



Organisation  
Sunshine  
Coast  
Association of  
Residents

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## Minutes - Executive Meeting

Thursday, 2.00 pm, 15 April 2020,

Via ZOOM.

**1 Meeting Commenced:** 2.10 pm

**2 Attendance:** Melva Hobson (President), Charles Toms (Treasurer), Debbie Day (Secretary), Kris Bullen and Gillian Hall (Membership Officer).

**3 Business as per Agenda Items:**

**3.1 COVID 19 and OSCAR Response:** Discussion resolved that members be asked how OSCAR can support them during the current crisis by addressing in the next Member Update.

**3.2 Administrative Issues:**

**3.2 (a) Membership:** Resolved to look at OSCAR principles and review the current online membership application

**3.2 (b) Finance:** The possibility of charging a nominal membership fee for associate members was discussed. Charles and Debbie to investigate allocating different classes of membership, dependent on individual's expertise, willingness to assist, reason for joining, etc.

**3.3 Dealing with the new council:**

**3.3 (a) Getting to the new CEO:** Resolved to wait until process of appointment undertaken.

**3.3 (b) Message that it is NOT 'business as usual':** Discussed that OSCAR needs to give the new Council an opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to their election mantra.

**3.3 (c) Holding councillors to account:** The candidate election questionnaire analysis is the reference point for monitoring individual Councillor and Mayor's actions. Where councillors did not complete a questionnaire, analysis of their election website (where they had one) will be undertaken to identify any information that would inform OSCAR re their stance on OSCAR issues.

**3.3 (d) Working in different environment:** the impact of COVID-19 on SCRC and the community will be a challenge for all levels of government. OSCAR will observe the impact on SCRC.

**3.3 (e) 50% of population did not support the Mayor:** OSCAR to prepare a table of winning margins for Mayor and Divisional Councillors – the successful candidate's first preference % or total votes received, , would put some perspective to their success.

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### **3.4 Election analysis and evaluation, including recommendations:**

Discussion occurred around the need and process for OSCAR to evaluate aspects of the 2020 LG election in which it was involved or had reports about. Executive members were divided in their support of such a process with no clear recommendation. Comments made were that it was not OSCAR's responsibility and as the Premier had raised issues about ECQ's running of the election, the Government might run an inquiry. Investigate tertiary interest in election research was also raised. Topics and processes for investigation suggested, include for example:

#### **3.4 (a) Aspects related to OSCAR activities**

- Forums OSCAR initiated and ran – what worked well, what didn't and recommendations for future elections
- Questionnaire – process of development, posting, responses, comments from responders, potential future use, analysis and recommendations for the October State Election
- Public messaging – OSCAR message (transparency, planning amendments and development), did it cut through, did it resonate with voters and candidates. Do we know how many people were reached?
- Media – print, radio, electronic-FB & web-reach, impact and quality.

#### **3.4 (b) Issues associated with the conduct of the election by the ECQ**

It was suggested that the following areas/issues could be researched:

- Candidates' perspective
- Candidate team's perspective
- OSCAR members and including the general public
- Optional preferential voting
- Perceived impact of COVID-19

### **3.5 Future strategic issues and OSCAR approaches to them:**

The key OSCAR issues identified for the election and ongoing included:

**3.5 (a) Transparency – admin and financial:** Resolved that Deb provide suggestions on how the figures pertaining to the large projects are reported so as all interested parties can easily understand them.

#### **3.5 (b) New Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme**

#### **3.5 (c) Local Government Reform (ongoing)**

**3.5 (d) Climate Change:** Discussion on 3.5(b), 3.5(c) and 3.5(d) proposed member working groups for each category be established to address the issues. Also suggested that USC be approached to either work with our groups or independently.

### **4 Meeting date and location for next OSCAR General Meeting.**

It was suggested that a General Meeting be held on 28<sup>th</sup> May via ZOOM. Members to be asked their thoughts on this.

### **5 Close of meeting 5.15 pm.**

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