



Scotland Island Residents' Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Date: August 25, 2013

Venue: Hall

Present: Judy Readman, Betsi Beem, Cass Gye, Jon Maxim, Sue Dickson, Alan Gaines, Graeme Crayford, Ruth Gaines, Carol Floyd, Bill Gye, Tim Turpin

Apologies: Ian Souter, Debbie Cordukes, Colin Haskell

Opening: Meeting opened at 10:10 am

Observers welcomed: Jenny Cullen, Tim Bakker, Kerry Baird, Grahame Stenner, Steve Pollard, Jenny and Scott Frazer, Hubert van Mierlo, Karl Mallon, Jon Duhig, Carolyn Milani, Shona Forsyth, Robyn Iredale, Tracy Smith and Paul Smith.

Due to observer interjections motion to adjourn meeting moved by GC and seconded by JR. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 (approximately) after majority of committee members left the room.

Meeting reconvened at 11:00am at Judy Redman's residence

In attendance: Judy Readman, Bill Gye, Cass Gye, Alan Gaines, Ruth Gaines, Sue Dickson, Graeme Crayford, June Lahm (apology: Tim Turpin)

Opening Discussion

It was noted that all committee members present at the scheduled committee meeting before it was adjourned were officially advised that the adjourned meeting was being reconvened at an alternative location and were invited to attend.

Following advice from Mike Chapman, as a result of his intermediation with the group of people who remained after the meeting was adjourned, it was agreed that we would only discuss items on the original agenda and that any outcomes would take the form of recommendations to be ratified at the next committee meeting.

We subsequently agreed to restrict our discussions to the following items which already had draft papers tabled for discussion, namely: Visitor Policy, Code of Conduct and Response to Allegations.

1. Visitor Policy

It was noted that the preferred mechanism to receive community input and feedback was at quarterly community forums. Our failure to hold any such forum since the last AGM has resulted in justifiable community frustration that has resulted in the outburst that disrupted the scheduled committee meeting.

It was agreed that as SIRAC had not provided adequate opportunity for concerned community members to present and debate their views that we should host a round table session at the end of each committee meeting leading up to the AGM.

The current visitor policy was redrafted to reflect this (subject to ratification at next committee meeting).

2. Code of Conduct

Legal counsel has advised that the Code of Conduct should be drawn up as document to be agreed to by each committee member (similar to the process for the Confidentiality Agreement). This means that each committee member explicitly and voluntarily agrees to be bound by it.

It was noted that whilst much of the impetus to develop and adopt a code of conduct relates to inappropriate communication (verbal and Email) this must be balanced against the legal requirements to ensure the integrity of the Association's decision making process (managing conflicts of interest) and its decisions (respect and support for decisions). These legal requirements are imposed by SIRA's Constitution and the Associations Incorporation Act and Regulations (referenced in the Constitution). That is, the Code of Conduct only reflects these existing legal obligations it does not impose new ones.

The draft Code of Conduct was redrafted to reflect this (subject to ratification at next committee meeting).

3. Response to Allegations

In light of the recent flurry of Email messages accusing the Committee of bullying behaviour and lack of transparency in its decision-making processes, it was agreed that these allegations either need to be substantiated or withdrawn.

A proposed draft of an open letter to those making the allegations was discussed and updated (subject to ratification at next committee meeting).

Meeting closed at 1:00pm