

**RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA (QUEENSLAND BRANCH)
CALOONDRA RSL SUB BRANCH INC
MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING
SATURDAY, 19th September 2020**

HELD AT THE CALOONDRA RSL SERVICES CLUB INC. VIVA LOUNGE

OPENING: The meeting opened at 1000hrs. President Geoffrey Gardiner in the Chair.

WELCOME: The President welcomed members to the meeting and informed all of the fire exits and fire evacuation procedure.

SILENCE: In memory of fallen and departed Comrades. The President asked members to remember those who had passed away since the last meeting.

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| Jean Howard | Thomas Gardner |
| Kenneth Sparkes | Clarence O'Neill |
| Gary Taylor | Warren Proud |

ATTENDANCE: Members as per attendance sheet: 42 members, President, Treasurer, Committee members, Secretary.

APOLOGIES: Heather Christie, Andrew Boyle, Chris and Glenn Birch, Anne McMillan, Pat Horgan, Peter and Kay Weller, Jan Thorne, Phil Andrews, Ted Baldwin, Les Lambert.

"That the apologies be accepted".

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| MOVED: | Janine Evans | SECONDED: | Cathy Stamp |
| CARRIED | | | |

MINUTES:

The minutes of August, 2020 have been circulated and read.

"That the minutes of August, 2020 meeting be received as a true record".

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| MOVED: | Owen Smith | SECONDED: | Geoff Cagney |
| CARRIED | | | |

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Nil

CORRESPONDENCE:

Geoffrey Gardiner – Nothing in the correspondence that warranted discussion at this meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Geoffrey Gardiner - The newsletters that are sent out keep members up to date.

There are a number of items that need to be mentioned;

1. We are still in negotiations with the Services Club regarding rent which falls into two separate time periods, when the club had to close up to the end of September, which is the period covered by special legislation, and the period October to March 2021. These negotiations are well in place and there is a meeting at the end of the month to try for resolution.
2. The same time zones apply to the Inter Entity Loan.

3. Rent arrears from 2019.

These matters are all in hand. It is moving slowly but all are working in good faith and we hope to have it fully resolved by next meeting.

Remembrance Day - Plans are going into place for Remembrance Day. It is envisaged there will be a Wreath laying ceremony as per normal however there will not be as many wreaths. Social distancing will still need to be observed at any gathering including the gardens.

Sub Branch Lounge – This will be discussed with the Services Club in the near future. Currently the most pressing concern is to resolve the rent issue. Once this has been settled the issue of the Sub Branch Lounge will be addressed.

Cathy Stamp – CUB Victoria will be replacing the beer lines in the Sub Branch Lounge in approx. 6 weeks at no cost to the Services Club.

Geoffrey Gardiner – We understand and appreciate the Services Club had to enter into a longer-term agreement to use their products.

Tony Young – When are we going to get access to our Sub Branch so that members can enjoy the camaraderie and peace and quiet? Members are losing interest.

Geoffrey Gardiner – I am well aware of this situation. These are some of the issues to be discussed with the Services Club as to whether there are other options other than having beer on tap. We would also need a COVID 19 Management Plan for the Lounge which would most probably have to be organised/managed by the Sub Branch to monitor who goes into the Lounge and when they leave and to ensure the COVID cleaning process etc. takes place.

The priority now is the rent issue. There has been no rent paid since March with a payment due in October. Once this is resolved, we will turn our attention to the Lounge.

Cathy Stamp – In addition to the President's comments, the Services Club is open because we have a mandated State Government approved COVID health plan. This covers social distancing rules. The Lounge could have up to 100 people on a Friday night. Under the social distancing rules, you could have possibly 35-40 depending on what furniture was there as well. A system will need to be established. Who is going to make the decision on who can come in?

Geoffrey Gardiner – There will need to be discussions with the Services Club as to how we can comply with the COVID 19 requirements. This will include numbers of members, furniture placement. We are aware of members' concern and we will try and get it resolved as soon as we can. One thing to note, there has been a solid core of members who have been here since the Services Club opened and they feel they should have first option when the Lounge opens. There needs to be a discussion as to how this can be managed due to the social distancing requirements which will limit the number of people who can be in the lounge at any one time.

Tony Young – Are all negotiations with the board through solicitors or is it face to face? I am talking about communication with the Club and this flows on to the rents, all these negotiations with the solicitors, correct? Is this what is slowing down the process?

Geoffrey Gardiner – Use of the Sub Branch Lounge will be in discussion with the Services Club and will be face to face discussions. The rent issues are with the solicitors. If it is slowing down the process, maybe so but if it means we get a better result, so be it.

David Milne – how long before a decision has to be made whether this Services Club is viable? Rent arrears from 2019, it was not a COVID year, or a recession year and trading wasn't good. How long will the Services Club hang around the neck of the Sub Branch? Why is a debt showing as an asset?

Geoffrey Gardiner – Accounting practices mean a debt is seen as an asset.

I understand people have concerns about the Services Club. They are close entities, however this is not the appropriate place to discuss the Club. There is a meeting at the end of the month between the Sub Branch Committee, the Club Board and the bank.

Helen Smith – I would like to say we should leave the discussion till next month when we may have more information.

Geoffrey Gardner – Thanks Helen.

“That the Presidents report be accepted’.

MOVED: Geoffrey Gardiner

SECONDED: Helen Smith

CARRIED

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Ian Harrison – clarified why money owed to us is categorized as an asset.

Tabled the financial report.

Advised the Sub Branch will be required to commence interest repayments in October, 2020

Cathy Stamp – Closing balance, is that cash at bank or line of credit.

Ian Harrison – Cash at bank. We have no funds in line of credit.

Gary Philip – If the rent is being negotiated and there is a substantial amount of money outstanding on the books, how can we say we are solvent?

Ian Harrison – The statement is on a monthly basis.

“That the Treasurer’s Report be received and accounts passed for payment”.

MOVED: Ian Harrison

SECONDED: Ken Priest

CARRIED

RSL ACTIVITIES REPORT

WELFARE AND PENSION ACTIVITIES

Ian Harrison – At the end of October is the annual Veterans Health Week. The Sub Branch is partnering with Young Veterans for a combined event on Sunday Nov 1. Displays from organisations and business. The theme is Connectivity for Veterans.

POPPY SERVICES

Geoffrey Gardiner – there have been 4 services held since last meeting.

“That the reports be accepted”.

MOVED: Ian Harrison

SECONDED: Tony Young

CARRIED

NEW MEMBERSHIPS:

Jeff Faulkner – All memberships received have been sent to District for approval.

GENERAL BUSINESS

COVID UPDATE

Geoffrey Gardiner – COVID restrictions and obligations will be with us for a long time. We will work with the Services Club to comply.

Roger Tedmanson – Why doesn’t the Sub Branch apply for more grants?

Terry O’Connor – Most grants at the moment are closed. Those that have been issued are not applicable to the Sub Branch e.g. farming.

The Committee applied for a number of grants last year, we will apply when grants for something that we need become available.

Ian Harrison – Highlighted the grants that had been received. WW2 plaque, defibrillator for the gym, and advised \$24,000 had been received in 2019 for ANZAC Day.

Cathy Stamp – Any further word on the Bunnings BBQ? Mentioned at the last meeting.

Jan Cagney – Bunnings have advised there were no weekday BBQs. Organisations should

submit their details for the weekend positions which are being shared.

Geoffrey Gardiner – Larry Foster was looking into this. We will follow up.

Tony Young – Commented many members do not have an email address.

Ian Harrison – The notice board is in the hallway and the Sub Branch offices are open.

Geoffrey Gardiner – To comply with COVID restrictions the door to the Sub Branch is always open.

Cathy Stamp – Advised everyone the Services Club General Meeting is Saturday 3rd October, 2020.

Bill Steele - What is the latest about the land resumption?

Geoffrey Gardiner – We have had a couple of meetings with Council. Still waiting for the Council’s traffic flow projections.

NEXT MEETING: **TBA**

CLOSURE: There was no further business and the meeting closed at 0940hrs.

Certified as a true and accurate record.

Confirmed..... President / /

..... Secretary / /