



AGM MEETING December 15th 2020

Location - COCOA BAR Newport

Time: 8am – 9am

Members present - Patty Pang, Noni Crawford, Brook Tsekeris, Karen Bond, Owen Heywood, Sophie Wilson

INTRODUCTION FROM THE PRESIDENT – Noni Crawford (President)

Noni outlined what the chamber has been doing for the last 12 months:

Numerous council meetings on how to enliven Newport's retail and business concerns,
Raising funds for events and initiatives,
Blocking off Robinson road as a part of the shared spaces grant through council,

Bert Payne – Fresh Produce Markets – now permanent
Council have created a link for feedback through their website:
<https://newportfreshproducemarkettrial.questionpro.com.au/>

Last May – Newport Chamber created a promotional Video to promote the suburb, creating content for social media on business in the suburb.
It was suggested that this is boosted via social media leading up to Christmas, all agreed.

Numerous ZOOM Meetings with council, on how to get people into Newport

Small business month – Business NSW, we received a grant of \$2000, we hosted events on Financial planning and Accounting, as well as one on Social Media and engaged a local photographer to offer discounted rates for local business to up their social media game.

Splice Boutique are putting on late-night shopping event (Wednesday 16th December)
Leah from splice is driving the event.
Noni will email all members the details of the event, as well as share the event through the Chamber's social media.

RUN DOWN OF THE CHAMBER'S FINANCIALS – Karen Bond (Treasurer)

Profit and Loss and Balance Sheets will be provided for the financial year 2019/20

Cash on hand is \$16,400

The COVID promotion of \$50 membership fees will start rolling through in the next few months to boost current balance.



PITTWATER BUSINESS ALLIANCE DISCUSSION

Avalon Business Chamber, has been forced to fold, they have put their organisation on hold for 6 months, they will be joining Mona Vale Chamber of Commerce irrespective of what Newport does.

The three-way merger between Newport, Mona Vale and Avalon was put to all Newport Chamber of Commerce members, resulting in 15 members responding to the survey. The majority of members who responded (86.7%) agreed to the merger.

Also, Noni has discussed with council, an alliance, where we have additional associations with Council and added financial and resource benefits to each community.

The survey highlighted the following pros and cons:

PROS:

- Open collaboration between the three chambers, members and council
- Benefits the greater good of the area
- Strength through numbers
- Increased enthusiasm
- Better networking opportunities

CONS:

- Losing individual suburb identity
- Losing Newport's voice as a smaller player in the area

To ensure we don't lose our voice, Business NSW have suggested a steering committee for the alliance, 2 people from each suburb.

The steering committee will consist of:

- Chris and Crystal from the Mona Vale Chamber of Commerce,
- Vanessa and Libby from the Avalon and Palm Beach Business Chamber, and
- Noni and Brooke from the Newport Chamber of Commerce

Discussions will be held within the steering committee on how to overcome the negatives. There will be an event calendar outlined for all three suburbs, so as to not have competing dates and events in the area.

Council were approached regarding the business structure's set up fees, which would have been around \$2000 per chamber (\$6000 collectively), Council decided to cover the fees for each chamber to facilitate the merger and entity set up.



ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE POSITIONS

All positions declared vacant for voting on new executive positions, or submissions

No changes to the current executive, all present voted in favour, no challengers.

All previous positions are filled with prior executives

Noni Crawford – President

Karen Bond – Treasurer

Brooke Tskeris – Public Officer

Owen Heywood - Secretary

All this information, along with a copy of the AGM Minutes and Financial statements need to be submitted to the NSW Department of Fair Trading before the 14th of January.

Brooke Tskeris *Owen Heywood*