

RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA

SOUTH EASTERN DISTRICT LIMITED

COUNCIL MEETING 1st October 2020

M I N U T E S

107/20 CALL TO ORDER: 6.00PM

108/20 HOUSEKEEPING: Wendy Taylor, President detailed to those present where the facilities and exits were situated at Events on Oxlade.

109/20 SILENCE TRIBUTE, VALE & ODE: The Vale for September was read by George Royes, Greenbank. One-minute silence was observed in respect of fallen and departed comrades.

110/20 WELCOME: Wendy Taylor, District President extended a welcome to the Councillors, SED Board and Visitors in attendance and those joining via Teams.

111/20 PRESENT:

a. Executive: Wendy Taylor, President; Judy Alterator, Company/Board Secretary*; Judith Munday OAM, Treasurer; John Robinson OAM, Senior Vice President; Peter Murray, Vice President; Steve Monteath, Vice President; Dr Robert Maher, Vice President*; Kerry Gallagher AM, Vice President.

b. Councillors:

BAYSIDE SOUTH	Herb Shapcott
BEAUDESERT	Jon Forbe-Smith
BEERWAH AND DISTRICT	Libby Brown
BULIMBA DISTRICT	Brian Daley OAM
CITY NEW FARM	Dr Susan Kellett
COORPAROO	Dennis Collyer
DARRA	Ted Fotek
DEFENCE SERVICE NURSES	Robyn Green
DEFENCE SERVICEWOMEN'S	Eve Radford
FOREST LAKE	Alan Greig
GLASSHOUSE COUNTRY	Peter Murray (SED Board)
GREENBANK	George Royes
HOLLAND PARK MT GRAVATT	Michael Weibler
JIMBOOMBA	Bill Malkin*
LOGAN VILLAGE	Garry Alterator OAM*
MANLY-LOTA	Peter Beauchamp
NERANG	David Barnicoat
NORMAN PARK & NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S	Mark Cash
REDLANDS	Alan Harcourt

RUSSELL ISLAND
SALISBURY
SPRINGWOOD TRI-SERVICES
STEPHENS
SUNNYBANK
TOOWONG
WYNNUM
YERONGA DUTTON PARK

Chris Christmas
Tony Stevenson
Gary Sargent
Andrew Clifford
Hugh Polson
Mike Muirhead
Allen Scott
Paul Woods

112/20 VISITORS: Alex Garlin / Salisbury RSL Sub Branch; Harry Claassen / Sunnybank; Gordon Tunstall / National Servicemen's RSL Sub Branch; Ian Gray / Redlands RSL Sub Branch; Linda Harcourt / Redlands RSL Sub Branch; Brian Laing / Bulimba RSL Sub Branch; Bob Ramsey / Bayside South RSL Sub Branch; Stephen Cook / Nerang; & Hayley Bryan / District Secretary

113/20 APOLOGIES: Ron Boldy / Macleay Island; George Churchward / Forest Lake & District; Grahame Fullerton / Tramways; Doug Egan / Greater Springfield; Peter Kinsella / Manly-Lota; Stephen Dacey / SED Board.

Moved: Salisbury
"That the Apologies be noted."

Seconded: Wynnum

CARRIED

114/20 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 3rd September Meeting

Moved: Bulimba
"That the Minutes of previous meetings date be taken as read."

Seconded: Beerwah

CARRIED

115/20 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES – NIL

116/20 ACTION ITEMS – Completed

1. Delay on the order for standard RSL and Life Member ties, prices yet to be confirmed and Sub Branches will be advised when available
2. With Stephen Dacey on leave there is a vacancy for an SED representative to liaise with the Carina Men's Shed, EOI to the District Secretary. Contact Bob Ikin if you would like him to speak at your Sub Branch on the services available
3. Two walk-in cold rooms are for sale from Logan & District, please contact Scott Mackie or Steve Monteath if your Sub Branch is interested
4. Query on the OSR vote – results were 100% so RSLQLD remains exempt from the relevant tax charges
5. Consent for Technology was successful and the State Congress AGM will proceed in the 5 locations via audio visual link up
6. District President has raised the issue of the incorrect date for Public Holiday re ANZAC Day and it's with legal at RSLQLD to follow up

117/20 CORRESPONDENCE – Inwards and Outwards

1. Funding for Veteran's Health week closes 02/10/2020
2. Notification from Palmwoods RSL Sub Branch of the move to the Sunshine Coast & Regional District. District President acknowledged that Palmwoods, one of the founding Sub Branches has had a change in Executive and have sort the request to leave SED and move to SCRD.
3. New phone number for DVA
4. Sub Branch newsletters are being added to the SED website
5. RSL QLD are collecting information regarding the Hospital Packs and will be making the provision of these a more permanent/ongoing supply
6. Legislation Pack for the National Commissioner for Defence and Veteran Suicide
7. Follow up information from Open Arms presentation
8. Sub Branch Discovery sessions are underway with the Membership & Network team
9. Media requests for a news article on Peacekeepers – SED members feature online
10. Reminder to register for the State Congress by phoning the District Secretary
11. Remembrance Day fundraising guidelines
12. Sub Branches successfully opted in for the RSL QLD Public Liability insurance
13. Notice of Nomination for State Deputy President

Moved: John Robinson OAM
"That the Correspondence be accepted"

Seconded: Defence Servicewomen
CARRIED

118/20 BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE – NIL

- 119/20 TREASURER'S REPORT – Since the report was printed SED has received a water rebate and rent of the flat of over \$6000 total, working account \$138,176.62. Also mentioned last month, the \$11,000 from BCC to offset the loss of income from offering rent relief. Question from Beerwah regarding the consulting fee of \$3000 for Matthew Rowe and the regeneration of Greenslopes Wellbeing Centre. Investments with Stonehouse from 1 July – 1 October made \$10,763.10. Total portfolio amount \$524,193.68. SED still have funds available in the Charitable Objects Fund for welfare – funeral costs, personal alarms, dental programs, hearing aids etc. District Secretary to send out application form & guidelines.

SED SOLVENCY STATEMENT

"That in the Management Committee's opinion, the Returned and Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) South Eastern District Ltd is solvent and there are reasonable grounds to believe that it will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable".

Moved: Judith Munday OAM
"That the Treasurer's report be accepted."

Seconded: Darra
CARRIED

120/20 NOTICE OF MOTION 1# - Returned and Servicemen's Badge

(a) Motion: RSL Queensland approach Queensland Government and request that they amend the Returned Servicemen's Badges Act 1956 to include current serving members of the Defence Force.

Rationale: That the Queensland Government amend the Returned Servicemen's Badges Act 1956 which stipulates that "2(A) Before by regulation declaring that this Act applies to any association, body, or organisation of persons, the Governor in Council shall be satisfied that such association, body, or organisation is bona fide comprised of discharged service personnel" With the Queensland Government amendment of the Act this will allow serving members of the ADF to join the league.

Submitted by SED Vice President, Dr Robert Maher

Comments/Discussion: Tony Ferris had confirmed prior to the meeting that the RSLQLD Constitution states that current & ex-serving members can join the league. It was qualified that The Act doesn't distinguish ADF, only "Defence Force" as RSL membership also includes members of Allied Defence Forces.

Questions were raised around rescinding the Act, however, without the Act there is no authorisation to enforce the membership requirements. It was mentioned that this matter can be directed to the Attorney General without going to State directly from SED. Previous attempts to raise this with State have not been successful. District President (DP) reworded the Motion: South Eastern District Ltd approach Queensland Government and request that they amend the Returned Servicemen's Badges Act 1956 to include current serving members of the Defence Force.

Moved: City/New Farm

Seconded: Toowong

Carried but opposed by Beerwah who stated that it needs to go through the chain of command as SED is governed by the State Constitution and that we can't go straight to a Government Department. DP raised the point that SED is a Company Limited and Beerwah retracted comments. Comments made disagreeing with the process of going directly to the Government Department and not through RSL State & National levels first. Suggestion to take advice from RSLQLD Legal department. DP will report at the next SED Council meeting following receiving advice from RSLQLD Legal team.

Query regarding the Motion being amended and not approved. DP asked City/New Farm & Toowong to rescind the Motion that was carried and both City/New Farm & Toowong agreed to rescind the amended Notice of Motion.

120/20 NOTICE OF MOTION 2# - Local Government Traffic Management Costs

(b) Motion: RSL Queensland approach the Queensland Government and request that they approach State Government with a view to advising local government authorities that they should be responsible for traffic management that is required by sub branches on commemorative days.

Rationale – Community and commemoration activities provided by Sub Branches should not be required to pay any traffic management fees. Such charges are

inappropriate and that the local community through the local government entity should bear such traffic management charges. Submitted by SED Vice President, Dr Robert Maher

Comments/Discussion: Disparity in the costs that local government charge across SED Sub Branch members. DP amended the Motion:

(b) Motion: RSL Queensland approach the Queensland Government and request that they advise local government authorities that they should be responsible for traffic management costs that is required by sub branches on commemorative days.

The Notice of Motion will be discussed at Sub Branches ahead of voting at the next SED Council meeting on November 5th, 2020.

Moved: Darra

Seconded: Kilcoy

"That the Notice of Motion be accepted" **CARRIED**

121/20 MOTION OF NOTICE – Delays to DVA claims processing

The Members of the South Eastern District (SED) of RSL Queensland (Qld) propose a motion that RSL National act to represent veterans by:

- a. Stridently and publicly lobbying the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) to meet its stated Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for processing veterans' claims and continue to stridently and publicly lobby DVA until those KPIs are met; and
- b. Communicating these actions and the outcomes to RSL membership via metropolitan and regional news and social media.

Moved: City/New Farm

Seconded: Manly/Lota

"That the Motion be accepted."

CARRIED

122/20 REPORTS

- a. **SED Welfare** – Report as tabled by Steve Monteath
- b. **SED Wellbeing Hub – Logan** – Report as tabled by Steve Monteath. Quotes and assessments being done on repairs
- c. **Carina Men's Shed** – Bob Ikin is available to give information talks at Sub Branches. Vacancy for an SED liaison person at the Men's Shed
- d. **Greenslopes Wellbeing Centre** – Update by Kerry Gallagher AM. Greenslopes Private Hospital has agreed in principle to the future plans for the centre & the SED Board has approved the proposal, plan & budget for year 1. RSLQLD has also been approached for funding and support for year 1 at the centre. Previous advocates have been asked to reapply. Current cases are being assessed and managed by Matthew Rowe. Future staffing will be a combination of RSLQLD staff and SED Best Grant funded volunteers holding current qualifications. A flyer will be provided.
- e. **District Advocate** - The ATDP website has a search function to locate wellbeing and compensation services. Peacekeepers, civil police and nurses who served are covered under the DVA Act and are entitled to apply for assistance
- f. **Sub Branch Reports** – Bayside South, Beaudesert, Beerwah, Defence Service Nurses, Forest Lake, Greenbank, Kilcoy, Redlands & Toowong. Increased contact & enquiries to Beerwah since new signage and the building opening.

- g. **Sub Branch Newsletter** – Bayside South, Beaunesert, Forest Lake & District, Manly Lota, Redlands & Toowong
- h. **Membership** – Reports from MMS. SED will pass on thanks to RSLQLD for the recent membership drive.

Moved: Nerang
"That the Reports be accepted"

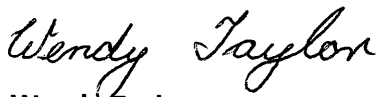
Seconded: Toowong
CARRIED

123/20 **GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. **Commemoration Services** – Commemoration Days are as listed on the new sign outside the SED entrance, SED has permission to perform a commemoration service at the Cenotaph at ANZAC Square where there is not already a service being performed. If your Sub Branch would like to participate contact the District Secretary – details of the service expectations and access to the Cenotaph to be arranged prior with Bob Maher
2. **Veteran's Health Week** – SED has received funding and have booked Merthyr Bowls Club on Thursday November 5th from 3-5pm, limit of 40 pax for bowls so book with the District Secretary. Following bowls, a BBQ will be held behind the Limbless Soldiers building and then the Council meeting at 6pm.
3. **December Council meeting** – Christmas drinks and nibbles provided on Thursday December 3rd, the meeting will start at 5.30pm with food and drinks to follow and the meeting will most likely be held at Events on Oxlade.
4. **SED Office Xmas closure** – the SED office will be closed for 2 weeks over the Xmas/New Year period from 4pm Friday December 18th and will reopen on Monday January 4th.
5. **2020 A Year to Remember** – Sunnybank RSL Sub Branch has requested RSVP's from attendees so that a COVID registration list can be compiled. There will be a 30 piece band on stage, guest of honour Air Vice Marshall Hugh Bartholomew.
6. **Remembrance Day service guidelines** – Government restrictions and recommendations apply when holding services. Guidelines to be circulated by District Secretary.
7. **Direct Email Communication** – query on if social communication from SED can be sent direct to all SED members.

124/20 **NEXT MEETING** – Thursday, 5th November 2020 at 6pm (online & face to face).

125/20 **CLOSURE** – There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00 PM


Wendy Taylor
President


Judy Alterator
Company/Board Secretary