



Minutes: VTA Meeting #05 2009

Tuesday, 2nd June 2pm, La Vela

▲ = Action

▲ = Motion

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

Apologies: Bruno Toke

1. Minutes

- Minutes from Executive Committee meeting #04 accepted, Emma to email out to members.



- **Proposed:** Baker, **Seconded:** Kurt

2. Treasurer's Report

- Baker reported that VTA has a total of 31 members and a current bank balance of \$6,177.87. \$50 was received at meeting for Airport Brochure Stand.
- Airport Brochure Stand has been filled, still waiting for payment from 2 spots
- 1 expenditure to approve - \$16.00 to TVB for photocopying and administration



- **Proposed** to approve expenses: Baker, **Seconded:** Doug

3. Matters Arising:

- VTA Moorings
- Kurt has spoken to Riki regarding when work will be undertaken. Riki has confirmed next weather window, he will do the inspection
- Riki will then provide a report on moorings locations, maintenance required and his suggestions for where to best place other Moorings/VTA moorings currently on land.

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- Kurt and Baker have met with Martin at the Moorings to discuss VTA/Moorings moorings. Martin will get us an inventory of what they have and also give us some information on the Moorings company's maintenance program to assist us.



- Baker will develop a list of criteria for deciding where the moorings will best go

- VTA Leaflet and Certificate

- Lucy has completed the leaflet on VTA in Tongan, Bruno will check wording.
- Lucy will then get Janine to sign the letters and begin distribution, along with Selu and Gordon.

- Baker will continue to work on the design for the certificate so they can be distributed at the General Meeting.

- Comments were made on the certificate, it was agreed to omit a slogan.



- Certificates should cost around \$4 each, Baker to bring a more detailed budget for approval next week

4. Correspondence

- Digicel sponsorship of Airport Brochure Stand

- Janine has spoken to Lole who confirmed Digicel will cover the cost of renting the Airport Brochure Stand at Vava'u Airport. Specific advertisement for Digicel will likely be a logo in the bottom righthand corner. Stand will still say "VTA"

- Customer Service Training

- Emma read out correspondence received from Chad Michels regarding Customer Service Training.
- There are some concerns that this activity does not focus on our purpose statement for VTA, and hence should be an activity run by Chad but we can help facilitate it for the benefit of our members.



- Emma will discuss training further with Chad then email members

5. Other Matters

- Tourism Industry HIV Awareness Campaign

- Emma reported that TVB has developed a proposal for a HIV Awareness Campaign for tourism industry employees after they were approached by Tonga Family Health Association.
- Dependent on funding, this campaign will take place October – December 2009 and will be in the format of a management/operator training workshop, followed by 3 half-day workshops for industry staff. TVB would hope to work with VTA and tourism operators on this important campaign.

- Environmental NGO Starting Up

- Emma reported that she attended an initial workshop last week to begin an NGO focussing on environmental conservation in Vava'u. The meeting, organised by Saskia (PCV) and Puke from Vava'u Youth Congress had a broad range of participants from volunteers, Government representatives, teachers and business operators.
- The group discussed conservation concerns in Vava'u (namely waste management, harbour pollution and reef protection) and also past successes and failures from previous environmental groups in Vava'u.
- Another meeting will be held early July, and they will look to invite a broader range of interested parties.

- General Meeting

- General Meeting will be held **Saturday 13th June, 2 pm at La Vela**



- **Proposed:** Baker, **Seconded:** Kurt

- Tentative Agenda items include:

- o Minutes
- o Treasurer's Report
- o VTA Moorings
- o VTA Tongan Leaflet and Members Certificates

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- Digicel Sponsorship and Airport Brochure Stand
- Constitution
- Strategy

▲ - Emma to work up agenda, email to committee and out to members on Friday.

- Strategy

- Kurt will present strategy work done so far – namely the purpose statement of VTA to check if we are going in the right direction

▲ - Emma to email workshop notes to Kurt and committee members.

6. Other Matters Arising

- Domestic Airlines and Galileo

- Gordon read out some correspondence he received from his son, working in Flight Centre in Australia. He stated that booking domestic flights in Tonga was made difficult as it was not a member of 'Galileo', an international booking system that links all airlines to all travel agents worldwide. A credit card must be used to purchase tickets, which means travel agents would prefer to sell a different holiday.

- VTA will write a letter to Chathams asking if there is a reason for not being a part of Galileo.

▲ - Emma to draft letter and distribute.

Next meeting: Tuesday 9th June, 2pm, La Vela.

Meeting Closed: 3.15pm

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