



Ordinary Meeting 17 February 2009

Supplementary Mayoral Minutes

- MM2 – Delegation to Dinosaur Expo 2009**
- MM3 – Springwood Town Centre Precinct**
- MM4 – Council Support of Vic Bushfire
Appeal**

ITEM NO: MM2

SUBJECT: DELEGATION TO DINOSAUR EXPO 2009 IN GOSEONG KOREA

FILE NO: C06050

Recommendations:

- 1. That the Council notes the offer from the Mayor of Goseong inviting the Mayor of the Blue Mountains to the Dinosaur World Expo 2009 at the cost of Goseong.*
 - 2. That the Council nominate three Council representatives to attend the Gyeongnam Goseong Dinosaur World Expo 2009 in Korea, a World Heritage Partner.*
 - 3. That the Council endorse a budget of \$500 to cover the costs of gifts and minor expenses for the delegation*
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Supplementary Minute by Mayor:

Background

Goseong Korea is noted for over 5000 dinosaur footprint fossils scattered along its South Coast. Given its significant natural and cultural assets, the Goseong community are working towards a World Heritage Area status with UNESCO. The fossilized dinosaur sites across the southern South Korean coast is a tentative UNESCO World Heritage site registered by the South Korean government since 2002.

The Gyeongnam Goseong Dinosaur World EXPO, scheduled for 73 days from March to June 2009, is outstanding, not only in terms of its size but in what it has to offer. The festival will be held in Goseong-gun, Gyeongsangnam-do, recognized as one of the world's three-largest sites of fossilized dinosaur footprints.

The festival will feature a wide variety of events relating to the dinosaurs that lived in this area 100 million years ago.

Delegates from Goseong including the Mayor and Deputy Mayor have travelled to the Blue Mountains on two occasions. The last occasion in August 2008 was to attend a Sister City Conference and to promote the dinosaur Expo 2009. The O-Kwang-De Masked Dancers rewarded the students at Katoomba High School with a performance. The General Manager of the Goseong local government authority will also be in attendance.

The Event

As a neighboring world heritage area Blue Mountains City Council received an invitation to attend the Gyeongnam Goseong Dinosaur World Expo 2009 to be held in Korea from 26th March for 73 days. The Mayor of Goseong offer to 3 delegates to attend the Opening Ceremony on the 26th March and further ceremonial functions on the 27-28 March will cost the Council less than \$300 . The Mayor of Goseong is actively pursuing the Mayor of Blue Mountains City Council to undertake a joint ribbon cutting at the Opening Ceremony of the Dinosaur World Expo.

Benefits to the Blue Mountains

As a potential World Heritage Site, a close relationship with Goseong has the following reciprocal benefits for Blue Mountains City Council:

- Shared learning experiences of becoming and maintaining World Heritage Status;
- Exchange of environmental tourism initiatives;
- The potential to have reciprocal travel tours between our two areas thereby enhancing economic development in the Blue Mountains; and
- A potential business opportunity to export Wollemi Pines to Goseong.

Sustainability Assessment

Impact	Positive	Negative
Social	Ability for BM residents to undertake cultural exchanges to this significant heritage area Cultural	Nil
Environmental	Gain understanding of the management of an international tourist destination	Nil
Economic	Potential for BM to receive Korean reciprocal tours to our World Heritage Area	Nil

Financial Impacts

This offer from the Mayor of Goseong will require a budget of approximately \$500 to cover the cost of gifts as a gesture of friendship by Blue Mountains City Council to the city of Goseong. This amount would also cover any ancillary costs of the delegates not covered by the generous invitation that the Mayor of Goseong will cover expenses .

Conclusion

That the Council accept the invitation from the Mayor of Goseong to have 3 fully paid Council representatives attend the opening of their World Heritage Listed Dinosaur Fossil Park from 25-30 March 2009.

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ITEM NO: MM3

SUBJECT: SPRINGWOOD TOWN CENTRE PROJECT

FILE NO: F04400

Recommendations:

1. *That given the global financial and economic difficulties being faced, Council writes to each shortlisted proponent who has lodged an expression of interest for the Springwood Town Centre project, seeking to know as a matter of priority if they intend to remain involved in the process.*
 2. *That the proponents' responses and any implications for the process arising from those responses be reported back to Council as soon as possible.*
 3. *That, if the proponents indicate an intention to continue in the process, the public consultation on the Springwood Town Centre Project include a 'poll'/referendum of community opinion in Faulconbridge, Valley Heights, Winmalee, Yellow Rock, Springwood and Warrimoo, on partnerships between Council and the private sector for the provision or improvement of public infrastructure in Springwood, including partnerships of the kind proposed by the proponents.*
 4. *That the process of public consultation on the Springwood Town Centre Project also include options for obtaining input on the issues referred to in 3.,above, from residents outside those townships, possibly through the BMCC website.*
 5. *That a report to the Council on the suggested process and approach for implementing the strategies in 3. and 4. above, be provided after Councillor input.*
 6. *That no further action be taken on the Springwood Town Centre Project until the above matters have been actioned.*
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Minute by Mayor:

This current Springwood Town Centre Project was initiated at the Council meeting of 30 January 2007 where the Council considered the possibility of using public land as a catalyst to assist the further development of the Springwood Town Centre. Following on from this idea an EOI went to the market with an Expression of Interest Process/

As a result of that process Council resolved on the 11th March 2008 that three of the proponents, Coles Group, Woolworths Ltd and Jamiesons Pty Ltd, be invited to submit detailed proposals on the project.

Subsequently the summaries of the successful proposals were made public through the Council website and media releases.

At the Council meeting of 15 July 2008 a plan for proceeding with the project outlining an investigation and consultation process to detail requirements for the Town Centre and for community and civic facilities was endorsed. It was also agreed a report be presented to the Council with the results of the broad consultation by mid 2009 and that the terms of the Advisory Committee be extended for the duration of the adopted program plan.

At the Council Meeting of 11 November 2008 a further motion was heard that facilitated Councillors receiving more information on their role and the status of the project.

The current Mayoral Minute is intended to provide Council with current information on the proponent’s position relative to the Springwood Town Centre Project and to provide options for public consultation around the issues in Springwood Town Centre.

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ITEM NO: MM4

SUBJECT: COUNCIL SUPPORT OF VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE APPEAL

FILE NO: F04617

Recommendation:

1. *That the Council offers our condolences to the communities of Victoria that have been affected by the recent bushfires.*
 2. *That Council pledge \$10,000 to the Red Cross Victorian Bushfire Appeal in support of the bushfire affected communities in Victoria.*
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Minute by Mayor:

The tragic events of the Victorian fires has shocked and saddened the community of the Blue Mountains. We send our condolences for their loss.

In response to the Victorian Bushfire disaster, Council is joining a number of NSW Councils, local organisations and residents in pledging support for the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund. Council will provide \$10,000 to the Red Cross Victorian Bushfire Appeal.

This donation to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal is an expression of support on behalf of the Blue Mountains community.

Council has also actively encouraged residents, by way of promotion on Council's website and in the local press, to support the cause in a number of ways, including:

- Giving directly to any of the numerous charities and agencies that are accepting donations from the public in support of the bushfire victims – such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army;
- The NSW Government Hotline, established to handle offers of non-cash assistance, particularly services, resources and equipment that will assist with the rebuilding of towns and peoples lives; and
- Donating blood at the Red Cross Mobile Blood Bank at Springwood Franklins car park on Wednesday 4 March 11:30am – 7:00pm and Thursday 5 March 9:30am – 4:30pm. and at The Edge Cinema, Katoomba. Details of the Red Cross Mobile Blood Bank at The Edge Cinema will be available in the Council News and Information page of the Gazette when available.

The Blue Mountains community has organised a number of fundraising activities in support of the Victorian Bushfire Appeal. The details of these events will be promoted in the local press. Forthcoming events known to Council at this time include:

26 February 2009

Event: High Tea at Lunch/Raffles in the Mountains

Venue: Blue Mountains TAFE, Wentworth Falls

Contact: Maurice Cooper 4784 3117

Friday 27 February 2009

Event: Dinner with Monster Raffle (BMTL & BMIHS event)

Venue: Blue Mountains International Hotel School

Contact: Bookings through Bygone Beautys Ph 47843117

28 February 2009

Event: Leura Village Market

Venue: Leura Carpark

Contact: Maurice Cooper 4784 3117

28 February 2009

Event: Auction/Community reflection from 12:30pm

Venue: The Edge Cinema, Katoomba

Contact: Andrew Moyle (The Edge 4782 8900) and Glenn Mead (NPWS 4784 7300)

28 February 2009

Event: Community Red Balloon Day (BMTL initiative Blue Mtns, Lithgow & Oberon)

Venues: throughout Blue Mountains

Contact: Kerry Fryer (BMTL) 4780 5500

14 March 2009

Event: Springwood Sports Club Fundraiser Dinner

Venue: Springwood Sports Club

Contact: Tania Madison, Springwood Netball Club 0449 897 466

In addition, Council reminds residents to give consideration to bushfire preparedness and how we would meet a similar situation here in the Blue Mountains. Relevant information can be located on the RFS website www.rfs.nsw.gov.au .

From a community that understands the impact and trauma of bushfires, the Council would like express, on behalf of the Council, our solidarity with the Victorian communities devastated by this disaster.

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