b>	Alice Springs Desert Park
Fillippo	<b>Gelada</b>	Outback Elite Tours
Gabrielle	<b>Deacon</b>	Tourism NT
Gayle	<b>Shearer</b>	Lasseters
Georgina	<b>Tsorvas</b>	Tourism NT
Holga	<b>Strie</b>	Trek Larapinta
Isabelle	<b>Hardinge</b>	World Expeditions

Jeff	<b>huyben</b>	Voyages
Jeffery	<b>McLaughlin</b>	Barkly Regional Council
Jo	<b>Townsend</b>	Dept Environment, Parks & Water
Joel	<b>Ulbricht</b>	Walk a While Foundation
John	<b>Gaynor</b>	Dept Environment, Parks & Water
Joshua	<b>Burgoyne</b>	Member for Braitling
Karl	<b>Bajzik</b>	Yubu Napa Gallery
Kat	<b>Doederer</b>	Alice Springs Helicopters
Kathy	<b>Fritz</b>	Kathys Place Bed and breakfast
Kim	<b>Shegog</b>	
Kimberley	<b>Morgan</b>	Wild Honey Tours
Kura	<b>Waugh</b>	Alice Plaza
Leanne	<b>Paige</b>	Tourism NT
Lisa	<b>Goode</b>	DoubleTree Alice Springs
Lyndee	<b>Severin</b>	Curtin Springs
Lynne	<b>Peterkin</b>	Life Member
Malcolm	<b>Duffield</b>	
Mark	<b>Anson</b>	Kings Creek Station
Mark	<b>Crummy</b>	Tourism NT
Martin	<b>Bollmeyer</b>	Charles Darwin University
Megha	<b>Raut</b>	Tourism NT
Neva	<b>McCartney</b>	Dept Environment, Parks & Water
Nick	<b>Prus</b>	Nick Prus
Nicole	<b>Campbell</b>	Tourism NT
Nicole	<b>Walsh</b>	Chamber of Commerce
Nick	<b>Ruch</b>	Tourism BT
Philip	<b>Cowan</b>	NT Parks and Wildlife

Rae	<b>Finlay</b>	Department of Industry Tourism & Trade - Alice Springs
Rachel	<b>Gallagher</b>	Hostplus
Reg	<b>Ramsden</b>	Remote Tours
Rex	<b>Neindorf</b>	Alice Springs Reptile Centre
Ric	<b>Farmer</b>	Yubu Napa Gallery
Robert	<b>Smits</b>	NT Soaring & Aboriginal Fabric Gallery
Robyn	<b>Cox</b>	Outback Tour Services / Adventure Tours Australia
Robyn	<b>Lambley</b>	Robyn Lambley MLA
Ross	<b>Nowland</b>	Dept Industry, Tourism and Trade
Russell	<b>Smith</b>	Tourism NT
Samantha	<b>Bennett</b>	RFDS Darwin and Alice Springs Tourist Facilities
Sarah	<b>Walker</b>	Alice Springs Helicopters
Sid	<b>Vashist</b>	Outback Stores
Steve	<b>Baldwin</b>	Outback Caravan Park
Steven	<b>Shearer</b>	Thrifty
Steven	<b>Baldwin</b>	UKTNP
Stuart	<b>Ord</b>	TNT
Tamara	<b>Siemionow</b>	Tourism NT
Toni	<b>Ryland</b>	Hi Oscar
Tony	<b>McFadzean</b>	Kings Creek Station
Tony	<b>Quarmby</b>	Tourism NT
Tony	<b>Shine</b>	Bookeasy
Tracie	<b>Hall</b>	Absolute Media & Marketing
Valerie	<b>Smith</b>	Tourism NT
Venita	<b>Poblocki</b>	This is Aboriginal Art
Vince	<b>Jeisman</b>	Lingiari Electorate Office
Wayne	<b>Thompson</b>	ATG Downunder



## **11. Attending Online**

Nerida	<b>Hart</b>	Walk Darwin
John	<b>Hart</b>	Walk Darwin
Laurelle	<b>Halford</b>	DIY Tourguide
Rachel	<b>Telford</b>	
Suzanne	<b>Morgan</b>	Minister for Tourism

## **12. Apologies**

Angus	<b>Robinson</b>	Leisure Solutions
Jill	<b>Catchlove</b>	Parks and Wildlife (DEPWS)
Jo	<b>Nixon</b>	Alice Springs Beanie Festival
Nova	<b>Pomare</b>	Standley Chasm