



ABN 37 932 479 648

Minutes of the November 2010 COM meeting The Buoyancy Foundation of Victoria and Buoyancy Services Inc.

Present; Meghan Fitzgerald, Glenda Child, Arnica, Guna Green, Merilyn Parker (Chair with proxy from Peter Cook) Deborah Homburg

Apologies; Kumiko Orimoto, Peter Cook

Moved Merilyn (with proxy from Pete as second) that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted. Passed

Buoyancy on track for constitutional purposes, mission, vision, strategy(as per May 1 meeting), agreements and accountabilities.

Following on from the May 1 2010 meeting where Buoyancy created it's future 2010-2015 (as listed below) the COM declared **Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup> 2011 as the next Buoyancy planning meeting day.**

"The key to strategy is omission – what you don't do."

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Buoyancy staff and COM endorsed the constituted purpose and ATO agreed purpose of the charity

**“to reduce suffering caused by drugs”**

Mission

**“to create and offer opportunities to participate in a culture of self expression and contribution”**

Buoyancy Vision

**“A world of self expression and contribution for everyone”**

Buoyancy Strategy

**Model an impeccable level of integrity and accountability**

**Communicate, listen and relate for a world of self expression and contribution**

**Support staff and committee of management to fulfil on vision**

**Nothing Wrong; Self Care for those who have been abused and who abuse substances.**

Actions

Commitment to responsibilities of organisation

**Staff agreed to prorata accountabilities for counselling consultancy and continuing care of clients**

**National Health Reform**

According to the briefings given to CEO's all health funding will be paid by the Commonwealth government to Medicare Locals (Division of GP'S) and Hospitals.

If the new Liberal Victorian Government do run with the Medicare Local model, a regional division of general practice or primary care partnership will appoint a CEO to distribute all health funding from the Commonwealth to our region.

The CEO will be effectively managing health funding as if they were franchised distributors of health. Think Mc Health.

One possible way of linking (being included in the hamburger) and being relevant is through service coordination transfer forms and video conferencing and outreach (to and from GP's and hospitals).

Planning meeting March 2011 to contemplate personal and professional uncertainty re

- \$30,000 a month Victorian state funding 2011-2012 and the birth/reincarnation of Buoyancy 2012- 2016 while not in survival mode/shock
- Commonwealth young Vietnamese women and drugs program final payment is due April 2011.
- Commonwealth funded mental health project ends in June 2011
- Alcohol education and rehabilitation funded alcohol and older people project ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010.
- the doubling of energy and water costs and the likelihood of those costs doubling again 2010-2015.
- Financing self care house possibly through supervision payments to staff.
- Staff Bonus

The committee considered the increased staff work load due to not replacing Jinesh and Nadine. The committee agreed that the CEO could pay an extra \$5.00 per hour to staff who took on the extra work as a bonus each month until the end of April 2011

Cost of an across the board increase of five dollars an hour for all staff will be approximately \$2,700 per month including superannuation and a provision for people being replaced while on holidays.

This is the equivalent of having another staff person working two days a week and means the new monthly wages would be \$22,125 out of core funding of \$28,000 per month.

## **Buoyancy and facebook**

Buoyancy and Facebook

Buoyancy Conversations website has been linked to a Facebook page, also titled 'Buoyancy Conversations' ( since 9<sup>th</sup> of August). It can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Buoyancy-Conversations/145571745461703?ref=ts>

COM to decide to support Buoyancy on Face book on the condition that it was monitored daily to remove any offensive posts and that all communications complied with the Buoyancy code of ethics.

A job description including monitoring Buoyancy conversations, Face book and setting up video conferencing to be negotiated with Ria.

## **Spending vehicle allowance**

**Allocation of \$22,000 YVWD vehicle allowance** by December 31<sup>st</sup>

Committee decided to build up our bicycle fleet for all participants in Buoyancy, reimburse Helen's Mum for travel expenses, buy trailers, possibly a small tractor and kayaks to facilitate the self care centre in Castlemiane

Deb to send cost list to Merilyn.

**Report back Selling Illness conference-** Deb tabled and forgot to distribute at meetings Conference award winning program we are adopting and distributing as a result of attending the conference.

Promised outcomes of attendance at conference-Contributing to twenty clients, attending the Selling Illness conference and making a film.

Outcome of OS trip to Selling Illness conference -contributing to twenty Buoyancy clients (older people) and their suffering caused by drugs.

Ordered from Reading 24/10/10 x 30 copies of A Bitter Pill by Dr John Sloan: How the Medical System is failing the Elderly”.

Distributing 10 to Buoyancy workers and committee members Twenty for aged care workers, elderly and families.

One to Commonwealth Minister for Aged Care Advisor.

Distribute along with a message\* from a family attempting support their mother in an aged care setting using this reference material.

\*Message

What we learned and what the family can do: (Johanna Trimble and Dale Trimble and Associates Canada)

1. Listen carefully to your elder and watch for new symptoms that make no sense to you.
2. Research and compare symptoms to drug side affects
3. Keep risk and benefits in mind, remember quality of life.
4. Have a family meeting and agree on your approach and have a stalwart contact person for family and staff.
5. Be respectful but persistent with medical staff and bring your research- let the coolest head in the family speak.
6. Ask staff to direct a trial to eliminate or reduce drugs.
7. Request the staff obtain the family’s consent for any new drugs being considered.
8. If new drugs are suggested, repeat #5.
9. Debrief, console and console and support each other when hopelessness or despair threatens.

Also tabled (as gifts on a lighter note) were possible “protocols” picked up in Amsterdam

**RULES TO BE OBSERVED ON ENTERING THE HERMITAGE”  
DEVELOPED BY CATHERINE THE GREAT 1770-1780 FOR  
THE HERMITAGE ARTS MUSEUM IN RUSSIA AND  
AMSTERDAM**

ARTICLE 1.

On entering, rank and title must be put off, as well as swords and hats.

Article 11.

Pretensions founded on the prerogative of birth, pride or other sentiments of a like nature, must also be left at the door.

ARTICLE 111

Be merry; nevertheless, break nothing and spoil nothing.

ARTICLE 1v.

Sit or stand as one pleases.

ARTICLE V

Speak with moderation and not too often to avoid being troublesome to others.

ARTICLE V1

Argue without anger and without warmth.

ARTICLE VII

Banish sighs or yawns, that you may not communicate ennui, or be a nuisance to others.

ARTICLE VIII

Innocent games, proposed by any members of the society, must be accepted by others.

ARTICLE IX

Eat slowly and with appetite, drink with moderation so that each may walk steadily as they go out.

## ARTICLE X

Leave all quarrels at the door; what enters one ear must go out the other ear, before passing the threshold of the Hermitage.

The penalty for violating these rules, if attested by two members, is that he or she must drink a glass of water and read a poem aloud.

Failing to follow the rules three times a poem must be learnt by heart. Failure in regard to article x meant that the person must not re-enter the Hermitage.

December COM meeting **is the Christmas party**. All invited on Monday 20<sup>TH</sup> December. Mocktail recipes will be tried – and glasses as prizes /presents distributed

### **To do**

Sign in new members Buoyancy Foundation and Buoyancy Services Inc Helen Emma, Louie and Deniz

### **Mt Alexander**

Locust and locust control. The rain has drowned them this weekend however it has also increased thistles and blackberries

Deb to contact environmental services for weed control or working party from Buoyancy

## Accounts, finances and statistics

- Monthly and annual Balance sheet and profit and loss for August September and October to be considered by the COM

Moved Guna Seconded Meghan that the August September and October reports be accepted Passed unanimously.

## ASSET management and planning

- The new Buoyancy Services constitution has been accepted by consumer affairs and we are compiling the paper work to get letters of exemption from stamp duty with state revenue office for the transfer of 20% of Punt Rd and 100% of Mostyn St to Buoyancy Services.
- The state revenue office notified us January 6<sup>th</sup> 2011 that our transfer of land(s) has been exempted from stamp duties/land tax etc
- Deb now negotiating with Titles Office for transfer of titles.

## Operations

- Building plans and maintenance
- Planning issues- council overlays, planning and building permits etc

The committee of management asked Deb to investigate extending or varying or multiplying the number of planning permits applicable to Punt Rd Premises

Deb spoke to Deniz Yener Korematsu ( Ekais' partner, an architect and Planning Officer for Darebin Council) who advised us that we could get an amendment to our planning permit without opening up the whole question of the planning permit for our drug and alcohol service.

## Committee noted that re Plants and animals

- New vertical gardens planted out front by Emma
- Thank you to Glenda for many happy months with Deems the therapeutic dog
- Vege garden- is producing greens and potato salads



- Nathan has been doing a wonderful job of rubbish removal, gutter clearing at Castlemaine etc

Programs and projects Buoyancy Foundation; Committee noted that

- Quality Assurance Status- 2010 annual and triannual audits were passed. Congratulations to Tony for another fine year of quality work.
- Guna has been doing presentations to elders groups on standard drinking and has completed the AERF project. Congratulations to Guna

Equipment purchase and maintenance

Committee okayed that the fast out of date large TV we never use worth \$500 on the asset list was purchased by Ming for \$500.

(end)