



KATOOMBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY

Meeting Minutes 10th March 2022

ABN 56 035 388 431

We would like to extend a welcome to Katoomba residents and business people who are interested in coming along and participating in future meetings - or as a way of keeping in touch with recent issues by receiving a copy of the monthly minutes. For more information, please contact the Secretary at secretary@katoombachamber.com Annual Subscription fees for membership of the Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community are \$250 for landlords; \$100 for companies; \$50 for sole traders; and \$10 for individual community members. Please join to help us grow our membership and our voice for Katoomba.

Visit: www.katoombachamber.com

NEXT MEETING – Thursday 14th April 2022

Opening: 6:20pm

Members Present:

Mark Jarvis President	Christine Killinger (EC)	Lynne Curan (EC)
Peter Carrol Vice President	Lui Friscioni (EC)	Deb Cash (EC)
Diana Hofland (Interim Secretary)	Louise Florence (EC)	Bruce Cash (EC)

Apologies:

David Hodgekiss Treasurer

In attendance:

Michelle Maher (BMCC), Will Langevad (BMCC), Jenny McLaughlin, Paul McLaughlin, Greg Hansen, Ron Powal (Treeline Lurline), Jessical Lawn (Treeline Lurline), Charlie Brown (RFS), Marg Brown (KCB), Wendy Craig, Anne Morris, Mark Barton (Business BM), Patrick Leonard, Stephanie Moxham, Bruce Ferrier, Helen Jones, Lowell Tarling (Treeline Lurline), Kerry Brown (Treeline Lurline), Lana Alchin, Greg Mimmans Winter Magic Festival, Willem Hendrikson Winter Magic Festival.

Motions:

- 1. Minutes of the meeting of February 10th, 2022**
Accepted by Peter Carroll, seconded by Christine Killinger; motion carried.
- 2. Correspondence**
No correspondence.

3. Katoomba Masterplan – Will Langevad (Planning)/ Michelle Maher (Program Leader)

- A presentation for the future planning of the former Katoomba Golf Course site was held and included a brief overview of the masterplan process.
- This process is expected to engage the local community, Katoomba Chamber, businesses and tourism operators for the purpose of gathering ideas of what potential opportunities may exist for the Katoomba Golf Course site.
- This project will focus on sustainability with emphasis placed on understanding the environmental context and how the site can be used for the benefit of the Blue Mountains Community. The site is within a strategic setting in a unique city with the major point of difference being that Katoomba is one of two cities within a World Heritage National Park. The Katoomba Golf Course is a unique Site on 30HA.
- A Community Engagement process will commence on Monday 14 March 2022 and continue for 4 weeks to gather community input on potential uses for the site.
- There will be a social and print media promotion around a 'Have Your Say' campaign inviting community comment.
- It is expected that a report of submissions will be received by BMCC in June 2022.
- MJ advised that Katoomba Chamber will put forward a submission and encouraged individuals to also provide their submissions.
- There was a request for a potential workshop day, and it was suggested that the Chamber could hold this workshop session.
- It was requested that the land not be used for development but rather for public purposes. WL explained the current zone is for public recreation however the land can legally be sold. It has been in community ownership for over 100years and should be noted that community use of lands is very important in the mountains. MM suggested the survey included key questions reflecting continued community use of the land.
- MJ talked about the lack of aged care facilities in the mountains which could be tabled as another idea.
- WL explained the land can support a range of uses.
- Aunty Carol suggested the site be handed over to the Aboriginal Community for preservation and protection.
- It was discussed that further actions will include, a flyer to all BM residents, letters to adjoining landowners, online surveys, posters, adverts, open days, and workshops
- There will be a community engagement website with a 'Frequently Asked Questions' page and contact information.

4. Treasurer's report – Mark Jarvis

- KCCC has renewed its Public Liability insurance.
- KCCC is currently showing a healthy bank balance.
- The report was accepted and approved by Christine Killinger, seconded by Greg Hansen; motion carried.

5. Treeline Lurline update – Jessica Lawn, Kerry Brown

- Treeline Lurline has received the amount of \$4million which is the exact amount requested for the first stage of the project. The total budget for stage one was costed adequately by professionals prior to the grant amount being requested.
- This project is to be broken into 7 stages.
- The project will be a landmark of Boulevard-lined trees linking Katoomba centre to Forster Road.
- The infrastructure renewal is long overdue and will include undergrounding of power and other refurbishments.
- No decision on what type of trees will be planted other than being large and deciduous. A decision will be made following community consultation and further discussion.
- Various reports from 1995 and 2009 have recommended upgrade of this infrastructure and for tree planting.
- In 2018 further discussion about trees saw the establishment of the Treeline Lurline working group.
- Ron Powell engaged several professionals to commence the project planning and to gather project costs.
- A website (details to be advised) will provide community engagement with information and visuals of the project.
- The benefits of the project are expected to be social, economic, and include planetary health.
- From this project BMCC is expected to achieve a 'Best Practices Street Scaping' for future benefit and sharing with other communities.
- This project is expected to become part of the Western City District Plan.

6. Small Business Month – Mark Barton

- March is Small Business Month.
- BMCC will hold a networking event and workshops on 25th and 26th March.

7. Katoomba Hospital – Mark Jarvis

- A discussion was had regarding the new hospital campaign with the aim of achieving government funding for a new hospital to be built in the Blue Mountains.
- Members were advised of a social media campaign including a Facebook Page and ePetition and shown how to support the campaign.
- It was discussed that a Crowd Funding Campaign, to raise money for signage, posters, and other collateral was launched.
- MJ suggested that the Katoomba Chamber could initially put \$1000 towards the Crowd Funding Campaign to get the message out. The money will be used for marketing collateral, banners, and other campaign activities. Motion moved by Mark Jarvis and seconded by Bruce Ferrier.
- There is a united sentiment that the hospital is old, and the Blue Mountains needs new medical infrastructure as Katoomba hospital is no longer fit for purpose.
- It was requested that the community could write letters to the editor of the Blue Mountains Gazette to share their experiences of Katoomba Hospital.

8. Equinox Festival – Lui / Deb / Lyn

- The members were given a brief overview of the Equinox Festival program being a cumulation of existing events under the one Equinox umbrella.
- Businesses were encouraged to dress up shop windows so that the whole town including local retailers can become involved in the festival
- The festival is expected to attract visitors to the area with the aim of growing this event to become an annual fixture.
- Blue Mountains Tourism has achieved a grant for this program and is working with BMCC on this event and other tourism initiatives.
- Blue Mountains Music festival not going ahead due to weather and landslides however music events are happening in various locations over the weekend of 19th & 20th March.
- Link to the Equinox website: BMT: <https://www.visitbluemountains.com.au/equinox>

9. Wines of the West – Mark Jarvis

- MJ advised wines of the west had been moved to August 20th & 21st with further details to come.

10. General Business

10.1 Winter Magic Festival

- Greg and Willem, the organisers of the 2022 Winter Magic Festival, provided an overview of the expected event in 2022.
- This event will be held on the weekend of 27th and 28th August 2022.
- The festival has achieved a grant of \$250,000 for a two-year project. Streets will not be blocked off however the festival will take over various venues throughout Katoomba encouraging people to walk through the streets.
- Some events (premium entertainment) will be ticketed, with a mix of free entertainment also on offer.
- Organisers are expecting to take a top-tier music festival approach i.e Splendour in the Grass and similar events.
- The Winter Magic Theme centres around 'Revival' looking at reviving tourism in the Blue Mountains.
- Organisers will be asking for small donations towards the festival with the aim of giving back to the community through this event.
- Concerns were raised about not having community stalls. The organisers have taken comments on board.
- There was shared sentiment that the Winter Magic Festival is one of the biggest trading days for the community and changes to the event may impact this.

Meeting concluded at 8:15pm