
WHALE HERITAGE STEERING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday 7th June 2023 Time: 10:30am Venue: Zoom

Item	
1	<p>Members Present: Olivia Brodhurst, Crystal Lacy, Lindsay Simpson, Nicole Rosser, Emily Monacella, Deb Duggan, Lyn Boyce, Beth Sutherland, Gary Warrener</p> <p>Apologies: Tony Fontes, Agnes Boyd, Roxanne</p> <hr/> <p>Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners: Olivia</p> <hr/> <p>Acceptance of previous minutes and previous actions: Minutes accepted</p> <hr/> <p>Membership Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Membership is increasing with lots of new faces in the group
2	<p>Actions from last meeting:</p> <p>WoW video – Crystal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- There are 2 versions of the video – shorter approx. 8 minutes, longer approx. 15 minutes.- Master Reef Guides have contributed, around 15 with all doing a piece to camera- Clay has been involved with the shorter version which has been fantastic- Flow Motion Media are working on the longer version and should be ready to go my the 16th June event.- Crystal sent link to shorter video to group (trouble streaming)- Liv – fantastic and exciting that everyone is coming together and volunteering their time for the project.- Disclaimer for video is ready for footage. <p>Put a call out to operators via social media to get photos / media for events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Liv to do, still underway. <p>Disclaimer wording to compliment whale footage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Completed by Liv / Crystal / Fiona <p>One page on website with QR code</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Roxy is developing this with input from Liv & Crystal.

Call out to operators for the pre-whale season event and do an agenda / run sheet after meeting with GBRMPA reps

- Completed – Crystal

Send information and invite to hydrophone training to industry.

- Completed - Crystal

Approach TW re crisis communications plan in the event of an incident and for attendance at WoW meetings.

- Requested (see minutes, TW attended meeting)

Non – agenda item

- Reminder from Liv that there is a share folder for everyone to share their whale footage, remember to name with your company/name.

3

Tourism Whitsundays crisis plan information

- Cait Fleming joined meeting to discuss TW's role in crisis management
- TW don't write specific marine incident management plans as their focus is tourism related and this should be directed to the relevant governing bodies to respond to.
- TW will not make comments regarding any whale incident.
- Crystal – maybe TW can provide a narrative for industry regarding what they can say. Cait stated that is not TW's function but if that is what the steering committee are after then she may be able to point us in the right direction.
- Cait suggested it would be best to talk to GBRMPA regarding this.

4

Happy Whale & EOTR update

- Meeting happening tonight 7th June, more information on Citizen Science and stats to be covered then.

5

Events update

Pre-whale season info night 7th June

- Deb to bring merch and t-shirts for steering committee members

Welcome Whale event

- There will be 3 traditional dances – welcome, crocodile dance and kangaroo dance. (Aiming to have a whale dance for next year).
- Once dances completed then look to the crowd to participate
- Uncle Harold has an art piece to raffle off, will do either on the night or sell tickets for it to be drawn at Reef Festival.
- Clay – Leigh from the art group at Reef Festival will be talking to the committee today regarding holding a stall from around 4pm to get families involved and doing some whale art.
- Suggest some signage up for the night.
- Thanks to all who attended the meeting on site on Sunday night.
- Hayley from council will bring a marquee etc and there will be food trucks on site.
- If everyone could help promote the night on their socials that would be great.
- Liv placed a paid Facebook add promoting the night.
- Deb will have merch for the night.

Hydrophone training

- Information has been sent out to operators. There will be a small cost to cover fuel for the day, with option to pay for food. Around \$35 - \$60 (with or without catering)
- Viper from Iconic Whitsunday Adventures will be the vessel.
- TW did a post regarding this.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liv talked briefly on the required specs for hydrophones – is outlined in the email sent out previously - Nicole has previously made a hydrophone using a go-pro which worked really well.
6	<p>Comms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WoW page now sitting at around 430 members, encourage everyone to share the page - One pager needs to get out and push that, with QR code stickers to be developed. - Local news -we have been in a couple of articles. - Lindsay – working on stories, suggested talking to Fiona or Mark and getting a more scientific information about the population and management. - Liv to follow up with channel 7 to cover local event and Susan at Verve to champion the coverage. - Crystal – will e-introduce Lindsay to Janelle the comms manager at GBRMPA
7	<p>Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No news is good news! Waiting for word from DES and Qantas. - Moving forward now we have succinct events it should be easier to apply for funding, rather than one large grant. - A number of larger businesses have community funding programs that we need to get on the radar of. - Council have provided in kind and cash contribution, NQBP and Arc.
8	<p>General business</p> <p>Recording of sightings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beth – talked about information being told to bare-boaters. Easy enough to have a 1 page sheet to record sightings and encourage guests to download the app in their confirmation email. - Emily talked about the 1 page log with information about whales on the other side printed on waterproof paper for Red Cat boats as an idea.
9	<p>Actions Arising from the Meeting:</p> <p>Liv – put a call out to operators via social media to get photo's / media for event</p> <p>Lindsay / Fiona – wording to compliment whale footage</p> <p>Crystal – call out to operators for the pre-whale season event and do an agenda / run sheet after meeting with GBRMPA reps.</p> <p>Crystal – send information and invite for hydrophone training to industry.</p>
10	<p>Meeting Closed at 11.30 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting 19th July.