



Renewable Albury Wodonga Inc

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 28th May, 2019. 5:35pm

Robert Brown Room, Albury City Council. Kiewa St Albury

1. Welcome

Attendance – Michelle Wilkinson, Bobbi McKibbin, Katrina Passey, Kate Sleeman, Lauriston Muirhead, Ash Narayan, Ben McGowan, Don McKleenan, Amanda Cohn, Narelle Martin (5:50pm), Matthew Dudley (6:05pm)

Apologies – Jenny Davies, Janet Gillespie, Matt Charles-Jones

Chairperson - Lauriston Muirhead

- Introductions around the table from all in attendance
- Michelle discussed the guidelines of the AGM
- Lauriston declared office bearer positions open+

2. Presidents Report – RAW Energy 2018 projects and achievements presentation

Bobbi & Ben presented Powerpoint with overview of the projects for year

DELWP Climate Change & Innovation Grant – Overview of projects and objectives

- Aim – to get to a prospectus investment stage for a minimum of a 2mw solar farm
 - We have looked at the various ways in which to do this and it was chosen that they behind the meter model was the preferred way economically.
- An update was given to the progress of the project
- Ben has been liaising with businesses in the Maloney Drive area and there is some good interest from some which Ben is follow up with
- RAW does not want to be the funding vehicle, we want to concentrate on the community aspect. It has been decided to use a 3rd party as the funding body. Bobbi gave an overview of how the decision was made and why.
- This is currently being written up as a request for quote by Wodonga Council with Michelle Wilkinson.
- Due to conflicts of interest Ben McGowan will not be involved with the of the request for quote stage of the project

DEWLP - Beyond Housing

- Installation of 10 x 4kw systems on Beyond Housing homes
- Beyond Housing specialises in accommodation for those most at risk of becoming homeless they are all very excited about the project and what the possible outcomes will be
- Currently the installer is conducting site inspections with installations due to commence in June and completed by early July
- There will be an education component where we will work with the residents to advise how they can make the most of their solar systems and how to reduce their electricity usage in general.

Thurgoona Community Solar Offer

- Michelle gave an overview of the project that was in partnership with Thurgoona Community Action Group
- Results were a little disappointing, there were not as many installations as anticipated
- NSW and federal election and Christmas were major disrupters
- There will be interest free loans available from the state government for solar & battery or battery only, they will be available towards the end of the year – this was their election promise. It is thought that we could do another offering then

Community Collaboration

- NECEN – the North East Community Energy Network as been formed in 2018, it consists of all the community energy groups across NE Vic, and was convened by Cathy McGowan and now run by Indigo Power. There were approx. 8 when it started and now is at 16
 - We collaborate and share information and project ideas and knowledge
 - Great network

3. Treasures Report – Kate Sleeman

- Currently there are 27 paid members, RAW are looking to grow these numbers in the next year
- Membership fee has increased to \$10
- Financial statements have been submitted
- Thank you to Marjorie Passey for conducting the audit

Motion – Kate proposes the statements be accepted – second by Narelle. All in favour

4. Current Projects/funding update

- Grant applications awaiting response –
 - DHHS (\$54k) to run similar project to Beyond Housing one but with DHHS as our partner.
 - There would be some solar installed on their community buildings
 - A number of UBI's would be distributed
 - Energy literacy education with DHHS staff so they can easily educate their clients
 - Wodonga Council (\$3k)
 - Community engagement and membership drive

- Bank Australia (\$15k)
 - Start a perpetual fund for installations on community buildings
 - These funds would cover our first installation for a 5kw system
 - Would include a donation and investment model for the community
 - Michelle Wilkinson to send Amber Rodd further information for suggestions of buildings
- Bobbi thanked Michelle and Ben for working on the grant funding
- RAW Energy would also like to thank Albury City and Wodonga Council for their continued support in our projects and funding applications, use of space, connections.
- RAW Energy would also like to thank Tier 1 for their sponsorship over the past 18 months

5. Election of 2019 RAW Energy office bearers

The request for nominations for office bearers was sent to all members with the notice of the AGM. Each position only had 1 nomination, as follows;

- President – Bobbi McKibbin – Proposed by Narelle, second by Michelle
- Vice President – Katrina Passey – Proposed by Michelle, second by Kate
- Secretary – Michelle Wilkinson – Proposed by Kate, second by Bobbi
- Treasurer – Kate Sleeman – Proposed by Bobbi, second by Narelle

All in favour. Carried

6. General Business

- Narelle discussed an upcoming session for community groups looking to incorporate. They will be hosted by Alpine Valley Community Leadership.
 - Two locations – Shepparton on 19th June and Wangaratta on 20th of June
 - RAW will also put up information on the Facebook page and share via our networks
- Bobbi advised that at last weeks NECEN meeting in Wangaratta it was proposed to do a hot water bulk buy through the network/Indigo Power. It is with Reclaim & Apricus, good quality product.
 - Matthew Charles Jones and Ben McGowan have been working on with the owner of Reclaim & Apricus
 - Bobbi expressed at the NECEN meeting was that it probably wont be that successful in Albury Wodonga due to the natural gas saturation, however is in support of the project for the region.
 - All were in agreeance that RAW Energy could participate but not expect to get much interest. There are people looking to transition away from gas

7. Meeting close – 6:31pm