

Australian Lithuanian Community Federal Executive

~ DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING 6: 7 SEPTEMBER 2007 ~

PRESENT: Andrius Vaitiekunas , Birute Prasmutaite, Dennis Gaylard and Loreta Cizauskaite-Tigani.

Birute assumed the chair and opened the meeting at 7.30 PM.

AGENDA:

- Distributed by Birute and adopted.

APOLOGIES:

- Audrius Skeivys and Lilija Kozlovskiene.

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- Draft minutes of Meeting 5, 2 June 2007, distributed by Dennis and adopted (moved Dennis, seconded Loreta).
- It was noted that in inquorate meeting was held on 28 July 2007. Birute, Dennis and Loreta were in attendance and discussed the outcomes of meetings with TIMD and PLB as well as distribution of materials sourced in Lithuania.

BUSINESS ARISING:

- Business arising was referred to respective Reports and General Business.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- As per emails.
- Articles prepared and sent to MP(Birute) and TA (Dennis).
- Invitation received for representative to attend Diplomatic Corps reception in Melbourne (Birute to attend).
- Letter from ALB Melbourne AGM Chair requesting appointment of administrator (referred to General Business).

FINANCIAL REPORT:

- Andrius reported that both accounts remain in positive balance.
- Income since last meeting includes \$1,500 from Fondas and interest from operating and investment accounts.
- \$6,000 investment account has been rolled over for another 12 months.

WEB PROJECTS UPDATE:

- It was noted that:
 - Vytautas has agreed to give Dennis and Edvina administrator access to allow for updating of information.
 - Email contacts from new site are working.
 - Close off the old site in September/October.

SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE:

- Loreta reported that the Geelong community is conducting craft and dance workshops for children in Colac (Western Victoria) during November.
- Dance music project: likely to be about 20 dances that require updated music.
- Wicks photographic exhibition: unable to tour this year.
- 60 year anniversary of fist Lithuanian post-war resettlement migrants is this year:
 - Bonegilla Museum: no event planned.
 - Melbourne Immigration Museum: ship reunion planned.

- Loretta to place advertisements in MP and TA.
- Birute to attend to represent Lithuanian Community.
- Possible community event: if no clash with Melbourne or Geelong Community events, ALB KV host a picnic at/near Station Pier on 11 November.
 - Dennis to check Community calendars.
 - Place ads in MP and TA if appropriate.

CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS UPDATE:

- Birute reported that the only positive responses to the development of specialist Lithuanian pre-schools came from a handful of Melbourne parents. There was a stronger response from Melbourne parents in favour of finding an early primary school teacher.
 - Lilija is exploring resourcing possibilities with TIMD.
 - It was noted that it would be logistically difficult to support a Lithuanian teacher for extended periods: one or two weeks twice a year may be sustainable.
 - A financial contribution would need to be provided by families.

'A HISTORY OF LITHUANIAN MIGRANTS IN AUSTRALIA' PROJECT

- Birute reported that the text is not yet completed and that Dr Poppenhagen has refused to advise a completion or publication date.
- No formal contract is available but the original project outline and subsequent Fondas funding application stated a text completion date of 31 December 2006.
 - Birute and Dennis to meet with Fondas to discuss.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- It was noted that several ALBKV members had been approached by Melbourne Community members expressing concern over a range of issues:
 - No active primary or secondary school age dancing groups.
 - Gintaras fundraising but not going to Lithuania this year.
 - Lack of opportunity to pay ALBM membership fees.
 - Continuity of the ALBM Committee.
 - No V16 or Mother's Day mineimai.

ALB MELBOURNE

- It was noted that inadequate candidates came forward to enable a quorate committee to be elected at two Annual General Meetings of the Melbourne Community Association. As a consequence, the AGM chairperson has written to the Federal Executive requesting that we appoint a person to act as Administrator of the Association until another meeting can be called and a committee formed. If a committee cannot be formed, the Administrator is to take the appropriate steps to dissolve the Association.
- The motion that "Dennis Gaylard be appointed to act as Administrator of the Melbourne Community Association until a meeting can be conducted to form a committee" was accepted (moved Birute, seconded Loreta).
- It was agreed that the functions of the Administrator are to be limited to:
 1. Managing the financial and legal affairs of the Association.
 2. Managing the Association correspondence.
 3. Making arrangements for the conduct of a meeting to form a committee.
 4. Advertising for candidates.
 5. Making arrangements for winding up the Association if insufficient candidates are available to form a committee.
- It was agreed that the functions of the Administrator do not include:
 1. Public statements on behalf of the Community (to be referred to ALB KV).
 2. Arranging Community events, functions or meetings other than that described.
- The Committee's appreciation to Dennis is noted.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Birute advised that she doesn't have an electronic copy of the ALB KV letterhead.
 - Dennis to redistribute to committee members.
- Birute reported that Algis Taskunas has advised of his retirement as Editor of 'Lithuanian Papers' and has recommended that an editorial committee of three people be appointed. ALB KV should publicly acknowledge Algis' work over many years.
 - Birute to prepare article for MP, TA and SBS.
- It was agreed to invite Greta Fletcher to the next ALB KV meeting to report on the Cultural Events Seminar that she attended on our behalf.
- Andrius to make flight bookings.
- Loreta to pick up Greta from airport.

NEXT MEETING:

- 10.00 AM, 21 November at Lithuanian House, North Melbourne.