



Volunteer Marine Rescue

Southport-Surfers Paradise Association Inc.

ABN: 28 929 833 597

PO Box 866 Southport Qld 4215

t 07 5591 1300 f 07 5532 0331 e southport@vmraq.org.au

MINUTES

Forum Meeting

Date: 6 October 2015

Time: 1900

Venue: VMR400 Training Room

Attendance – as per signed register

Minute Taker	Yellow Crew – Glenn Norris
New Members	Nil
Apologies from the floor	Annie Erichsen, Mark Raff, Jo Schon, Steve Phillips, Rob Sinclair, Adam Watson, Chris Hargreaves, Fiona Roberts

Presentations:

President – Dave McDonald	Matt Fitzpatrick - Coxswain Martin Walsh – Crew Bruce Watson – Senior Crew SPECIAL PRESENTATION – REX SCOTT – GLENN NORRIS TROPHY – Carried over from AGM
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Acknowledgements – President Dave made mention of all Active members celebrating birthdays in September and October

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3.0 Previous Minutes

3.1 **MOVED THAT** the minutes of the Forum meeting of 1st September 2015 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

PROPOSED Wayne Summerhayes **SECONDED** Tim Hutchison **MOTION CARRIED**

5.0 Crew Reports

5.1	Green – Tim Hutchison	2 crews for month – 1 st Crew 11/09/15 – 7 jobs – All routine tows – Nathan Brown ready to be assessed for Inshore Skipper. Time spent training with Nathan to finalise this. Great crew – Good to get a few activations 2 nd Crew 02/10/15 – 5 jobs – Great weather. Assisted a man and his wife after they ran aground in Aldershots. Initially transported lady as vessel couldn't be ungrounded. Went back in evening to assist man to find his way back to Southport in dark. Very, very appreciative people. Couldn't believe the service provided. Tim took Steve Phillips to Jumpinpin for bar crossing training. Conditions good – Being long weekend – hundreds of vessels on water. Lots of training for other crew members. Some other good activations to tow larger vessels – Good experience for crew members. Great crew.
5.2	White – Dave Mac	2 crews for month – 1 st Crew 12/09/15 – Had crew off due to birthday. 11 crew in attendance – Stephen Hipkiss filled in as Inshore Skipper. Had a night tow from Wavebreak Island to Hope Island Marina. Crew attended to a Hobie sailing Cat which collided with a 40ft Cruiser. Hobie Cat demolished. Very lucky no injuries 5 other routine tows. Crew very happy. 2 nd Crew 04/10/15 – Very busy – long weekend – hundreds of boats on water with great weather. 6 routine tows and a jumpstart offshore of Currumbin. VMR Southport were tasked by Water Police to retrieve the VMR Currumbin vessel



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5.0 Crew Reports		
		<p>which capsized off Cook Island. The tow was taken over from Pt Danger at Greenmount.</p> <p>Crew also responded to a vessel fire at Couran Cove. On arrival, the fire was a grass burn off being supervised by Qld Fire.</p> <p>Great crew.</p>
5.3	Red – Al Curtis	<p>2 Crews this month – 1st Crew 04/09/15 – Great crew, 4 activations.</p> <p>Crew assisted a vessel with engine trouble 16nm off Surfers Paradise – Towed to Runaway Bay.</p> <p>Undertook an ashes dispersal for a crew members relative.</p> <p>MR1 and MR2 took part in the SYC sail past.</p> <p>Also a long tow of 28ft vessel Hollywell to Gold Coast City Marina</p> <p>2nd Crew 25/09/15 – Very windy day, 2 assists. Broken down Trawler at Wavebreak Island. Owner rectified and late afternoon grounding at Couran.</p> <p>Lots of training to make use of a terrible day.</p>
5.4	Yellow – Peter Barker	<p>3 crews this month – 1st crew 05/09/15 – 3 activations and 10 training activations – 4 of those at night.</p> <p>Anne Harzer filled in for Rex Scott</p> <p>2 jobs were very long – took 2.75 hours each. 1 vessel in very poor condition and started to break up while towing. Managed to be towed to Jabiru Island boatramp.</p> <p>2nd Crew 26/09/15 – 6 activations</p> <p>Anne Harzer filled in again for Rex Scott</p> <p>Small yacht towed from MSQ Base to Spit boat ramp. Owner purchased from Govt auction. When owner arrived to collect vessel. Boat trailer way too small. So yacht had to be left on beach for next day collection.</p> <p>Trevor and Merv took Jason to Jumpinpin Bar for bar crossing training.</p> <p>Assisted small tinny which was swamped near Loders Creek.</p> <p>Other jobs routine.</p> <p>3rd Crew 04/10/15 – Last day of long weekend – Mega busy on water – Started off quiet but ended with a rush. 9 activations 6 just on Monday afternoon.</p> <p>Special mention to Craig Maloney and Rob Fisher who did a job during the NRL Grand Final.</p> <p>All tows routine. Several of these for insufficient fuel, which is bad seamanship.</p>
5.5	Black – Ken Gibbs	<p>Only 1 crew this month 18/09/15</p> <p>Started on Friday evening with the tow of a 54ft yacht which was being assisted offshore of Seaway by Water Police – Conditions offshore windy and lumpy so Police requested assistance. Skipper and crew of yacht on delivery from Vanuatu to Melbourne, very inexperienced. Towed to SNOO. Customs and quarantine cleared on Saturday morning.</p> <p>Tow of houseboat Santa Barbara to Paradise Pt. Owner a serial pest. Jason Horn wants to marry her.</p> <p>Weather conditions typical for Black Crew - ordinary</p>
5.6	Blue – Bruce Andersen	<p>Only 1 crew this month 19/09/15</p> <p>10 crew in attendance – Bruce filling in.</p> <p>Interesting job. Lady called in the evening to say she had fallen from jetski and the auto stop lanyard had failed and jetski had not stopped and it was lost. Her mobile phone was on board and it had an App called find my phone. This was used to track the phone and the jetski. Good result.</p> <p>Steve Hipkiss did great job organising training for the crew and Merv came in to assist with this.</p> <p>Trevor park and Merv also assessed Matt Fitzpatrick for his Coxswains rank – Very happy.</p> <p>2 other small activations. Both tows</p>
5.7	Callouts – Jake Rudge	<p>Been relatively busy. Anyone wanting to assist is asked to put their name on callout list. Will get very busy over next couple of months towards Christmas.</p> <p>Been several after hours Medivacs. Lady rolled a golf buggy at Couran last week.</p> <p>Mega confusion between QAS and QPS. Lady suffered bruising</p>

6.0 Management Reports		
Item	Brief Discussion	Action/Outcome
		Officer



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6.1	TREASURER	John introduced himself. Only been in job 3 weeks and very keen to do a good job. Had good income over past few months but also large expenditure due to pontoon, radio tower etc. Squadron in good financial position and hopes to maintain this	John Kaus
6.2	SECRETARY	Made mention of Tasks and Delegations notice in Radio Room. Lots of little jobs people can do	Diana Gibson
6.3	VICE PRESIDENT	Has been doing lots of work on VMR website. Should anyone advise they are having trouble paying their membership online, they may need to change to another server eg. Google Chrome, Firefox Will be sending out an email on behalf of Green Crew regarding the Christmas Party on Saturday 28 November – Mexican themed night. Lots of prizes and good fun.	Martin Walsh
6.4	SEARCH & RESCUE COORDINATOR	Conducted Snr Skippers meeting 30/09/15. Very long night. Some topics that arose – Wants to see radio etiquette lifted. Use correct nautical terms and speak slowly and clearly. Roy will ring each Sunday night for a fuel dip Skippers Log needs more care – Don't rush this, it is an official document and could be relied upon in legal instances. Put thorough information in when doing jobs. Remember we don't charge for Rescues. Be considerate when approaching people for re-imbursement for jobs. Be aware that some jobs VMR are required to undertake may be nasty. Members are reminded that if they feel uncomfortable doing a particular type of job eg. QAS, advise the Skipper. We don't members being psychologically affected by traumatic events if it can be avoided. Remember the Counselling Service is available free if required. See the President. Would like to see better attendance for Tuesday night training. Good way to advance in VMR. Skippers encourage crews to attend. Remember to undertake and document SMS training and keep skills up to date eg. Man overboard, fire The reciprocal arrangement with Coastguard regarding VMR assisting their members at no charge is now null and void. Coastguard have taken advantage of arrangement to their detriment. Ken Gibbs has advised any member wanting to do Practical assessments, they are welcome to do so on Black Crew days. Commercial tow rate is now \$200 per hour. Consult with SRC, MWC's and Duty Skippers about this. Skippers be advised that due to dredging the Newlands channel is silting up. VMR Southport will no longer assist live-aboards with unseaworthy vessels in re-locating their vessels. We have been taken advantage of. There will be a full Skippers meeting on 25 th November 2015. Want to ensure that the Crew Points system is still operating. Haven't had any results of late. Also advised that a recommendation from the Snr Skippers meeting will be put to Management that callout crews be given a fuel allowance. Management to decide the legalities and reimbursement amounts.	Jacob Rudge



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6.5	COMMUNICATIONS CONTROLLER	Gave brief rundown of the new radios that are being installed at the Base as part of the radio tower project. Extensive training will be required. Also emphasised communication standards on VMR radios.	Roy Patterson
6.6	OPERATIONS CONTROLLER	<p>Vessels – MR1 – Has a water leak in Starboard pod and rear hull compartment. Boat being removed from water on Wednesday to be repaired as well as engines being serviced. Grant being sourced for new engines.</p> <p>MR2 – Management has approved a mini re-fit. This includes repairs and re-paint of engine pods, anti-fouling, full detail and new signwriting.</p> <p>MR3 – Gear change problem being investigated – Suspect may be a gearbox problem.</p> <p>MR4 – Trailer is back from Noosa Cat. Repairs have been carried out.</p> <p>The door latches are jamming. Merv believes that when the vessel is tied up beside MR2 the fenders are causing this jamming. Please try to not tie up vessels door to door</p> <p>Radio Tower – Being installed Monday and Tuesday 12 / 13 October. Some disruption to car parking</p> <p>Lawns / landscaping by weekend</p> <p>Existing tower to be demolished 26/10/15</p> <p>Base car parking – Issue is now sorted. Have had meeting with Cr Bell. He has advised that \$25,000 has been allocated to construct a paved carpark at left side of front gates. These are exclusively for VMR use. Signage has been replaced, linemarking yet to be done. A ticketing system is being developed.</p> <p>Base checklist now on Skippers log.</p> <p>VMR Golf night next Tuesday 13 October – 3 vacancies currently</p> <p>VMR legal case – MR Goodhue – Warlock – has appealed costs awarded against him. VMR Solicitors handling.</p> <p>SLSQ look set to commence building their new premises next to the Base early next year. The property is about to be cleaned up and outriggers relocated.</p>	Glenn Norris
6.7	COMMITTEE MEMBER 1	Spoke about membership proposal to achieve 5000 VMR members. Much discussion arose regarding the availability of callout crews and VMR's capability of doing any more work than they currently do. The idea has great merit but caution is required with implementation. Hoping to make it a competition to achieve new members between crews.	Bob Jordan
6.8	PRESIDENT	<p>Seaway Tower – Has talked to Radio Operators regarding the future of this building. Given them 3 options regarding its future. 1 – Would they like to see it stay as is and O. H&S issues rectified?</p> <p>2. Would they like to see it closed down and moved entirely to VMR Radio Room?</p> <p>3. Would they like to see it closed down and operations alternated between VMR and Coastguard.</p> <p>Thanked everybody for their efforts. Looking forward to a good year</p>	Dave McDonald



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6.0	Management Reports		
Item	Brief Discussion	Action/Outcome	Officer
6.9	RADIO OPERATIONS CONTROLLER	Not present	Bev Weldon

7.0	General Business			
Item	Who	Brief Discussion		
7.1	Training: Guy - Kelly	a		
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8.0	Lucky Door Prize – was won by John Kaus		
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Meeting Closed	2040 hours	Next Meeting	1900 hrs Tuesday 10 November
Minutes Signed	YELLOW Crew		
Next Forum Minutes Keeper is GREEN CREW			