

Australasian Bluegrass & Old Time Music Association Inc.

DATE: 22 August 2013	TIME: 8:00-9.45pm	LOCATION: Teleconference – Australia
ATTENDANCE:	(WM) Will Manovel – Chair, (LD) Lachlan Davidson – Deputy Chair, (GM) Gregory McGrath – Secretary, (BW) Blair Webb – Treasurer, (GB) Geoff Bridgeland, (HL) Helen Ludellen,	
APOLOGIES:	(RB) Rebecca Bradbury	
PROTOCOLS:	Minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 rd July 2013 were confirmed.	

1. Feedback on Beechworth (Kelly Country Pick) & Redlands Bluegrass Festival

HL:

- Good feedback on RMIT sound students and funding - \$100 each for weekend+accommodation+Mark Woods+Jack Jensen is the deal at KCP
- Current available PA's – Evan Webb 1, Bruce Packard 1, Angus Golding 1, Geoff 1, need 1 more? HL chasing these up.

WM:

- Lots of flyers given out at Redlands, good support, not much knowledge of MountainGrass in Qld; Redlands Bluegrass Boys coming; Redlands Country Music Club very supportive and will pass out more flyers in next few months

2. Marketing

WM:

- Local Alpine Shire marketing by RB, Emma Hinchliffe and Melanie Tekin acknowledged. More needs to be done with local radios and more flyers for distribution/email. Lindsay Clapperton and Pete Denahy also given flyers by WM for local distribution. WM has emailed flyer to Emma and Melanie for Alpine Shire printing and distribution and local tourist websites.
- Jenine Abarbanel (Pipi Pickers) and John O'Donnell (The O'Donnells Band) have volunteered to use their substantial IT skills to give on-line marketing a kickstart and expand local/regional efforts, to a national/international focus, coordinating with GM and helping build the website. Thank you Jenine and John.
- Interest from Rhonda Vincent (spoke directly to David Aumann) noted.
- GM confirmed email list currently at 590 – slowly increasing. Thank you.

ACTION:

1. WM to email Flyer to Rod & Judy Jones, so they can email it out and put it in their newsletter
2. WM to get further 500 A4 Flyers printed and sent directly to Lachlan Davidson for distribution
3. GM to do a press release and email to ABOTMA mail list the flyer and a week later the press release, as well as put it on ABOTMA News site, MountainGrass News site, and email to LD and to John O'Donnell
4. LD to put press release in Facebook and Twitter
5. HL to contact Lucky Oceans and Border Mail re radio interviews, promotion of MountainGrass, brief blurb for print newspapers
6. LD to contact Chris Jacobs and Jan Dale about the same in Bendigo area – radio, TV, print newspapers, and on Jan Dale's weekly bluegrass radio show on PBS.
7. HL to coordinate with Angela fixing errors in the Flyer, and then emailing it out to all the bands, to distribute to their email lists.

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8. WM to ask Angela to do a brief ABOTMA info flyer, to send to John Werner.

3. Festival Program

- Agreed it was now time to get the provisional program out to assist ticket sales and operations planning by HL. Can still be amended later if necessary.
- Agreed that for this first year, we would not charge instrument makers for stalls, as long as they bought a festival ticket. For review in future years.

ACTION:

1. GB to get finalised provisional program to GM for PROMINENT display on MountainGrass website by next week, and to the rest of Exec Committee to email it out.
2. GM to email provisional Festival Program to 590 folk on ABOTMA email list, with friendly request to buy memberships and festival tickets asap to support funding the rebirth of the festival.
3. LD to get photos of Ian Fisks website, and also put them on Facebook once a week or so, to maintain and increase interest, feeds, vibe,....ticket sales
4. With program published, WM will now be able to send out contracts to Harrieville Pubs requesting payment of agreed contract funds in advance for deposit in bank account. WM also to ask re room bookings for Casbak, Snowline, Harrieville HM to see if filled – so additional 'in-kind' sponsorship moneys can be requested to be paid.

4. Festival Operations

HL has been waiting on discussions/feedback from KCP. Now ready to put together an Operations Plan.

ACTION:

1. HL to email out to ABOTMA-Exec a written Operations Plan by next week. Exec to be delegated jobs to give effect to the plan and assist HL.
2. HL to obtain Folk Alliance Insurance and coordinate for payment with BW
3. WM and HL can appoint 'security staff' if required from volunteers, later on eg, venue managers (dual role)
4. Number, type, and rent charged for food stalls – discuss at next meeting, and then book them in – coordinate with Christo Corscadden and Emma Hinchliffe for local community preferred providers.
5. HL to inform instrument makers of no charge this year.
6. HL to request instrument for raffle from John Copley or other maker John's generosity and attempts to donate cash noted.
7. WM to contact Angela re T-Shirt designs, and give to 'Tex' to print on-site, as not big money earner, but very popular. Same designs for Caps to be given by HL to ?Laurie Grundy or other?

5. Update on Sponsorships & Funds held in ABOTMA account

WM still pursuing Alpine Shire for promised \$5000 sponsorship, in order to pay for Don Rigby's flights.

ACTION:

1. WM to email current tax invoice pro-formas to BW, so he can invoice the Alpine Shire

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2. WM to pursue Emma and Michael Whelan re Rural Development Victoria co-grant and John Tait re separate Regional Arts Victoria grant of \$3000.
3. WM to contact Gary Brown re donation or seed loan funder, and Bruce Packard.
4. Any ABOTMA-EXEC member willing to partly underwrite the Festival is to contact WM privately, to formalize this in an accountable manner. A sincere 'thank you' for such generosity.

6. Other business

1. Abolish daypass sales on-line – only season passes on-line, can buy day passes on the day. GM to attend to amending website accordingly.
2. LD to organize Oakleigh RSL and The Basement for tour dates for Don Rigsby and let DR know, so he can book the right flights ie. arrive in Sydney or Melbourne. WM to offer DR to pay flights asap.
3. Ian Fisk has given permission for his photos to be used from his website for publicity purposes for MountainGrass 2013. Look after him in future years, when funded.
4. WM to ascertain with Terry Contini whether other USA performers are in fact going to come out.

The next meeting of the Association's Executive shall be on a Tue night in late September 2013 at 8:00pm AEST. WM to advise.

END OF MEETING MINUTES

I declare these minutes an accurate record of the matters discussed at this meeting, attended by me, and which may be confirmed at the next interim steering committee meeting.



22/8/2013

Will Manovel
President
Interim Steering Committee
Australasian Bluegrass & Old Time Music Association (Inc.)