

Australian Lithuanian Community Federal Executive

~ MINUTES OF MEETING 10: 28 March 2008 ~

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

Birute assumed the chair and opened the meeting at 6.35 PM.

AGENDA:

- Distributed by Birute and adopted with some additions.

APOLOGIES:

- Lilija Kozlovskiene and Vytautas Krivickas.

PREVIOUS MINUTES (1):

- Draft minutes of Meeting 8, 2 December 2007, as distributed by Dennis were adopted without amendment (moved Dennis, seconded Andrius).

BUSINESS ARISING (1):

- History of Lithuanian Migrants in Australia project:
 - Dennis has emailed contract author about completion of text, no response to date.
- Lithuanian Government Community Service awards:
 - Birute has forwarded information to Communities.
- Lithuanian Road Safety project:
 - Dennis has emailed TMID and reply received with contact details.
Dennis to coordinate contact between LRA and VTAC.
- Further business arising was referred to respective Reports and General Business.

PREVIOUS MINUTES (2):

- Draft minutes of Meeting 9, 19 January 2008, as distributed by Edvina were adopted with minor amendment (moved Edvina, seconded Birute).

BUSINESS ARISING (2):

- Flag design competition:
 - Confirmed \$250 prize.
- Communities Presidents' meeting:
 - Birute has contacted Presidents but had few responses.
Birute to re-contact Presidents.
- Further business arising was referred to respective Reports and General Business.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- As per emails.
- Articles and notices prepared and sent to MP and TA.
- Further letter from Chairman, Council of Estonian Societies in Australia, about the ongoing role of the Baltic Council of Australia (BCA).
 - Dennis has responded to original letter.
Dennis to respond to further letter.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

- Andrius reported that both accounts remain in positive balance.
 - Operating Account: \$1,063.43
 - Investment Account: \$6,000.00

- Noted that significant recent outgoings include costs of sending delegates to Education Seminar (\$2,312.65) and Cultural Seminar (\$2,758.00).
- Noted that solidarity payments have been received from several Communities:
 - Brisbane (\$105)
 - Canberra (\$483)
 - Geelong (\$105)
 - Gold Coast (\$30)
 - Hobart (\$60)
 - Sydney (\$198)
- Noted that one third of received solidarity payments to be forwarded to PLB at the end of the financial year.
- Noted that there are current funding applications with:
 - TMID, to repay costs associated with delegate attendance at conferences.
 - FONDAS, to contribute to sending delegate to Presidents' conference.

Andrius to write to TALKA for contribution from annual disbursements.

1,000 YEAR COMMEMORATION UPDATE:

- Birute reported that:
 - Advertisements have been placed for the flag design competition.
 - Liliija is investigating suitable folkloric groups to be invited to tour.

SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE:

- Loreta reported that Dana Lynikiene had been nominated for inclusion on the Victorian Women's Roll of Honour.
- Noted that there are a range of childrens DVDs and other resources available from diaspora websites.

Loreta to prepare a list of resources for purchase and distribution.

AUSTRALIAN LITHUANIAN DAYS UPDATE:

- Birute reported that the ALD Committee has requested the Sydney Club to cover the cost of public liability insurance for the festival. It was noted that:
 - Some insurance policies can be extended to cover specific events at external venues.
 - Insurance costs would normally be included in budget proposal forwarded to FONDAS as part of a funding application.
- Children's Art Contest prizes are normally provided by KV.
 - It was agreed to provide prizes in two age categories – up to 10 years and 11 to 15 years - \$50, \$20 and \$10.
 - It was also agreed to judge entries against three criteria – quality of the art; age of the artist; and topic chosen.
- Teachers' Meeting has been provisionally scheduled on two days.

Loreta to contact ALD Committee to confirm Teachers' Meeting.
- Federal Council Business Sessions scheduled for three half days.
 - Birute provided draft agenda for discussion at next meeting.
 - ALBKV and Community Reports to be distributed in hard copy to delegates at registration.
 - Accommodation and support of Business Sessions are normally provided by local ALB Committee.

Birute to contact ALB Sydney about arrangements.
 - Noted that Adelaide is the 'next' Community to host ALD as part of the normal rotation.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Lithuanian Papers:
 - Loreta confirmed that Ted Riley and his wife have agreed to act as editors.
 - Recent TA and MP articles re future of Lithuanian Papers were discussed.

Edvina to coordinate response from KV.

- Lithuanian Day of Culture:
 - Birute advised that 15 April has been declared 'Lithuanian Day of Culture'
 - Concert organized at Lithuanian House, North Melbourne, Sunday 13 April.
- SBS Radio:
 - Noted that there have recently been staffing changes at SBS.
 - Enquiries about possible impact on Lithuanian programming to be referred to Ms Paula Masselos, Director SBS Radio (paulama@sbs.com.au).
 - Dennis to contact SBS to confirm ongoing Lithuanian programming.
- Rumoured closure of Teviskes Aidai:
 - TA thought to be struggling financially and editorially.
 - Would be unfortunate given the apparent Sydney focus of Muso Pastoge.
 - Noted that it is the 'Australian Lithuanian Catholic Fortnightly' and the Parishes have primary responsibility for its future.
 - Dennis to invite TA Editorial group to future meeting to discuss.

NEXT MEETING:

- 12.00 PM, 20 April at the Lithuanian Club, North Melbourne.