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Minutes – General Meeting
Wednesday, 5th August, 2020

Virtual meeting hosted by zoom

Chair: Cr Jonathon Marsden

1. Welcome and introduction

Cr Marsden opened the meeting, and welcomed members and guests.

2. Attendance and Apologies

Present:

Ben Rossiter	Victoria Walks
Melissa Backhouse	VicHealth
Shelley White	VicHealth
Cr Tom Melican	City of Banyule
Kathleen Petras	City of Banyule
Henry Lee	City of Bayside
Cr Bruce Lancashire	City of Brimbank
Jon Liston	City of Brimbank
Phillip Mallis	City of Darebin
Cr Jonathon Marsden	City of Hobsons Bay
Doug Rowland	City of Hobsons Bay
Alex Reid	City of Kingston
Cr Anna Chen	City of Manningham
Daniele Ranieri	City of Manningham
Thomas Hardie–Cogdon	City of Manningham
Richard Smithers	City of Melbourne
Cr Nic Frances–Gilley	City of Melbourne
Sam Romasko	City of Melton
Josh Fergeus	City of Monash
Damir Agic	City of Moonee Valley
Cr Natalie Abboud	City of Moreland
Simon Stainsby	City of Moreland
Claire Davey	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council

Tim Lecky	City of Stonnington
Cr Andrew Davenport	City of Whitehorse
Serman Uluca	City of Whitehorse
Russell Tricker	City of Whittlesea
Troy Knowling	City of Whittlesea
Michael Butler	City of whittlesea
Melissa Falkenberg	City of Wyndham
Julian Wearne	City of Yarra
Cr Jackie Fristacky	City of Yarra
Oliver Stoltz	
Chris Lacey	
Andrew Pringle	
Alison Wood	
Elina Lee	
Rachel Carlisle	Department of Transport
Raj Ramalingam	VicRoads
David Stosser	MRCagney
Greg Day	Edunity
Jane Waldock	MTF

Apologies

Adam McSwain, City of Bayside

Cr Andrea Surace, City of Moonee Valley

3. Acceptance of Minutes of previous meeting

MOTION: that the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 1st July be accepted.

Proposed: Cr Tom Melican

Seconded: Cr Bruce Lancashire

The motion was: CARRIED

4. Presentation: Dr Ben Rossiter – Executive Officer, Victoria Walks

Refer attached slides

Points raised by members in discussion:

- Cr Melican – Italian study confirming strong economic value of walking 10 minutes more every day. Ben agreed – saying making route more interesting will triple the value of walking
- Cr Chen – compared to sports clubs, walkers have no voice in budget discussions. Ben noted that it would be interesting to evaluate the claimed benefits of grants to see if expected value was delivered.

5. Presentation: Melanie Backhouse – VicHealth

Refer attached slides

Points raised by members in discussion:

- Cr Marsden noted adults also walk to school. Melissa sees opportunities for Walk to School projects to also address adults.
- Cr Fristacky – how can speed limits be further reduced around schools. Melissa noted that Geoff Oulton from MAV is now looking at speed limits, and she will discuss more with him. Also keen to trial car free zones around schools.
- Cr Marsden - a multi agency push is being developed this year.
- Cr Melican – encouraged further advocacy for the 1 Metre Matters campaign. Also noted some Banyule schools had required parents to drive their children as part of COVID response.
- Kathleen Petras – school travel plans could be linked to walk to school projects, with the projects spread over 12 months, not just a few weeks.

6. Strategic Transport Advocacy

Greg Day reported on the advocacy campaign commenced by writing to MPs. He noted that transport is not getting a lot of attention; he sees a possible link to the general uncertainty in the community and being caught between short term concerns and long term outcomes. MTF members need to start thinking about 2021.

He strongly urged members to keep meeting with their local MPs, and noted that there a number of allies in the Reason and Green parties, and also from the backbench of the major parties.

There was discussion about Stage 4 restrictions making advocacy more difficult, but enthusiasm for the new Transport Minister's interest in active transport.

Cr Frances-Gilley noted that when Melbourne released its draft transport strategy it had the largest number of responses to a strategy the council had ever received; transport remains a major concern to the wider community.

Action: All members to advise Greg Day on actions so that a shared narrative can be described that supports member's interests. Please send brief action list to Greg.

7. 2020/21 Budget

The proposed budget for 20/21 was presented noting the proposed subscription fee of \$1500 for councils, and variable fee for associates.

The long term sustainability of the fee level was discussed, noting that an increase to \$2000 had been proposed for this year, but had been deferred.

MOTION: That the proposed 2020/21 annual budget, be adopted, noting that the subscription fee for 2020/21 has been set at \$1500 per Council.

Proposed: Cr Anna Chen
Seconded: Cr Bruce Lancashire

The motion was: CARRIED

8. Treasurer's report

Treasurer Cr Anna Chen spoke to the Treasurer's report, noting three invoices which had been considered and approved for payment by the Executive.

MOTION: that the invoices approved by the Executive are noted.

Proposed: Cr Anna Chen
Seconded: Cr Tom Melican

The motion was: CARRIED

9. Other Matters

Next Meeting – the AGM will be conducted at the next meeting. Nick Foa has agreed to be the guest speaker.

10. Meeting closed

8:00pm