

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY SPORT BOARD

MEETING 3/2013 – 4 JULY 2013

The minutes of meeting 3/2013 of the Melbourne University Sport Board held on Thursday, 4 July 2013 at 6.00pm in the MU Sport Boardroom.

PRESENT:

Mr Geoff Rees (Chair)
Professor Mark Hargreaves
Mr James Sutherland
Mr James Marburg

IN ATTENDANCE:

Professor Richard James
Mr Tim Lee (Director)
Mr Jean-Luc Garlick
Mrs Julie Caundle (Note taker)

APOLOGIES:

Professor Margaret Sheil (Provost)
Professor Margaret Abernethy
Dr Mitch Anderson
Dr Lynne Williams

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND INTRODUCTION

1.1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed members and observers to the meeting. The Chair also welcomed Professor Richard James (PVC Equity and Engagement) who is attending his first meeting at the invitation of the Provost. Professor James is a member of the Provost Executive Group and has been asked to advocate for sport at that level. Both Professor Sheil and Professor James will continue to attend Board meetings as observers until the end of year to allow for the Board transition and corporate structure issues to be resolved with a view to appoint both as members early next year.

1.2 Apologies

The Chair accepted the apologies.

1.3 Minutes from previous meeting

The previous minutes were passed as a true and accurate record.

1.4 Confirmation of Circular Resolutions

There were no circular resolutions to confirm.

1.5 Business Arising/Action Item Updates

1.5.1 Elite Athlete Entry Scheme Review

The Director and Mr Warnecke met with Professor James to discuss the Elite Athlete Entry Scheme. The proposal is to replace the current arrangement with a quota system. Professor Hargreaves suggested that increasing the number of student athletes admitted via a quota system would provide some degree of certainty rather than relying on the ATAR adjustment scheme. Professor James outlined that it would be important to show that elite athletes would be successful students and add value to the University. Recommendations to change the scheme will have to go to the Selection Procedures Committee for approval and include data on the academic performance of elite athletes. A discussion paper will be prepared for consideration and briefings provided for key stakeholders to build support for the implementation of the new scheme.

1.5.2 Board Member Succession Planning

The Expression of Interest (EOI) has been updated and will appear in local media shortly promoting the board positions. Several candidates already identified by the Board will be approached directly and encouraged to apply. The list of applicants will be prepared for the consideration of the Selection Committee and recommendation to the Board.

2. MATTERS FOR DECISION

2.1 Sport Capital Infrastructure Plan

The Director presented the Sport Capital Infrastructure Plan (SCIP) for discussion and endorsement by the Board. The Board were provided with an overview of the report including the background and history, process, findings and recommendations, an update on the University Development Framework Plan (Master Plan) and the strategy to engage the University and other stakeholders in the implementation of the SCIP.

The Director proposed the following actions;

- That MU Sport seek support from the University for project proposals and strategies outlined in the SCIP and that the following items be included in the University Framework Development Plan:
 - Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the Sports Precinct Development
 - Increase the level and range of sport facilities in the Southern Precinct
 - Secure long term leases (and management agreements) for facilities and grounds at Princes Park and Royal Park
 - Undertake feasibility studies of the major proposals
 - Increase active recreation spaces and improve access to change and shower amenities across campus
- That in collaboration with the University that MU Sport:
 - Determine the priority of projects, budget and strategy
 - Establish a Giving Plan and explore other funding opportunities

Discussion followed about the current status of the report and how Board members could be involved in advocating for the report recommendations. The Chair indicated that he was prepared to be a strong advocate for the report recommendations to Senior University Management once a suitable final presentation had been prepared.

Professor James outlined that he was currently reviewing the University's Graduate Attributes and that after discussions with the Director he had proposed to include health and wellbeing, and in particular Sport, as an attribute. The Chair encouraged the Director to continue the discussion with Professor James to build on the Case for Sport.

The Chair put the Sport Capital Infrastructure Plan and recommendations to the Board for approval.

Motion

That the Board endorse the Sports Capital Improvement (Infrastructure) Plan 2013 - 2023 and support the recommendations as outlined.

Action

Complete the implementation strategy and report back to the Board.

3. MATTERS FOR NOTING

3.1 May Financial Report

The May Financial Report was presented by the Director for information. Mr Garlick explained that the operating deficit was a timing issue and that once the capital expenditure for the Sports Centre and Pavilion projects was moved there would be a correction.

Resolution: For noting.

3.2 Director's Report

3.2.1 Sport Foundation and Advancement Activity (I Believe)

The Director reported that the University Campaign Launch (I Believe) took place at the Parkville Campus on Tuesday the 21st of May. The campaign target is \$500M with almost half that figure committed prior to the launch. MU Sport and sporting facilities were included in the campaign material.

Mr Harvey and Mr Sheahan continue to seek out potential benefactors to raise the additional \$800,000 required for the Pavilion Redevelopment. A donor has been secured who is prepared to provide \$500,000 for matching donations. At this stage \$240,000 had been committed in matching funds but further work is required to identify individuals prepared to provide further matching funds. The fund raising focus will shift to smaller donations once the larger donor leads have been exhausted.

The major benefactor has indicated his preference for the Pavilion to be named in honour of groundsmen Ernie Cropley, who was a long time

employee of the organisation and dedicated club volunteer and life member of the football, cricket and baseball clubs. This was also the preference of the tenant clubs. The Executors of the Nona Lee Estate have previously requested that the Pavilion be named after Nona Lee which will require some delicate negotiating with all parties.

3.2.2 Australian Boat Race

The 2013 Australian Boat Race is scheduled for Sunday 27th October on the Yarra River. The race would be more spectator friendly with the relocation of the course to start from the lower Yarra (Appleton Dock) and finish at Southbank. The Race Committee was also endeavoring to secure live television coverage of the event to build more event profile. The trophies would be presented at Southbank with a VIP function (brunch) to follow.

3.2.3 Sport Update

The Director noted that Durham University Rugby Club visited the University last week to compete against our Rugby club and also to discuss opportunities for future sporting exchanges and partnerships.

3.2.4 Sporting Club Forum

The Sporting Club Forum was held in the Sports Centre Function Room on 22nd of May with the majority of clubs in attendance. The Chair attended and hosted the meeting along with fellow Board member Dr Williams. The items for discussion included the Sports Centre Refurbishment and Oval Pavilion, Sport Capital Infrastructure Program – Southern Option, Sport Foundation and Club Member Survey. Clubs were invited to provide comment on the items raised. The feedback from the clubs on the opportunity to engage with Board members and organisation at the forums continues to be positive. The Chair asked that the notes from the Club Forum be distributed to the Board members.

Action: That the notes of the Club Forum be distributed to the Board members.

The Board noted the Directors Report

4. MEETING FINALISATION

4.1 Meeting closed

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record:

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Mr Geoff Rees

12-09-2013-
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Date