

BANYULE / NILLUMBIK LOCAL LEARNING & EMPLOYMENT NETWORK

Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 17th

7:15 am – 8:45am

Diamond Valley Learning Centre

1. WELCOME

- a) **Attendance:** Gerry Fogarty (Chair), Kate Rhodes (EO), Cheryle Michael, Eleanor King, Stephen Brackenridge, Stephen Smith, Julie Johnston, Lindsay Round, Jackie Doyle, Jacinta Feeley, Chris Spindler, Ian Harrop, Ian Roberts, Darrel Caulley, Pam Wheatley and Scott Walker invited guest, City of Banyule
- b) **Apologies:** Susan Lees, Marie McNeil, Stephen Fiyalko, Trevor Jenkins,
- c) **Welcome:** Gerry welcomed Scott Walker the Director City Development at the City of Banyule. Scott will be speaking about the Greensborough Project. Gerry also welcomed Pam Wheatley the Manager at the YMCA Macleod who is the new employer representative.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) **Declaration of conflict of interest - Nil**
- b) **Minutes of previous meeting – Wednesday, June 11th confirmed**

Moved: Cheryle Michael
Second: Stephen Brackenridge

3. CORRESPONDENCE

Tabled – Kate noted the response from George McLean, General Manager Youth Transitions Division accepting the Board's position regarding last year's Community VCAL program deficit. The letter accepted that this be seen as an investment in the improvement of outcomes for young people.

Moved: Cheryle Michael
Second: Stephen Brackenridge

4. BUSINESS ARISING

a) **Scott Walker - Greensborough**

Scott gave a presentation on the Greensborough Project, a Project begun five years ago around the vision of Greensborough as an activity centre with a central area or heart that offers a diverse range of things for the community from entertainment to evening activity, cultural events, etc.

Scott then showed a range of slides detailing how the area would be developed and would look like including the key elements of the aquatic and leisure centre, the town square, the Greensborough Walk to the plaza, the new retail offerings off the square and other aspects of the project planned for later including the upgrading of Flintoff Street and Main Street. This will be the only activity centre on the Hurstbridge Line. The project will start with the Aquatic Centre which is in the East Precinct.

The aim by Council is for the town square to be a public space that includes outdoor seating, a walk in café and restaurants as well as the Council office buildings which will have a range of

meeting rooms available for public use. The meeting rooms would be owned and managed by the council.

The Council is also planning an energy water efficient system and gas power generated on site to minimize water consumption and energy. For example the pool will be heated by using the hot water by product of the power. Rain water will be captured and used to fill the pool.

In terms of employment their assessment is that there will be 1262 direct and 1198 indirect employment opportunities resulting from development of the project. The project is a partnership with Lend lease and they have indicated they want to employ local sub contractors. Structural work will be starting in October with the bulk of the work starting in the New Year. The first building (the Aquatic Centre) is estimated to take about 2 years.

There was some questions regarding the sourcing of materials by Lend Lease in particular steel from overseas rather than locally and concern regarding the quality of the product sourced overseas. This also linked to the importance of employing local young people. Scott noted that these specifics had not yet been discussed with Lend lease but he assumed they would be receptive to the idea of employing local youth. It was also noted that Centrelink will be on the site though it will be a scaled down office until they are re housed in the new building.

Another issue noted was the importance of the land, even if privately owned by Lend lease, being a genuine public space. Council has secured that this will be the case in terms of the agreements of the title signed with lend lease. Young people are already currently being pushed out of public areas by the local trades who do not want them meeting there. Scott said that the town centre will be a public space for everyone to use. Cheryle noted that Youth Services will be located in the CoLab and that they will be looking at Youth Projects to run in the town centre. Lend lease as the owners will be managing things like the cleaning and the day to day operation of the space.

Pam asked who would be managing the aquatic centre, Scott noted that although there has been no formal discussion about it that the Ivanhoe Aquatic Centre runs very well and it would most likely be run the same way.

b) Board speakers

Kate informed the Board that Teresa Durka our Senior Project Officer from DEECD will be attending the August meeting and Jeldai King our representative for the LCP contract from DEEWR will attend the September meeting.

5. REPORTS

a) Finance Report

Stephen tabled the June report and the June to December 08 indicative budgets.

LLEN - In terms of spending the LLEN has spent about 50% of its budget to date so is on target and is positive for this time of the year. The Standing Committee discussed trying to find sponsorship for the School Leavers Guide to make a saving.

LCP - The LCP budget is spending around 44% of its budget to date.

Indicative budgets - The indicative June to December budgets for both the LLEN and the LCP were discussed at the Risk Management Standing Committee meeting. The tabled indicative budgets have reduced some of the spendings for both programs to allow a slightly higher surplus at the end of the year.

Moved: Lindsay Round
Second: Cheryle Michael

b) Staff report

- c) Kate highlighted the Careers Expo on July 24th and invited anyone not already attending to contact her if they were interested in setting up a stall. The Expo is a regional event and 1500 young people and their parents are expected with over 60 stalls. It is an opportunity for young people to speak to the stall holders not just take information and a series of workshops will be running during the Expo.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

a) LLEN Beyond 2008 Report

The DEECD has invited three Board members to attend the information forums on the Report. The metropolitan forum is being held August 1st from 10.30 to 12.00 at Monash Centre, The following Board members have offered to attend the forum:

- Gerry Fogarty
- Darrell Caulley
- Stephen Brackenridge

Kate spoke to three of the recommendations that needed immediate discussion by the Board, recommendations 26, 27 and 28.

Recommendation 28 indicates that the Board needs to develop a three year strategic plan before the signing of the contract on August 31st as well as a one year operational plan. The DEECD will be developing templates but none have been received. Kate tabled a list of suggested areas where the BNLEN might focus the plan and asked for feedback. There was some discussion regarding new areas that we might consider but it was felt that due to the rushed timeline that we should keep to the work already occurring though we could still initiate new projects in the future. The Strategic Directions Standing Committee will meet on July 23rd to further discuss the Strategic Plan and the Board will be meeting again on August 13th.

The other two recommendations concerned the performance appraisal of the EO and the re-advertisement of the EO position. Kate absented herself from the meeting during this discussion.

Gerry noted that if the LLEN were to advertise the EO position that it would have to be done ASAP. Chris asked when the Kate's contracted period was up and if the position had been advertised before while Kate was in the position. Cheryle noted that if the contract period was from 2006-2008, Kate's contract would end on 31st December 2008. It was also noted that Kate started in the position in 2000 and that the position had not been re-advertised and that her contract had been automatically rolled over with the LLEN funding.

Gerry noted that it would be best to look at Kate's contract and discuss at another meeting. Ian Roberts thought it would be best to follow DEECD's advice rather than go against them. Gerry suggested waiting until the August 1st meeting where they could look at the Management Tool along with Kate's contract. Cheryle suggested the board write Kate a letter and let her know what is happening in the meantime.

Chris and Julie thought the Performance Appraisal shouldn't involve the SPO as they didn't work with the EO. Ian Roberts and Julie thought it was a reasonable request but with difficult timelines. Gerry again suggested a working party meeting, Cheryle, Ian Roberts and Gerry will attend.

Meeting closed:	9:00 AM
Next meeting:	Wednesday, August 10 th 7:15 – 8:45 Diamond Valley Learning Centre