



Montville Chamber of Commerce Inc.

BREAKFAST MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, 5th April 2017, 7:30am

Venue: Montville Coffee

Attendance: Karen Barnett, Peter Collins, Shiralee Cooper, Toni & Marion Cooper, Carol Elms, Lynn Fallon, Deborah Hammond, Edi Heide & Barbara Lamont, Phil & Daniel Hoffman, Linda Jones, Ruth Kuss, Karen Muir, Allan & Tina Rhode, Rafer Rodgers

Guests: Melanie-Lee Anderson (Admin.), Bev Dooley, Susan Diplock, Andrew Fairbairn, Kerry Heard

Apologies: Joy Aimee

The Meeting opened at 8:00am with Shiralee Cooper as Chair.

GUEST SPEAKER - Karen Barnett, Montville Coffee:

Karen welcomed and thanked everybody for their attendance. She then presented her business to the meeting.

'We are conscious of how our choices impact the individuals and communities we interact with. Since establishing ourselves as the first Certified Fairtrade and Organic coffee roaster in Queensland, our story of innovation and entrepreneurship has been driven by our desire for social and environmental justice.

As a social enterprise, we also have long term partnerships with local organisations such as United Synergies and Barung Landcare. We are constantly striving to reduce our own footprint. One example being the recent release of our cafe range in 100% compostable bags.

Montville Coffee's presence in the specialty coffee market and focus on social justice has allowed us to connect quality coffee with the quality of the lives of our coffee growers.' **excerpt form website, read more here: <https://montvillecoffee.com.au/>*

GUEST SPEAKER - Andrew Fairbairn, Visit Sunshine Coast:

Andrew introduced himself as the newest representative of Visit Sunshine Coast and discussed the following points:

- Tourism on Fire – Stats. National Visitor Survey 2016 (full Year) 3.4 million visitors UP 15%, \$2.1 b spend UP 16%. International Visitor Survey 2016 (full year) 291,000 visitors UP 16%, \$266m spend UP 36%
- Sub regional focus. Over the next few months VSC will be working on increased focus of the Sunshine Coast sub regions and how to be brand, position and promote these key sub regions.
- Industry developments – VSC are running 8 FREE workshops for members up until June. Visit www.visitsunshinecoast.com/member for more details
- Come to Life campaign. The 1st phase of the campaign just ended. (Feb-Mar) 2nd Phase to launch this month focusing on interstate.
- Sunshine Coast Lightning – great opportunity for the Sunshine Coast as the first official professional sporting team. National exposure. Lets #LightItUp and get behind the local team

- Trade Day – 26th April. A great opportunity to promote your local business to offer 200+ volunteers from Information Centres around SEQ. Speak to Bev/Andrew if you are looking for more details.
- Sunshine Coast Airport – 3 years to prepare the region. Massive opportunity for international visitation. VSC are passionate about working with local operators to be position themselves for the influx of high-value visitors.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

A week ago, we all held our breath as we saw Tropical Cyclone Debbie bear down on the Whitsundays. We were fortunate to have escaped major damage. Some small businesses however did incur substantial losses with the loss of power. Supporting our local businesses will help them get through this challenging time.

Our thoughts are with our northern and southern sisters and hope that the clean-up will see them back to normal in the near future.

It is important we ensure that everyone knows that Montville and the Sunshine Coast Hinterland is looking great and is open for business.

Correspondence: An email outlining our disappointment with the lack of progress with the extension to the parking provided in Russell Family Park was sent to Visit Sunshine Coast CEO, Simon Latchford. Simon phoned a number of council officers and Jenny McKay to ask for details of the proposed expansion and was reassured that it will be actioned in the near future with funding available 2017/18.

Sculpture on the Edge dates this year are 29th September to 23rd October at Spicers Tamarind. The MCOC received a request to sponsor a category as we did last year.

Shiralee requested input from the attendees about their support for sponsorship of the 'Sculpture on the Edge' prize to match last years' sponsorship of \$500. The meeting agreed for this to occur.

The Poetry Trail has received funding from Sunshine Coast Council to install artworks but are seeking sponsorship for signage. We are looking to co-sponsor with the Montville Village Association (MVA).

What's On:

- Thursday, 6th April - Geoff Shadforth Memorial Lecture, University of the Sunshine Coast
- Friday, 7th April - Sea Princess 70+ passengers
- Saturday, 8th April - Montville Market
- 8th – 15th April - Blackall Range Visual Artists (BRVA) featuring Woodies
- 23rd – 24th April - Arts and Crafts Fair, Montville Village Hall
- 15th – 20th May - Small Business Week. Andrew Powell is holding his Glassy's Business Awards with the launch on 10th April.

**Edi Heide reported on the following two topics:*

EMERGENCY RESPONSE:

Emergency response issues from the aftermath of cyclone Debbie.

The Sunshine Coast Council Emergency Response group was in contact with me on behalf of the MCOC from Tuesday onwards. The team maintained a sequence of advisory bulletins, including weather reports and cyclone/ storm tracking data.

I put the information on the Facebook (FB) page as well as printed information on the notice board by the Newsagency. (As a matter of future planning we need to develop a wider notice board base and promote a page on the FB page that can be accessed as the situation develops.)



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From Thursday morning on, a series of phone calls from the Council's Emergency Response Centre came to me at regular intervals, and I think Shiralee, checking on the state of the Village and any issues as they were developing.

Council and Energex had vehicles in town from Thursday afternoon dealing with damage as it was occurring. Friday similarly, although issues became more serious and were taking longer to fix. Contact with Emergency response group were quite frequent with regular situation reports from the Council. (This information was constantly updated on the Council Emergency web page! Again, we need to encourage residents / business owners to check this page frequently!)

Please, add this link to your websites: <http://disaster.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/>

On Friday, the lack of power was a significant issue for individuals and businesses, fortunately Council was able to organise some relief for the loss of freezer / refrigerator function by providing cold storage off site. (This issue will be addressed in our data collection process being undertaken to ensure that in any future event we can put this into practice much earlier!)

Businesses that have suffered loss as a result of the storm damage may be able to access compensation - Check the Council website for details:

<https://m.sunshinecoastdaily.com.au/news/cyclone-debbie-aftermath-disaster-funding-activate/3163066/>

We need to be better prepared for any future events! As such, the 'Emergency Response' group from MCOC and MVA is working through the issues raised more quickly and we will have a series of public meetings to involve and educate our community. That said, it is important however that individual business and / or home owners have their own plans and back up supplies in place long before the event.

Generators for emergency power have become more and more affordable and can be used to at least keep fridges / freezers operating along with a few lights. (Consideration will need to be given to exhaust fumes, re-fueling and running regularly to ensure it works when needed!)

I am currently working on two questionnaires to gather data in preparation for future events. Stay tuned!

VELOTHON UPDATE:

13th -16th July, 2017

The Velothon is coming to town!

- What can we as Montville's local community do to encourage the visitors associated with the event to come to our town?
- What do we need to do to help and encourage the riders on the day? We need to have food and drink locations in town. They may be defined by the Velothon organisation - but we also need to make them welcome. My experience with the 'Tour Downunder' showed that school groups and art organisations, as well as shop keepers, can decorate the place to show everyone that we are happy to have the Velothon coming through our village!
- Food places can make a special effort on the day to offer food with a 'cycling' theme.
- Check out : www.velothonsunshinecoast.com or on FB: /velothonsunshinecoast

More information to follow as it becomes available.

STRATEGIC PLANNING SURVEY:

The Strategic Planning Survey was circulated to our Members and the community on Monday. Shiralee asked that everybody provide their input so the Chamber is able to devise an effective Strategic Plan moving forward.

A prize of 1 years Membership is being offered to those who complete the survey by 5pm, Wednesday, 19th April.

A VILLAGE WEDDING EXPO:

Registrations are opened with some categories close to full so get in NOW for your chance to be a part of this years' Expo. Save the date – Sunday, 16th July 2017.

Register here: www.avillagewedding.com.au

Next year, there are plans in place for a combined 'Wedding Festival', joining forces with Hinterland Tourism Sunshine Coast. We are also looking for a new Wedding Expo Co-ordinator for next year, please volunteer if you feel you would like to be a part of this great community event.

STREETScape UPDATE:

Meeting being held this month. Further updates to come.

It was noted that the mulch in Russel Family Park needs moving, the Council has been requested to address this.

QUEEN'S BATON RELAY:

Nominations being called for the Queen's Baton Relay being held on 15th May, 2017.

Suggestions of Desrae and Bevan Christensen. The meeting agreed that Bevan Christensen of the Masonic Lodge would be a great candidate, especially with the Masonic Lodge celebrating their 100 year anniversary in 2018.

VISITOR'S INFORMATION CENTRE UPDATE:

Bev Dooley reported that everything is running smoothly with the V.I.C, with plans in place for an upgrade of the centre. She urged the local community to drop in and say hi to the volunteers on occasion to enable a better relationship for local business owners.

Andrew commented that both the Council and V.S.C place a high importance on the V.I.C's and would take the suggestion back that Montville's V.I.C be regarded a priority for upgrade.

BUSINESS CARD DRAW:

Karen Muir of Hinterland Times won the draw and will be granted the opportunity to present at our next meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Dog waste bags are not available anywhere in Montville. This is something to take to the Council as a request, the meeting was unanimous in forwarding this request.

Following the recent bad weather, there are areas requiring attention with green waste, including branches. Nothing urgent was noted.

Rafer asked if anything further was being done about the placement of NBN in Montville. There are members of the community who are passionately against the installation of towers. It is a difficult topic to address, and it has been reported by Cr. Jenny McKay that action is required as a matter of urgency or Montville will be overlooked.



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The meeting closed at 9:15am, and our host, Karen Barnett of Montville Coffee was thanked again with those wanting to join the Coffee Experience asked to stay.

Next General Meeting will be held at a date and venue to be advised.

Signed:.....
Shiralee Cooper, President