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Board STRATEGY Meeting NOTES
The Hut Community Centre Community Room
Thursday 14 September 2023
6.00 – 8.00pm

Attendees: David Rawnsley (Chair), Greg Bussell, Deborah Turnbull, Pamela Patane, Jenni Bottroff, Deb Bates (EO)

David acknowledged the Kurna and Peramangk peoples of the land we meet on.

Due to the number of absences for the scheduled Board meeting, (Geoff Keynes, Sarah Moulds, John Kemp, Sharon Maslen, Ann Croser), there is not a quorum. The attending Board members decided to still meet, however, no decisions can be made on behalf of the Board. Information was provided on those matters in the Agenda not requiring a decision to be made.

Action items/Business Arising

EO advised that most items on the action list will need to be deferred until after the AGM as the writing of the Annual Report and other projects (eg Uni SA Loneliness Project) need to take priority.

Ratios – Sylvia. The Board Chair determined that this item was best deferred but to be held at a later date due to the high number of Board members absent from this meeting.

Woodside Cottage Sub-Lease – Due to the need for a quick reply, this will be emailed to all Board members for their consideration to enable a decision to be reached.

Request for Transition Payments from DHS – updates

- **Financial Wellbeing (EFAP).** A transition payment of \$23,000 has been granted and expires on 28 Feb 2024. \$4,200 will be allocated to salaries.
- **Community Neighbourhood Development Funding** – Expression of interest has been lodged. Still awaiting response.

‘Loneliness Project’ with UniSA update

- Hayley will lead this project. Her hours will increase from 0.2 FTE to 0.6 FTE in Jan/Feb
- Seeking to backfill Financial Well-being position. Hours will reduce from 0.4 FTE to 0.2 FTE. In the new (calendar) year.
- The agreement has been signed. Thanks to Pamela for legal advice on this.
- Project will include evidence-based development of podcast, resources and training.

Strategic Topic – Income Generation

Fundraising Strategy (FS)

This is going to be a critical strategy for us moving forward to address our increasing projected deficit budget and to keep us sustainable in the coming years with less reliance on government grants which are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain.

Following up conversations at previous Board meetings and internally, the Funds Raising Strategy Overview 2023/24 was presented. Further drilling down on details is required.

The four initiatives are:

- Friends of The Hut – Family & Friends
- Friends of The Hut – Businesses
- Wills & Bequests
- General Donations

Further discussion included:

- The idea of a **“Patron”**. The Patron could call on high net-worth local individuals.
- Invite current sponsors, businesses, Stirling Business Association members and others to a “Thankyou” in March. Potential to engage new sponsors.
- Setting up a **“Foundation”**. A foundation gives supporters something to be a part of. Further consideration required.
- Possibility of holding an event on the platform as a ‘launch’.
- Deb Turnbull is interested in meeting 1 on 1 with clients re Wills & Bequests. Seeking feedback on what would work for them, what they wouldn’t want to see.
- Christmas Donations. Encourage families to donate rather than giving cards etc.

Action: Deb Turnbull to meet with clients 1:1 to discuss Wills & Bequests.

Income Generation Committee

Pamela Patane, David Rawnsley and Deb Turnbull will meet with EO to progress the Strategy on Thursday 5 October at 4:30pm at The Hut. If other board members would like to join this committee, please let EO know.

Quiz Night

The Hut’s fundraiser is being held on Friday Sept 22nd at The Village Well. Board members are encouraged to attend with David trying to encourage members to join a table.

Board membership

It was agreed that Julie Peters would be an ideal person to approach for guidance on the Friends of The Hut from a potential ‘Friend’ (individual/family) perspective. It was also agreed that Julie could be a worthwhile Board member. EO to invite Ann to speak with Julie Peters re being involved with The Hut either through independent fundraising advice, coming onto the board or suggesting someone with similar skills who might be interested in a Board position.

AGM being held October 12th 6pm at Aldgate Oval Hall.

Finance report to include reduced funding, Aldgate Valley Hall sale in progress proceeds of which will support capital investment at the Stirling Book Shed.

Next Board Meeting

AGM – Thursday 12th October 2023, 6pm at Aldgate Oval Hall

Board Strategy – Thursday 19 October, 6pm at The Hut