



**MINUTES OF MEETING
TERRIGAL WAMBERAL RSL SUB-BRANCH
HELD AT THE BREAKERS COUNTRY CLUB
SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2020**

1. OPEN MEETING:

- 1.1. The meeting was opened by the President at 10:30am and recited the Ode of Remembrance.

2. ATTENDANCE:

- 2.1. There were 27 members present with 5 apologies.

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- 3.1. The Secretary emailed copies of the minutes of meeting of 11 July 2020 and made hard copies available to members before today's meeting. There were no questions or issues raised.

Motion 21/20: The Minutes as presented be accepted.

Moved: Michael Tabone **Seconded:** David Ferry **Motion Carried**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- 4.1. The following were matters arising from last month's meeting.
- a. **RSL NSW Strategic Plan 2020-2025.** The Plan continues to be developed although no information is yet available on funding of the proposal.
 - b. **Hunter Valley Bus Trip.** Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful with our Grant Application to DVA. The trip is now going ahead as a self-drive event on 23-24 September 2020. All members were canvassed for attendance via email.
 - c. **Sponsorship.** There has been little progress of this initiative.
 - d. **Wamberal Hall.** We are still waiting for a decision on our Application for a State Government Grant.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1. Register of Correspondence was made available to members present and emailed out. There being no questions, the Secretary asked that the Register of Correspondence be accepted.

Motion 22/20: The Register of Correspondence as presented be accepted.

Moved: Michael Tabone **Seconded:** Howie Fortis **Motion Carried**

6. TREASURER REPORT

- 6.1. The Treasurer presented his report for the month ending August 2020. Report attached. There were no questions on the report.

Motion 23/20: The Treasurer's Report as presented be accepted, accounts in the Report be passed for payment.

Moved: Doug Lindsay

Seconded: George Craven

Motion Carried

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- 7.1. **Sub Branch Meetings.** COVID-19 restrictions dictate how we conduct our meetings. It is unlikely that the rules will change before Christmas and the way we operate today will be the model for future meetings. We continue to liaise with Breakers about procedural changes.
- 7.2. **50 Year Membership Certificates.** We acknowledge and congratulate two of our members who have reached the 50-year RSL membership milestone. I have invited RSL NSW President (Ray James) and RSL CEO (Jon Back) to present George and John with their certificates at our sub-Branch office on 12 October. There may be a limited opportunity after this for Committee members to question Ray and Jon about the Strategic Plan. I'm waiting on State Branch to confirm.
 - a. George Craven joined in 1970
 - b. John Peninton joined in 1968
- 7.3. **RSL NSW Board Elections** (For President and 7 Directors). The 2020 Election is seeking nominations for seven member elected Directors and President. The elected President also serves as a director, bringing the total of member elected positions on the Board to eight. Key dates are:
 - a. Candidates Confirmed: 7 September
 - b. Member Voting opens: 5 October
 - c. Postal Votes by: 10 November
 - d. Online Member Voting closes: 24 November
 - e. New Board appointed: 7 December at AGM/State Congress
 - f. Members eligible to vote can do so online via a secure voting portal or cast their vote using the ballot papers circulated in the October issue of Reveille.
- 7.4. **Membership Fees.** The RSL NSW Board has received advice from the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) about fee subsidisation and asked the CEO to return with recommendations at the next meeting. The Board also directed the CEO to prepare information on next year's fee schedule for next Congress.
- 7.5. **State Congress** (7 December). Will be conducted on-line.

Motion 24/20: The President Report as presented be accepted.

Moved: Terry Saxby

Seconded: Jim Burke

Motion Carried

8. OTHER REPORTS:

- 8.1. **Pensions.** Bill Forsbey advised that he had numerous enquiries for assistance including from veterans serving in UAE and PNG. Other matters included:
 - a. On 17 August he attended an Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) Hearing on Specialty Rates with the new Commissioner. The matter was recessed pending written submissions from the respondent.
 - b. Following his approach to the Secretary of DVA, he was able to quickly resolve an unexplained reduction in the pension of a veteran.
 - c. He was dealing with several Veterans Review Board cases.

- d. He is aware that one of the veterans he is assisting has expressed an interest in becoming a Wellbeing Advocate and becoming a member of the RSL.
- e. Following a question on the adequacy of DVA funded hearing aids, Bill advised the only way to obtain a higher standard of aid is with clinical justification from an ENT Specialist.

Motion 25/20: The Pensions Officer's Report as presented be accepted,

Moved: Bill Forsbey **Seconded:** Bruce Grant Motion Carried

- 8.2. **Welfare.** John Wilton advised the meeting that he was undergoing training as a Wellbeing Advocate. He suggested that any member requiring assistance should not hesitate to contact him. John also advised that he had been in contact with several members.

Motion 26/20: The Welfare Officer's Report as presented be accepted,

Moved: John Wilton **Seconded:** Greg Kirley Motion Carried

- 8.3. **Central Coast District Council (CCDC).** Peter White reported that the CCDC had several issues that need to be addressed, including:
- a. Acting to obtain resources to enable it carryout its role of providing guidance and direction to Central Coast sub Branches. Peter addressed this matter with the Council at its last meeting but didn't get a reaction.
 - b. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer positions are still vacant.
 - c. Seeking more information from RSL NSW on funding of the Strategic Plan.
 - d. Seeking guidance from RSL NSW on the conduct of commemoration of Remembrance Day.

Motion 27/20: The CCDC Report as presented be accepted,

Moved: Peter White **Seconded:** Roger Wrightson Motion Carried

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

- 9.1. **Sub Branch Newsletter.** The President advised that last month's Newsletter was a first attempt to get format and content right. It is intended to publish one on a quarterly basis. He sought input and feedback from the membership by way of content or design. At present articles are centre on acknowledging the service our WWII veterans.
- 9.2. **Membership Cards.** Cards have been received and awaiting pick up from the Office.
- 9.3. **Events Calendar.**
- a. **Hunter Valley Excursion.** Has been downscaled to a self-drive overnight excursion on 23/24 September 2020.
 - b. **Veteran's Health Week** (Thursday 29 October). The Secretary advised that we have successfully obtained a grant of \$720 to sponsor this year's Veteran's Health Week event (24 October to 1 November with the theme of Social Connection). We propose to hold our annual event of a Bike Ride/Walk followed by a BBQ on 29 October 2020 at Saltwater Creek Park, Long Jetty, commencing at 10:00am.
 - c. **Remembrance Day Commemoration.** We are still unsure what COVID

restriction may apply at the time. As a minimum it is proposed to conduct a wreath laying service at both Terrigal and Breakers Memorials.

- d. **Christmas Party.** The date selected by the Committee is 15 December 2020. The format will be determined closer to the date depending on COVID restrictions that apply at the time.

Next Meeting: The next Monthly Meeting will be held on 10 October 2020.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.05am.

Michael Tabone
Secretary

Terry Saxby
President

Attachment: 1. Treasurer's Report for June 2020