**Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative**

**Community Meeting**

**Monday, 17 December, 2018**

**62 Morgan St, North Geelong**

**Commenced 5:30pm**

**Attendees:**

Dixie Dean, Doreen Griffiths, Gwenda Black, Jackie Brown, Naomi Surtees, Kiralee Hogema, Justine McCarthy, Kristi Watts, Renee Howell, Eileen Smith, Jasmine-Skye Marinos, Todd Fry, Mick Ryan, Tegan Edwards, Shellee Strickland, Lisa Briggs, Judith Dalton-Walsh, Edel Conroy, Tayla Marshall, Ammie Howell, Richard Fry, Megan Frazer, Craig Edwards, Brian McKinnon, Richard McKinnon, Narelle Roughley, Sandra Brogden, Michelle Robinson, Kristy Carter, May Owen.

1. **Welcome by Chairperson**

Craig Edwards welcomed attendees and thanked all the staff and volunteers who worked on the Open Day and Christmas Family Day.

1. **Respect protocol – Minute’s silence**

Judy Dalton-Walsh gave the Welcome to Country. The Chairperson then held a minute’s silence for all of the Community who we have lost recently.

1. **Apologies**

Joylene Walsh, Stephen Walsh, Wendy Brabham, Samantha Watts, Renee Owen, Colleen Howell, Jo Chester, Joleen Ryan, Fiona Ryan, Margie Hayes, Belinda Foley, Meagan Howell, Sue Collins, Tahlia Dempsey, Jordan Edwards, Lachlan Edwards, Mark Edwards, Wayne McEwan, Kay Edwards.

1. **Previous minutes**
   1. **Business arising from previous minutes**

No business arising.

* 1. **Acceptance of 15 October 2018 minutes**

**Moved:** Richard Fry

**Seconded:** Kiralee Hogema

1. **Finance Update**

**Discussion:** Lisa Briggs advised the following:

Since we last met Wathaurong has received:

* PM&C grants paid in November
* Local Justice DOJ and IPA Grants remain held
* Western PHN CCSS funding invoiced for November
* NDIS income came under budget
* Work crew budget is yet to be finalised and we are working on process.
* Medicare income was below for October however is up for November generating $65,000.
* Mental Health funding of $869,000
* Kinship $264,000
* Orange Door $166,000
* DHHS Cultural Planning $142,000
* DHHS Barwon health Australian Indigenosu Doctors Association Partnership $15,000
* DHHS Colac Community Project $120,000
* $100,000 toward the Healthy Community Voices project
* Colac Gathering Place remains unfunded

Wathaurong is carrying a surplus for 2018/2019 of $260,000 which is expected to be spent by end of financial year.

Wathaurong is working with the Colac-Otway Council regarding Colac funding, however they have no Reconciliation Action Plan. The hospital owns the building we use in Colac. Community members felt that there needs to be more attention to Colac services.

**Response:** Craig advised that Wathaurong and Gunditjmara both have a stake in Colac but that Colac remains significant for us.

1. **Q&A on 2018 Annual Report**

**Discussion:** At the 2018 AGM it was suggested that once Community have had time to read the Annual Report there could be discussion at the next Community Meeting if required. Craig called for comments regarding the Annual Report but there were none. Craig advised that professionally printed copies would be sent out to members shortly.

1. **I Dare Ya presentation – Health Service unit**

**Discussion:** Shellee Strickland introduced Spark Health who gave a presentation on the positive outcomes of the I Dare Ya program held at Wathaurong. They also presented some statistics about the program, such as that they had 134 participants with an average of 60 per week. 80 Community members had their biometrics done. There were numerous good news stories from making healthy food choices to giving up smoking.

**Response:** Community members congratulated the Health Service team and Spark Health on a successful program. Board and Community agreed to keep momentum by supporting upcoming surf titles and basketball competitions.

1. **General Business**
   1. **Pako Festa**

**Discussion:** Community discussed the arrangements for Pako Festa. Community also discussed confusion from mainstream providers regarding using the services of Wathaurong or Wadawurrung.

**Response:** Craig reinforced that legislation advises government departments and agencies to work with all Traditional Owners, which includes Wathaurong Traditional Owners.

* 1. **Koorie Academy of Excellence**

**Discussion:** Aunty May explained their application for a Koori Academy to be established in Geelong, and that they were waiting on a response from DET. There was discussion around how this Academy could improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students as it will be guided by the three pillars of Culture, Education and Leadership. Community acknowledged the importance of such support but also the need for our involvement to be managed well, and also acknowledged the value previous support has already had for the education of young Community members.

* 1. **Forster St Men’s Shed**

**Discussion:** Community questioned the wisdom of having the Men’s Shed at the Community Hub in Forster St.

**Response:** Craig advised that there has been discussion at Board level and that other options are being explored.

* 1. **Administration Update**

**Discussion:** Lisa advised that she would be continuing as CEO for the near future and that the CEO position would be advertised in 2018.

**Meeting closed 7:51pm**