



Minutes

2007 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.00pm Monday 30th June 2008

Maori Chief Hotel

Corner York and Moray Streets, South Melbourne

1. Apologies

Keith Boxer, Mike Shaw, Paula Tomsett, Hartley Higgins, Peter Doyle, Roger Davis.

2. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read.

Moved R. Anderson
Seconded B. Blackman

3. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer reported a surplus for the year of \$3,608 with a carried forward bank balance of \$6,504. Fees received for the year were \$5,700 and expenses were \$2,097.

Moved B Blackburn
Seconded P. Stott

4. President's report

- The President reported that the interest in lodges has waned in recent times. The attendances at these meetings are not so numerous and clubs are finding it difficult as costs increase and bureaucratic hurdles are set higher.
- We are experiencing difficulty with the current Alpine Resort Management Board in its management of leases and other issues
- We are hoping that with the collapse of MFS and the property marketing charade that the powers that be re-focus on the original principles of the mountain and the importance of the lodges.
- We are hoping from our members a renewal in commitment and a rebirth of families. The Lodge movement founded skiing at Mount Hotham and is still here today. MFS left us with nothing with which to move forward.

Moved P Sandow
Seconded R Anderson

5. Committee Report by Secretary on key issues and projects

The Secretary outlined the work done on the following projects.

VSA/ARC Leases.

The Minister has the power every 6 Years to increase site rentals by up to 30%. This cannot be done without extensive stake-holder discussion. In November 2007 the Buller Board unilaterally increased the site rental without the required consultation and a direction by the Minister. The Alpine Resorts Working Group under VSA was re-formed to redress this shortfall. Three members of Committee, Peter Doyle Murray Neilson and Rob Anderson are members of this Committee.

Personal representations were made to the Minister, Submissions made from the HSA and discussions held with our RMB.

We are awaiting the results of our various submissions.

This process has given us the opportunity to highlight the plight of lodges and accommodation houses due to site rental costs. These costs apply to all site rental regimes and the minister has been told that we would actively pursue a reduction.

Alpine Governance.

The HSA put in a submission to the State Services Authority for our reasons to change the Governance structure. We have been very critical of the Board due to its lack of representation and accountability. Where you have a user pay requirement, and the users are easily identified, basic democratic principles require user representation and accountability to the users. Land management issues (leases) have been atrociously handled by the DSE and MHARMB to date and a change is needed.

We simply cannot afford the costs imposed upon us by the current system as they will kill our industry quicker than climate change ever will. This point was highlighted personally to the minister.

Discussion on all of these points was vigorous and protracted.

6. Election of Office Bearers

The following nominated for election and were duly elected unopposed.

- P Sandow President
- P Doyle Vice President
- Brian Vowles Treasurer
- B Blackman Finance
- P Stott General Committee and Events
- R Anderson General Committee Acting Secretary
- M Nielson General Committee

Hotham Ski Association Inc.

web site : <http://www.hsa.asn.au>

e-mail: secretary@hsa.asn.au

"Representing the interests of the Mt Hotham community."

7. General Business

- Comments were made regarding leases and the difficulty in obtaining leases. Several years ago when the lease policy was adopted, Shepparton Lodge had no difficulty in obtaining a satisfactory lease, but recent experience has proved otherwise.
- It is hoped that as commercial operations wane that the contribution of lodges will come to the forefront and that the MHARMB will communicate
- Members were asked to support their association by introducing new blood to the committee as it is noted that most committee members have served for many years and are deserving of retirement.
- A key feature lacking with the present HSA is a regular newsletter and updated website. Communication was recognized as a necessity and calls have been made for volunteer(s) to join the committee.

The formal part of the meeting was closed.

8. Presentation

- A presentation by Murray Neilson of the B'rush Ski Club followed outlining that Club's First with a Geo-Thermal project in Alpine Regions.
- B'rush successfully completed their lodge heating programme which overcame many unknowns and problems with being "the first".
- Those interested in further information and updates on this energy saving innovation should contact Murray Neilson who is a member of the HSA executive committee.

The President thanked Murray for his presentation, The committee for their hard work and support, and most importantly the members who showed up at this AGM for their interest views and support.

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