

# Michelago Region Community Association Meeting: Minutes

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021: 6:00pm

Item	Topic	Session Led By
1.	<p><b><i>Welcome and Apologies</i></b></p> <p>Present: Brent, Kerry, Leanne, Di, Isabelle, Sally, Cristina, Jo, Gregg, Ben Johnson, Graham Plath, Jenny Wholohan and Alan Lepehuu</p> <p>Apologies: Romney Kelly, Abby McPherson, Deidre McFaul, and Keith Howker</p>	Brent
2.	<p><b><i>Previous Minutes April 2021 Meeting</i></b></p> <p>*Minutes from the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021.</p> <p>Moved: Di Fett</p> <p>Second: Leanne Pattison</p>	Di
3.	<p><b><i>Correspondence In/Out</i></b></p> <p>*Local Land Services:</p> <p>This organisation from Cooma would be happy to attend the Spring Fair.</p> <p>Di has also met with one of the teachers from the local school, who advised that the school would like to also be involved in the Spring Fair.</p> <p>*Defibrillator for the Community:</p> <p>Funds for a defibrillator are being raised in the community and coordinated through Belinda.</p> <p>A Trivia Night is being held in Bredbo on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June to assist in the fundraising for this product.</p> <p>MRCA is going to donate \$200.00 towards this cause.</p> <p>*Cooma Monaro Progress Association:</p> <p>Wrote to request funds for a donation to carry out an alternate feasibility study for the Bungendore to Eden train corridor.</p> <p>The study is around train usage in the area.</p> <p>Many studies have been previously undertaken in the area.</p> <p>The MRCA will provide a letter of support for the study but is not able to donate financially to this study.</p> <p>*Mowing Budget:</p> <p>Kerry received a letter from the Snowy Monaro Council to advise that they are committing to reviewing and allocating additional funding to improve the</p>	Di and Kerry

	<p>budget. This was after Kerry wrote to council to highlight the differentiation in spending on mowing across the towns in the region.</p> <p>Ivan has had a verbal agreement in place for a substantial period. He welcomed this approach to the Council.</p> <p>Thank you, Kerry, for your efforts in putting together this correspondence.</p> <p>*Romney's Resignation Letter:</p> <p>Di expressed regret at the resignation of Romney from the MRCA.</p> <p><u>Di Fett moved</u> that a letter be drafted and sent to Romney to thank her for her contribution to the association.</p> <p>Jo will draft and send this response.</p> <p>Second: Leanne Pattison</p>	
4.	<p><b><i>President's Report</i></b></p> <p>Given some community angst about recent development issues and Kerry's consequent wish to be excused from discussion of development matters, Di broke and shared some banana bread and fruit at the meeting and asked everyone to be thankful for our ability to live and meet in the community we do and to be grateful for each other, especially considering circumstances in the wider world.</p> <p>Discussion of the Michelago Masterplan was deferred to later in the meeting.</p>	Di
5.	<p><b><i>Treasurer's Report</i></b></p> <p>Total assets are: \$9,700.00.</p> <p>Some of those funds are already committed.</p> <p>\$5,000.00 is available with insurance yet to be paid.</p> <p>We received a grant to host the Australia Day event with a \$200.00 donation.</p> <p>Sponsorship and recent donations= \$1464.00.</p> <p>The MRCA is about to sign a contract for \$78,000 for the Bushfire Recovery Grant.</p> <p>This will involve the establishment of BBQ facilities, purchase of shade structures, welcome dinners and community functions.</p> <p>The Snowy Monaro Council has supported the grant documentation and re-negotiation of the payment schedule.</p> <p>Thanks to Kerry for the work put into this grant submission and the success of funds received for the community.</p> <p>Moved: Kerry Rooney</p> <p>Second: Brent Wallis</p> <p>Grant Paperwork:</p> <p>Need to have signatures for proceeding with the funding.</p> <p>Signatories to be: President- Di Fett Secretary- Jo Jackson Treasurer- Kerry Rooney</p> <p>Moved: Kerry Rooney</p> <p>Second: Brent Wallis</p> <p>Operational Account:</p>	Kerry

	<p>Two new signatories are required for this account. Di and Leanne are happy to be these new signatories.  Moved: Kerry Rooney  Second: Jo Jackson</p> <p>Romney's name also needs to be removed from the account.  Moved: Kerry Rooney  Second: Cristina Huesch</p> <p>Spring Fair Account:  Leave as is at the moment.</p> <p>Question raised about whether we need to put in a request for a grant to assist with the Spring Fair.</p> <p>Tennis Club Expenditure:  \$30,000 was spent on extensions to the club house in 2016.  \$5,000 was spent on the tennis club in 2018.</p>	
	<p>Kerry Rooney left the meeting at 6:35pm.  This was due to upcoming discussions that would be held around the Michelago Masterplan and possible points of engagement with the Snowy Monaro Council.  As Kerry is married to Councillor John Rooney, she declared that she did not want any conflict of interest shown by her for these future discussions in the meeting.</p>	
6.	<p><b>General Business</b></p> <p><i>6.3 Conflicts of Interest</i></p> <p>How do we manage conflicts of interest going forward with the MRCA?  Brent mentioned that conflicts of interest are everywhere, and that they just need to be declared and managed. Di agreed.  Di noted that she didn't think either Kerry or Romney had a conflict.  Isabelle raised the following points in relation to the MRCA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation comes from community expectations.</li> <li>• Legislation talks about perceived conflict of interest.</li> <li>• Development with Cardno and GEOCON has the potential to trouble the community going forward.</li> <li>• We cannot afford any conflict of interest or perception of it.</li> <li>• Any person in public office listed on the website should not have a conflict of interest.</li> <li>• The constitution requires updating.</li> <li>• Code of conduct should be introduced.</li> </ul> <p>Cristina advised that she is happy to work on a code of conduct. The Bredbo Hall Committee has adopted a version of the Council code.  Di raised that we always need to be appropriate, and need to be transparent within the community.  Brent advised of the need to be mindful how we treat each other.</p>	All

Isabelle stated that any email correspondence she sent was sent in a professional manner.

Gregg asked if Cristina could provide some information about a code of conduct at the next MRCA monthly meeting.

Graeme advised that he had drafted the current constitution for the MRCA. He mentioned that it is important to keep it short and that if a declaration of a conflict of interest is declared upfront that it should not be a problem.

Alan mentioned that we have a duty of care to treat each other kindly. He advised that Romney and her family have been put in a stressful and vulnerable position recently and they have been disturbed by some treatment from within the community.

#### *6.4 Spring Fair*

Brent advised where discussions at a recent meeting of the committee for the fair were up to.

With the recent resignation from the MRCA of Romney Kelly, the Event Coordinator, it was raised as to whether the markets should proceed this year. There is a 5 month timeline left in relation to when the event is planned to occur.

The next Spring Fair meeting is scheduled for the first Sunday in June: 6<sup>th</sup> June.

Gregg asked whether we move the fair to December.

Brent moved that based on several activities and works occurring in the community in the next several months, the committee cancel the Spring Fair until 2022.

Second: Leanne Pattison

Brent advised that he would speak to the current Spring Fair committee members to look at reforming it into a Xmas Markets committee and report back at the next monthly meeting of the MRCA.

#### *6.5 Election Day BBQ*

The Snowy Monaro Council is having their election on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

There will be a voting poll set up at the Michelago Public School.

Brent and Jo will work together on coordinating the bbq fundraiser, a combined effort for the RFB and MRCA.

#### *6.6 Michelago Growth Scenarios*

Di mentioned that she had circulated the draft MRCA submission on the Council Michelago Masterplan consultation to the membership. She received considerable feedback, which was overwhelmingly but not unanimously in favour of 'Scenario A' with blocks big enough to not require water or sewerage reticulation.

	<p>Di had sought an extension from Council today (Monday 17 May) to lodge the submission, but due to a small number of responses who were in favour of higher growth, had not lodged it. Di had therefore telephoned Council today (17 May) to seek a further extension, in the hope of reaching some kind of consensus. The Council Strategic Planning Officer requested instead that the MRCA submit the submission as a draft on that day, noting that it was a majority position and not a unanimous view.</p> <p>The submission included such ideas as a pony club area on the village side of the highway, and walking and bridle trails.</p> <p>A common theme has been that development outside the present village should consist of larger, self-sufficient blocks.</p> <p><u>Leanne proposed</u> that the MRCA pull back from being a facilitating party on behalf of the community for any future engagements with developers or their agents about the development plans.</p> <p>It was agreed that the MRCA's attempts to perform such a facilitating role have placed a lot of stress and extra effort on the group.</p> <p>Brent noted that we need to work as a team going forward and that unfortunately the MRCA has become the middle-man between the community and Cardno.</p> <p>The committee discussed the proposal. Cristina seconded it – accepted.</p> <p><u>Di moved</u> that, as per Council request, we submit the MRCA Masterplan tonight as a draft only, noting that while we believe it represents the views of a majority of MRCA members and of the community, there are some legitimate and strongly held alternative views that support higher growth.</p> <p>Second by: Brent Wallis</p> <p>Alan and Jenny mentioned that they had met with Cardno of their own accord and that meeting with Cardno for discussions is open to anyone in the community.</p>	
7.	<p><b><i>Any Other Business</i></b></p> <p>Leanne mentioned that membership in the MRCA is growing and that there is a feeling of support for our organisation.</p> <p>Brent advised that we need to stick to the original goals of the MRCA.</p> <p>Di thanked Brent for doing a great job chairing the difficult meeting with Cardno on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 7:35pm.</p>	All
8.	<p><b>Next Meeting Date: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021</b></p>	