

**MINUTES OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SKI LODGES  
ASSOCIATION OF PERISHER, SMIGGINS AND GUTHEGA (SLOPES) HELD ON 17  
NOVEMBER 2011 AT CROWS NEST.**

**THE MEETING COMMENCED AT 7.35PM**

**PRESENT:**

President – Frank Zipfinger (Mirrabooka);  
Committee – Bill Coombes (Hus-ski), Roger Glover (Karrilika), Andrew Cutler (Kandahar),  
Don Gowing (Muniong), Gerald Lynch (Kalymaro), John Illy (CSIRO), David Read (Aurora),  
Noni de Carvalho (Turnak)

**Member Clubs and their representatives:-**

Thirroul/Maranatha (Tom Hazell, Kevin Masters, Mavis Williams, Ian Eddy, Bruce Norton);  
Hus-ski (Bill Hargreaves, Ian Ward);  
Tate (John Pinkerton);  
Cowra (Charles Jarrett);  
Brindabella Tiobunga and Kyilla (Bryan Collis);  
Mawabu (Wendy Bellamy, Megan Cincinnato);  
Australian (Philip Forsyth);  
Beachcombers (L. Davis);  
Snow Revellers (Frank Walker);  
Perisher Huette (L. Smith);  
Illawong (Andrew Perry);  
ACT Police Jagungal (Ross Walker);  
Fellowship Moerlina (Mike O'Sullivan, Winton Kurrle);  
City Tattersalls Boonoonna and Chez Jean (Carl Melvey, Mark Cooper);  
Ku-ring-gai (Philip Woodman);  
Kosciusko Alpine Club Alpenhof (Dianne Cree, Guy Jones);  
Southern Alps (Rob Pole);  
Karrilika (Cliff Braig);  
Oldina (Ian Muncaster);  
Gunyah (Neil Couper);  
Technology (Malcolm Thomas, Ross Swan);  
Wildspitze (David Beverley, Geoff Bangel);  
Yalara (Richard Harper);  
Kiandra Pioneer (Maurice Carter);  
Fjellheim (Belinda Hansen);  
Waratah (Nicky Cooney);  
Redwood (David Shaw, John Barter);  
Warrugang (Peter Funnell);  
Langlauf (Tim Alexander);  
Shortland Alpine Club Mulubinda (Bob Towers);  
Turnak (Roger Lucas);  
Dianella (Nigel Stoke);  
Parrawa (Tim Hawcroft);  
Snow Country (Gavin Boyd);  
Lampada (Simon Gates);

**APOLOGIES:**

Paul Schott – Committee Member (Clancy Alpine Ski Club), South Perisher Lodge (Sean Lee, Andrew Hill).

## **GUESTS:**

Andrew Harrigan – Manager Visitor and Business Services, KNP.

Andrew Logan – Manager Municipal Services Unit, KNP.

Marko Kovac – Property Manager, KNP.

Peter Brulisauer – General Manager, Perisher Pty Ltd

Daniel James – Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Jindabyne Office.

Belinda Shore – Smiggins Hotel and Perisher Range Chamber of Commerce.

David DiSanti – Perisher Musical Society

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Frank Zipfinger opened the meeting welcoming member club representatives and the guests to the meeting. He indicated the guests would address the meeting after the formalities of the AGM were completed.

He welcomed Tom Hazell from Maranatha and Philip Woodman from Ku-ring-gai and Perisher Historical Society who will also address the meeting.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 19<sup>TH</sup> AGM ON 24 NOVEMBER 2010**

The Minutes of the AGM were distributed to Members prior to the meeting and copies were also provided at the meeting. There were no questions arising from the Minutes.

**Roger Glover proposed, Andrew Cutler seconded – the Minutes were adopted and confirmed.**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2011**

Copies of the full President's Report prepared by Frank Zipfinger were distributed to those present. A copy of the President's Report was circulated to all members following the Meeting on 20 November 2011.

Frank chose to highlight the key matters from the Report rather than read it in full. The key points highlighted were:-

1. 100% of Club Lodges are members of SLOPES. Frank noted the importance of maintaining the membership so that SLOPES can maintain its position and be effective in its role of representing the interests all Club lodges in the Perisher Range resorts.
2. Encouragement to members to consider nominating for the Committee. Frank noted that while the current Committee is likely to carry over as there were no other nominations he expected that openings for Committee membership will arise in the near future.
3. The success of the Back to Perisher Week (BTPW) last Easter thanking David Read for his work. Noted that the numbers are going up each year with the increasing success of the Fun Run and the Duck Race. Frank urged Clubs to promote the occasion with their members as a part holiday and part work party stay at the lodges. Next year it is hoped to have the chemical clean-up during Easter and BTPW. (Copies of the Events Timetable for BTPW 6th to 9th April 2012 were provided to those present)

4. The new SLOPES website address ([www.slopes.org.au](http://www.slopes.org.au)) was announced although it was noted that it is still being worked on. Members were requested to provide feedback on the content of the website. The website contains material encouraging the sport of skiing and will, when fully set up, provide an information source for members.
5. The welcome initiative of the new options for ski lift ticketing introduced by Perisher Pty Ltd. These encourage the sport of skiing with the option of making it more affordable.
6. Advised that since All Class Insurance addressed the meeting last year another 10 Clubs have taken up Directors and Officers Insurance bringing the total to 34 out of 87 clubs. The importance of having this type of insurance for the Club officers/directors in their roles as managers of the clubs was noted. Advised the meeting that if another 6 clubs take up the insurance SLOPES can start to negotiate better rates for everyone's benefit.
7. The construction of the Waste Transfer Station has commenced and will continue over summer. The new garbage collection system introduced this year in Perisher had a few teething problems and SLOPES was able to provide feedback to NPWS as soon as it heard of issues which enabled the problems to be resolved during the season.
8. Confirmed that the financial position of SLOPES is strong which is why the fees were not raised this year. Noted that the solid financial base is necessary so SLOPES can be prepared for any issue that may arise for the Club Lodges requiring consultant's advice or similar. Advised that some matters are on the horizon such as an IPART review and review of valuations.
9. PRREMS had 100% of SLOPES member club lodges completing their returns this year for the first time. Congratulations to all.
10. Reminded members that the 5 year grace period since the signing of the new leases is fast approaching after which rentals will be determined as the higher of base rent or percentage of turnover. SLOPES will be working with NPWS to pull together all the issues during the change over.

There were no questions arising from the Presidents Report.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT 2011**

The Financial Statement and Auditor's Report were circulated to members before the meeting and copies were available at the Meeting. Copies are attached to these Minutes. There were no questions from members concerning the Financial Statement and Auditor's Report.

**The Financial Statement was adopted. Moved David Read (Aurora) and Seconded Roger Glover (Karrilika).**

**The Auditor's report was adopted. Moved Gerald Lynch (Kalymaro) and Seconded Roger Glover (Karrilika).**

**Stirling International were nominated and adopted as SLOPES auditors for 2012. Moved Roger Glover (Karrilika) and Seconded Noni de Carvalho (Turnak)**

## ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

There being no other nominations the current Committee was elected for another 12 months.

**Moved Frank Walker (Snowy Revellers), seconded Bill Hargreaves (Hus-ski) and carried.**

**THE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SLOPES CLOSED AT 7.55PM.**

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**Following the completion of the formal business the Guest Speakers addressed the Meeting.**

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### Andrew Harrigan – Manager Visitor and Business Services KNP

Andrew provided the following comments to the meeting:

- Great to see the Clubs engaged in the BTPW and the Music Festival
- BTPW is a fantastic initiative of SLOPES
- SLOPES provided valuable feedback during the introduction of the new garbage collection service in Perisher this season.
- Outlined the latest on the proposed Village Centre for Perisher which has been progressing slowly. Perisher Pty Ltd is about to lodge the development application for the first stage of the village with Department of Planning. Some of the commercial matters are still being resolved.

### Andrew Logan – Manager Municipal Services Unit KNP

- Acknowledged the efforts and co-operation of Hans Oversnow with the introduction of the new garbage collection system. A lot has been learnt and some new vehicle purchases are planned. The budget cost of the service was \$170,000 and the actual cost was under budget at \$107,000.
- Andrew encouraged all lodges to move to install a waste storage facility at the lodges whenever renovations occur. He has discussed with Department of Planning the provision of guidelines for the design of a waste holding facility which if built in accordance with the guidelines will not require any further approval. When the guidelines are prepared it is planned to distribute them to the lodges through SLOPES. The aim is also to reduce the amount of waste and reduce the number of over-snow vehicles having to transport waste.
- The Waste Transfer Station located behind the Fire Station commenced construction early November and will be completed by May 2012. A Stakeholder Committee has been formed that meets every 2 months to discuss any problems or issues concerning the Waste Transfer Station. These discussions also include operational matters for the future when the facility is in use. During this summer bulk bins will be provided in the car park until the Waste Transfer Station opens after which garbage must be taken to the transfer station during the summer. During winter the wheelie bins will be emptied by the contractor as was introduced this year and taken to the transfer station. It is proposed to supply clear plastic bags for recyclables next winter that will also be collected by the contractor.

- Andrew advised that the Geotechnical Management Plan that was required by the KNP plan of Management has been completed over a number of years. No major issues were found but 6 lodges have been contacted as works are to be carried out in their vicinity that mostly involves improvements to drainage to reduce potential risk. The lodges are mainly in Guthega and include Guthega, Tiobunga, Kyilla and Tate Ski Clubs.
- Andrew noted that a “Geoguide” is to be adopted annually as an operational requirement of all lodges in accordance with the Plan of Management. The guide deals with managing the risk of landslide or boulder fall on lodges and pedestrians. A risk assessment of any work will be required where it is considered necessary.
- Andrew noted that this year there were two (2) instances in July and October of fuel tanks/boiler room failures that allowed oil to escape into the sewage system. Quick action avoided serious damage to the system but as a result an audit is to be undertaken of fuel tanks and boiler rooms. Requests to access lodges to inspect, check floor wastes, bunding, check how tanks/boiler rooms are drained and look at whether there are alternative means of capturing spills to avoid potential contamination of the sewage system will happen in the future.
- Reticulation of gas to the Perisher Range resorts is still being negotiated with Elgas. It is still a priority for Parks staff but it will depend on the capital allocation by Elgas for the installation of the bulk tanks. The pipes have already been laid as part of the road works. Andrew encouraged the lodges to continue to work to try and make it happen.

Peter Brulisauer – General Manager, Perisher Pty Ltd

- The “My Ride” ticketing system that was introduced this year provides more flexibility. The company has learnt a lot from monitoring skier movements and skiing patterns across the area. The desire to provide more flexibility recognises the difficulties of competition from overseas with the high \$A.
- The “Freedom Pass” was available for special purchase in September to encourage early purchase and use of Perisher. The special rate for the season pass was \$699 with payment of a deposit of \$199 and the balance of \$500 due in May 2012. Perisher is happy with the take-up result and in the coming months will offer other short term specials, for example, 12 hour specials. The main issue is to watch the Perisher website – [www.Perisher.com.au](http://www.Perisher.com.au) for offers that will come up. These ideas aim to keep Perisher competitive and still good value. Several at the meeting confirmed the Freedom Pass was a good idea and will assist in increasing use of lodges especially over the shoulder periods.
- A question arose from the floor regarding the “Dashboard” competition and whether it was sending the wrong message to some skiers. Peter noted that the company has put more resources into mountain safety and they monitor safety statistics. He advised that the winner of the “Dashboard” competition was a 64 year old steady and experienced skier who skied the most vertical distance.
- Perisher Pty Ltd is negotiating to complete Stage 1 of the Perisher Village. Peter advised that the company is not expecting to make much money out of it but the area needs a village centre for the future. Negotiations are still going on with National Parks on some of the commercial arrangements. The Development Application for Stage 1 costing \$31 million providing 216 beds, 1000m<sup>2</sup> of retailing and 581 car spaces is expected to be lodged with Department of Planning shortly. Peter noted that subsequent stages will depend on the market.
- The Development Application for the new quad chair at Guthega should also happen in the next 2 months connecting the bottom of the J-bar to the top of Mt Blue Cow. The EIS and consultation process has been completed. It should be constructed within the next two years.

- Perisher Pty Ltd is supportive of the Music Festival which is a fantastic weekend. Peter commended the efforts of Belinda Shore and the Chamber of Commerce in organising it. He noted that the Clubs need to support and promote the event with their members.

#### Daniel James – Team Leader, Department of Planning Jindabyne Office

- Development Applications for major lodge rebuilds included the Navy Lodge and Beachcombers. Applications for Club lodges in Perisher Range were mostly for minor alterations. The total number of applications in the 12 months was 21 for the area.
- Fire safety upgrades of lodges have progressed over the last 12 months.
- There has been 92% return on the Annual Fire Safety Statements from the Club lodges.
- When the Department receives the application for Stage 1 of the Village, the documentation and the plans will be posted on the Department's website for public information and comment.
- Currently there is a review of NSW planning legislation being undertaken. Any changes will affect the whole of the State in how the process will work. Any news on progress of the review will be circulated to the Club lodges through SLOPES.
- In May 2011 the Premises Standards for disabled access requirements came into force. Application of the standards applies to any new development application and construction certificate. Daniel stressed that it is important for Clubs to speak to the Department staff to confirm the requirements for disabled access with any proposal. He noted that the Premises Standards has provision for unjustifiable hardship in some circumstances, for example, excessively steep topography rendering construction of ramps impractical.

Arsing from the discussion of the Village Centre a couple of comments came from the floor that the proposal to build apartments means it will be impossible to manage bed numbers when apartments are leased out as occurs in Thredbo. Club lodges are bound by their lease obligations and are careful to ensure that their bed numbers are not exceeded in contravention of their leases. It is part of the responsibilities of the Club Directors. Daniel noted there will be checks as there are issues of fire safety with overcrowding.

#### Daniel Di Santi – Music Festival

- The 4<sup>th</sup> Music Festival will be held on the long weekend of 8 – 11 June 2012. The festival needs the support of the Club lodges.
- The organisation is still running at a loss (\$3,000 in 2011) and relies on sponsorship to keep it going until it gets established. To be successful, Festival organisers must ensure that good performers are retained for the Festival.
- Early bird passes will be offered.
- Last year as it snowed over the long weekend, there was some competition from skiing.
- Clubs were asked to encourage their members to support the Festival.

#### Tom Hazell – Maranatha Ski Club

Tom gave an interesting presentation on voluntary work carried out by members to rehabilitate disturbed areas and drainage around Maranatha Lodge including photographs.

- Disturbed sub-alpine woodland areas arose from carrying out alterations to the lodge. These areas were infested by 1 metre high exotic "Timothy" grasses that required

mowing and management for fire management reasons. The native alpine heath requires no mowing so there were significant long-term maintenance benefits from rehabilitation.

- A group of member volunteers including some older members who are no longer active skiers but still love the area and enjoy spending time at the lodge formed the nexus of the volunteers.
- They also constructed new drains along the access drive to Maranatha to improve its durability and serviceability.
- Assistance and advice was given by Mel Schroeder from National Parks. Parks also assisted by providing native plant species in the rehabilitation.

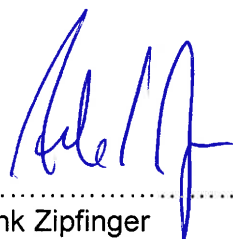
#### Philip Woodman – Perisher Historical Society Inc

- Perisher Historical Society was founded in 2008 and now has 86 members that include a number of the Club lodges. More are encouraged to join.
- It has also set up a website for information on time lines and research that is being carried out.
- The Society is very keen to record the oral history of the lodges.
- It also cares for memorabilia and old records of the area.
- The Society has a display case at the Perisher Skitube terminal with information and changing displays.
- It produces a newsletter twice yearly that the Clubs are encouraged to subscribe to.
- Philip handed out application forms and information on PHS to those present.

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**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 9.25PM WITH SUPPER AND DRINKS FOLLOWING.**

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Frank Zipfinger  
President  
SLOPES  
17 November 2011