

BANYULE / NILLUMBIK LOCAL LEARNING & EMPLOYMENT NETWORK

Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 9th - 7.15 – 9.00

DVLC

a) WELCOME

- a) **Attendance:** Gerry Fogarty (Chair), Kate Rhodes (Executive Officer), Ian Harrop, Suzanne Crellin, Stephen Fiyalko, Lindsay Round, Dan Clarke, Katrina McIntyre (minute taker)
- b) **Apologies:** Jess Sayers, Greg Williams, Ian Roberts, Darrel Caulley, Diana Murphy, Sue Lees, Marie McNeil, Trevor Jenkins, Chris Spindler

b) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a) **Minutes of previous meeting – Wednesday, August 12th, 2009 confirmed**

Moved: Ian Harrop
Second: Suzanne Crellin

- b) **Declaration of conflict of interest - Nil**

c) CORRESPONDENCE

As there was very little correspondence received this month a joint correspondence will be provided at the next meeting for the months August – October.

d) BUSINESS ARISING

a) **Partnership Brokers Submission**

Kate tabled a summary of the submission process and what is expected of the LLEN and LCP during this process.

ACTIONS:

- Lodge submission, due October 31st.
- Full day Board Planning Day to replace November meeting on Wednesday, November 11th.
- Strategic Directions Standing Committee meeting to be held after the submission is lodged and before the Planning Day

b) **Youth Connections Tender**

The two councils took the lead role in developing a consortium of the organisations who have an interest in the Youth Connections program. It was agreed that all would work together and make a joint decision as to who would tender for the new Youth Connections program.

The consortium consisted of 18 people, with three organisation's putting their hand up to be the lead agency. Each was asked to do a presentation to the group so they could then decide by silent vote who would tender. NMIT was chosen to take on the funding, which totals \$8.7 million over 4 years.

NMIT seems to run a good program and also seems to be listening to all the ideas put forward by the group. NMIT has agreed that it will contract organisations from the consortium instead of looking in-house.

NMIT will also be taking on the OnTrack program as well. Hopefully this will make the program much more successful as they will have the money and staff to devote to it.

While we have agreed that NMIT will put in the tender; there may be State bodies tendering that we do not know about.

The Board agreed that the LLEN should be involved. It was also decided that when a steering committee is put together, both the LLEN and Councils will be on it.

c) Bradley Review

Deferred until next meeting.

d) Community VCAL

A briefing is being held Friday 11th. An update will be give at the next meeting.

e) Chair's Meeting

There is a meeting October 23rd, where the case studies are to be submitted.

ACTION: Kate will edit the existing Disability case study, relating to the Educate & Connect forums, to suit the meetings purpose.

e) REPORTS

a) Finance Report

As Ian was an apology at this meeting Kate spoke to the Finance reports as tabled. Kate made a note that at this stage all expenses were coming out of the LCP budget.

Moved reports: Ian Harrop

Second reports: Stephen Fiyalko

b) Staff Report

Kate discussed the Disability forums that were recently held at RMIT's Storey Hall, in the City. The focus of the two Educate & Connect forums was to inform Secondary school students with disabilities of all the help and support on offer at Universities and TAFES. This included personal and technological support.

There were five guest speakers on the day, all of which suffered from a disability and were attending either RMIT or La Trobe University.

The speakers included Michelle who is deaf and blind, Maysa who is also blind, Ainslee who is dyslexic, Ben who suffers from Aspergers, and Kate who has Chronic Fatigue.

There were also speakers from the University who spoke about the differences between school, TAFE and University, the pathways available and the expectations. As well as discussing the options and assistance available, how to apply for aide, the technologies available to assist in learning, such as AccessApps, and some steps to take when leaving school.

There was a fantastic turn out, with everyone who booked in, attending.

Stephen Fiyalko said that when the LLEN is commencing a project the Board should be 'tapped' for information, networks and resources as there are Board members who would like their company to be involved.

g) OTHER BUSINESS

a) Governance

Many of the Board members attended the Governance training. Notes from the training have been distributed.

b) Belinda Searls – Neighbourhood Renewal

Belinda is the Employment and Learning Coordinator for Neighbourhood Renewal in Heidelberg West. Recently they have moved their offices from Alamein Rd to 155 Oriel Rd, the new Community Hub.

Belinda explained that the Community Hub are now running a variety of different programs, such as the IT Hub, which is completely run by volunteers, the Homework Club, which is run by Exodus and on Thursday September 10th they will be running a Trade and Careers Day.

The new Community Kitchen, at 233 Southern Rd, will be opening soon. It aims to promote healthy eating and develop personal skills for all involved.

Funding for Neighbourhood Renewal has just been extended to 2013. The staff are now focusing on working as a team and trying to maintain a sense of stability to all clients that use the services, as previously it has been very inconsistent.

It was also suggested that we may be able to have our Christmas party at Oriel Rd, although this will be discussed closer to the date.

Meeting closed: 9.00 am

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 14th
7.15 – 8.45 – breakfast provided
Diamond Valley Learning Centre