

VICTORIAN HOMING ASSOCIATION INC.

Minutes of the VHA delegates meeting held at Notting Hill on the 3rd of April 2023.

The President Andrew Spiliopoulos declared the meeting open at 7.06pm.

ROLL CALL

CLUB	PRESENT	MEMBERS	DELEGATES
Diamond Valley	Yes	12	3
Frankston	Yes	9	2
Greensborough	No	0	0
Heidelberg	Yes	11	2
Ivanhoe	Yes	8	2
Knox	Yes	6	1
Malvern	Yes	9	2
Metropolitan	Yes	7	1
Mornington	Yes	4	1
Northcote	Yes	5	1
North East	Yes	4	1
Notting Hill	Yes	5	1
Oakleigh-Waverley	Yes	8	2
Pathfinder	Yes	8	2
Plenty	Yes	10	2
South East	Yes	8	2
United	Yes	8	2
TOTAL		122	27

Apologies Alan Marcon, Gerry Sheean and Jim Cerin.

Matters arising from the previous minutes. None. Moved Neville Stone seconded Paul Bryant minutes be accepted. Carried.

REPORTS

Clock Chairman - Alan Marcon advised nothing to report.

Ring Secretary - Hank Merbis. Six strays reported all squeakers owners notified.

Treasurers Report - Steve Brown on behalf of Gerry Sheean. Account balances:- Cheque Account \$22,783.10 V2 Plus Account \$55.07 ANZ Online Saver \$105,096.49

Clubs who currently owe money mainly for ring sales:- Frankston \$1,700, Greensborough \$600, Malvern \$400, Metropolitan \$1420, Oakleigh \$652.10, Pathfinder \$1115.80. Total of \$5887.90 owed to the VHA.

With regard to our new tenant, he has surrendered a bond of \$11,962.50 which Gerry will hold in trust for the moment. The new rental is at an increased rate of \$3987.50 less agent's fees of 4%. The full amount of rent being received is \$43,500 per annum plus GST. Gerry notes that we have not received an electricity bill for some time due to the previous tenant installing solar panels. He

suggests we look into this and get an agreement ongoing with the new tenant as to who controls the account. Gerry also advised that all has been settled with the previous tenant.

VRPB – Andrew Demidowski. The next meeting of the VRPB will be on the 30th of April at the VHA headquarters Notting Hill. Information from the meeting will be in the upcoming Pigeon Journal.

Transport Officer – Andrew Spiliopoulos. Trailer registration needs to be paid next month. Transportation quotes to be supplied by next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Knox club update of membership adding T & M Maslowski and Colin Walker (life member).

United list of office bearers.

Traralgon Racing Pigeon Club requesting to transport with the VHA from 300 mile stage onwards.

This will not include the Cobar National race and the Bourke combine release is to be advised.

Delegates have indicated that this is acceptable but will vote on the request after it has been discussed with the clubs.

VHA Treasurer has advised that Notting Hill centre members have not been charged for utilities since 2019. Gerry also queried delegates decision making re Diamond Valley request for building Insurance re-imburement at last meeting. He believes the decision was out of order as delegates could not have been instructed to vote on the issue.

Department of Justice supplying the liquor permit for the Notting Hill rooms.

Several letters from Charles Hider, Colin Walker and Ivanhoe club regarding the issues with the Darebin Council.

Andrew Demidowski report on VHA sections.

Western Pigeon Federation advising that Yarraville Racing Pigeon club have generously offered to pay for transport to the Cobar National race.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Andrew Demidowski reported to the meeting on his investigation into the VHA sections. He has concluded that there is no easy solution with the south sections gaining nothing by changing and the north sections as previously stated not wishing to change. The only change could occur in the central area but this would require the effected clubs to get involved and make their own determination. A full report was provided to the VHA secretary.

Members are advised that we have an agent managing our rental property. The company is Aston Commercial of Chapel Street South Yarra. For details of rental etc. please refer to Treasurers report. The agent in charge is Veronica Hsu who is the Commercial Property Manager.

Alterations to the entry fees for the Cobar National race and the Bourke Combine race need to be addressed as both races are now being transported by others. Recommendation to clubs is Cobar \$5.00 and Bourke \$3.50. Alteration to our schedule to accommodate the Bourke combine was put forward.

The Darebin Council issue was discussed with Eddie Sheean and Charles Hider both addressing the delegates. Eddie gave a background to the issues with both flyers being the subject of complaints from neighbours. Members to take note that they must comply with our code of practice for the

flying and housing of their pigeons to reduce complaints from neighbours which have to be acted on by Councils. Charles then addressed the meeting with regard to the legal processes that must be followed for a council to enforce the removal of pigeons. Charles also advised of long user provisions in the act. He summarised by saying that we should be alert to the current issues but not alarmed. We will work our way through the processes as the need arises.

Eddie Sheean also queried if funding was being sourced from other feds and associations to support any legal fight going forward. He also thanked Charles Hider for his work on behalf of the VHA and all the members. We also thank Colin Walker for his ongoing contribution to this issue.

Kevin Clark requested quotes for local transport and race transport to be supplied by next meeting. Andrew has advised that they will.

P. Piligos - Malvern and F. DePasquale – Metropolitan voted in as new members.

Jeff Weaver raised the possibility of cutting the top two tiers off the transport units to make them more stable and easier to manoeuvre.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm