

PEZ Annual General Meeting minutes



Date 16th August 2010
 Time 6pm
 Location Christie Walk Community Room
 Attendees Eric Nicholson, Rachel van der Linden, Sophia MacRae & Derek, Cecile Storrie, Rohan Cleeves, Jeremy Miller, Pam Gurner-Hall

Apologies Ben de Jonge, Aaron Nielsen, Andrew Tidswell, and Gillian Hunter (ongoing)

Chair: Eric Nicholson Minutes: Rachel van der Linden

No#	Discussion	Action
1	<p>Finances and membership \$843.95 in total account (mostly in an investment account – collecting interest at 5.25% pa, \$1 in cash management account).</p> <p>Some interest has accrued (\$25.07 last financial year and \$3.73 so far this financial year).</p> <p>Withholding tax has also been taken off (\$11.67 last financial year and \$1.73 so far this financial year).</p> <p>Expenses: \$76.30 was reimbursed to Eric Nicholson for the purchase of butcher's paper; for use in workshops and other PEZ activities.</p> <p>Memberships & other income: Foundation members – 12 (\$50 each) - \$600 Ordinary members – 4 (\$25 each) - \$100 Social members – 5 (\$10 each) - \$50 Movie night entry fees – 5 (\$10 each) - \$50 Donations - \$104.85 (including \$1 from Ben to open account)</p> <p>Renewal of membership needs to be addressed for 2010/11 financial year – how do we offer/request renewals, and what is our offer for members? Some changes to the constitution needed?</p>	<p>Ben to check on why the account is being taxed</p> <p>Membership payments/renewals to be discussed at next general meeting</p>
2	<p>Events from previous 12 months: Meetings – initially monthly, now every 2nd (even) month</p> <p>Workshops – PD for teachers, introduction to permaculture (x2)</p> <p>Group visits to Old Adelaide Gaol and to Urrbrae TAFE campus</p> <p>Movie screenings – “In Transition” and “Guerrilla Gardening” (x2)</p> <p>Eric facilitated a discussion about Permaculture Research Initiatives for Sustainability-Minded Students (PRISMS) at the 2010 Australian Students of Sustainability (SOS) Conference.</p> <p>Future plan – even without having site, we can use the south parklands community garden (Walyo Yerta) as a working site for workshops/education sessions. The Fern Avenue community garden has also offered its site for PEZ programs and events.</p>	<p>Sophia interested in following up on professional development/workshop content for</p>

	<p>Also consider ongoing staff training – e.g. professional development for education staff. Sophia to attend Australasian Permaculture Convergence (APC10) topics on this theme. Need to consider providing ‘unit of study’ which provides staff with qualifications/credits for further study – e.g. towards permaculture diploma.</p> <p>Botanic Gardens (BG) – kitchen garden is progressing – PEZ can offer to be available to assist with programs and tours should demand exceed BG staffing options.</p> <p>Urrbrae design – no further developments re design course. Students are currently in an implementation phase for project, therefore final design/model and report yet to be completed.</p>	<p>education staff – however not until mid-2011</p> <p>Pam to notify Eric/PEZ group re when designs are due to be assessed/judged</p>
3	<p>City Farm at Urrbrae TAFE garden design students currently designing site space, may be option to build on re developing City Farm concept, based at Urrbrae.</p> <p>This idea has potential to move forward, as the school has some funding and the charter is to continue improving on horticultural and agricultural education in the state. Site was gifted by Waite family for specific use, and ‘sustainable’ concepts could be supported.</p> <p>Pam is talking to directors/presenting ideas re sustainable centre project, to be based on Urrbrae site – some interest re looking into these ideas and developing knowledge re language/concepts of permaculture.</p>	
4	<p>Gaol site/DEH Continuing to send letters to key people. Eric looking to delegate this role – need consistent ‘spokesperson’ to take on this role, particularly to be available to meet with key people. Eric may be available again in 2011 (post PhD and Adelaide City Council elections).</p>	<p>Those interested in temporarily taking over spokesperson duties for PEZ to contact Eric ASAP</p>
5	<p>Permaculture at Adelaide Uni Has been ‘stamped’ and waiting for feed-in link to develop stream – looking towards Department of Permaculture (Pam, David Jones (Adel Uni), Graham and Annemarie). It is likely to be offered as a postgraduate degree, such as a Masters in Philosophy in Permaculture – looking to provide consistency/quality control for “PDC” training.</p> <p>Questions being asked re keeping ‘ground up’ movement and/or offering as option for philosophical teaching – can it be both? Who provides training – practical vs. theoretical knowledge and experience.</p> <p>Permaculture can inform other disciplines e.g. horticulture, agriculture, landscape architecture and many other depts.</p> <p>Pam looking at option of auspicing training courses, towards options for funding/assistance from government, which could lead towards options to access HECS, etc.</p>	
6	<p>Talk by Guest Speaker Pam Gurner-Hall Pam is a long-time permaculturalist and educator. She lectures in</p>	

	<p>horticulture and garden design at the Urrbrae TAFE.</p> <p>Pam gave an informal talk with much discussion amongst the group during and after the talk, particularly focussing on permaculture education at the tertiary level and the accessibility of such education.</p> <p>Some concerns were raised over the possibility of permaculturalists qualified at a higher academic level getting employment in permaculture ahead of less qualified (on paper) individuals, and the ethics behind a more top-down approach to organising permaculture education as opposed to the much more bottom-up PDC orientated approach.</p> <p>Pam made some good points about the fact that tertiary permaculture education was more about informing past knowledge, for example a trained architect now being able to apply permaculture ethics and principles to his/her profession.</p> <p>Many thanks to Pam for coming along to share her knowledge and best wishes in her ongoing attempts to bring permaculture into mainstream thinking, so that it is no longer seen as just a fringe ideology, but is truly common sense.</p>	
7	<p>Next meeting: 18 October, 2010 at Christie Walk's community room, from 6-8 pm (last official meeting of the year).</p> <p>There will be a Xmas dinner in December (date & venue TBC).</p>	