



Minutes: VTA Meeting #02 2009

Wednesday, 29th April 2pm, La Vela

▲ = Action

▲ = Motion

Present: Doug McNally, Baker Hardin, Janine Le Strange, Kurt Carlson, Emma Shepherdson, Lucy Fa'anunu, Gordon Allison

Apologies: 'Eveli Lavaki, Selu Faukofuka

1. Minutes

- Minutes from Executive Committee meeting #01 accepted, Emma to email out to members.



- **Proposed:** Kurt, **Seconded:** Gordon

2. Treasurer's Report

- Baker reported that VTA has a total of 26 members and a current bank balance of \$13,164

3. Matters Arising:

- Tourism Tonga Association

- Baker has completed the application form and will hand into Paul Stone for Associate Membership of TT

- Waste Management Ltd

- Still need to reply to Waste Management Ltd from outstanding correspondence



- Taskforce established for the response. Emma and Gordon were nominated as taskforce.

- VTA Moorings and Dive Companies

Vava'u Tourist Association
Email: vtavavau@yahoo.com
Ph: 70115 (TVB)
www.vavau.to/vta

- ▲ - Quotes have been received from Dive Vava'u and Riki Tiki Tours
- Taskforce will consider the quotes and recommend a dive company to the committee at next meeting.
- VTA Leaflet
- Lucy has translated a leaflet on VTA into Tongan – what is VTA and what are the benefits of joining, which she read out to the committee
- The leaflet will be used as promotional material to get more individual operators involved in VTA
- ▲ - Lucy will finalise the leaflet and Baker will help with layout and printing
- Gordon suggested we could develop other promotional materials, such as a sticker or sign to give to members to place in their taxi window or business window to identify VTA members.
- ▲ - Gordon will design and look into cost of production
- Fisheries Draft
- The draft was circulated to all committee members last week.
- The committee voted on whether VTA should respond, or whether to leave the responses to other specialised groups (Fishing club, Whale Watcher's Association etc)
- **Vote:** 1 for developing a response; 5 against
- IFAW Inventory
- Janine has requested the inventory from IFAW but has had no response as yet
- VTA will need to have a clear inventory before we can discuss the proposal further
- Allan Bowe (Whale Watcher's Association) has requested that VTA set up a bank account for HRH Whale Education Fund with Allan (WWA), Janine (VTA) and Bruno (TVB) as signatories

4. Correspondence

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- TCC Yellow Pages
- Emma has drafted a letter to TCC raising VTA's concern that Vava'u businesses were not approached for advertising in the Yellow Pages 2009.
- This letter was circulated last week and approved at the meeting
- Emma will send out this week



- Marina
- Emma will draft a letter to the Minister of Transport (Marine & Ports) to get an update on the current situation of the small boats marina area.
- VTA committee members are concerned over the uses of that area in regards to its impact on tourism as the busy season approaches. Concerns included rubbish, the temporary waterfront bar and use of public services.



5. Strategy

- The committee began to discuss the VTA strategy and the need to develop a mission statement and action plan of how to get there. The strategy will be presented for discussion at an upcoming General Meeting
- Committee decided a more focussed approach was required and to hold a workshop specifically for the strategy's development on Wednesday next week, which will be run by Kurt.
- In the meantime, committee members are asked to think about achievable actions/goals for the VTA and raise at the workshop

6. General Meeting

- Once a strategy is developed, a date for a General Meeting will be set.

7. Other Matters



- Emma will draft a letter of thanks to the staff of Langafonua, TVB and Labour & Commerce who have continued to help VTA when setting up meetings and usage of chairs etc.

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Next meeting: Strategy and Mission Statement Workshop, Wednesday 6th May, 2pm, La Vela.

Meeting Closed: 3.30pm
