

MINUTES OF BUDDIES MONTHLY MEETING – 27 OCTOBER 2018

The meeting opened at 11:05am on Sunday 28 October 2018 at 24 King Street, Buderim.

Notetaker: Shaye Yuill.

Apologies: Meredith Walker, Angela Mercuri, Gillian Duffy, Mitra Khakbaz, Kayla Szuma, Margaret Norman & Bob Cullen.

Guest speaker: Abel Siboniyo

Abel spoke to the meeting about his birth and life in Burundi and the challenges of raising his family as refugees in Tanzania for ten years before his family was accepted by Australia in 2006. Abel is now a volunteer worker helping refugees in Toowoomba. He created for TAFE Australia's first English to Kurundi picture book dictionary and works as a translator and helps refugees navigate the legal system in Australia.

Reports

Walk Together was held on 27 October at Cotton Tree Park, Maroochydore. The event enjoyed good weather and good attendance including ABC radio, and excellent live music. Special mention was made of the performance by Jenny Fitzgibbon of Lies like 'illegal' sung to the tune of When the boat comes in. A long list of thanks includes Gillian Duffy, Carmel Dobson, Angela Mercuri, Len Mangan, Peter Hogg, Fergus Fitzgerald and Diana Woolley for Buddies, Dominique from Festuri, Sunshine Coast Regional Council, Lisa from Welcome to Maleny, Nina, Ruth, Manual & Kathy from Amnesty International

Finance Report

presented by Dee Williams.

The meeting noted two donations Buddies received at Walk Together: a prize pack of essential oils from DoTera and a painting by our buddy Murhaf.

Monthly speakers

Members with suggestions for future speakers at our Monthly Meetings are asked to contact Scott Grimmatt on 0427 364802.

Letter of "Involvement"

Lesley Willcoxson and Scott Grimmatt spoke about the Directors reasoning behind the letter that will be sent to all our members and supporters by email on Monday [29 October]. Briefly, the Directors are concerned that they have turned down some interesting opportunities not because the opportunities are unworthy but because the Directors don't know the membership well enough to know whose skills best suit the opportunity. The letter is a first step to increase members' engagement, ownership of issues and impact in the community.

Goodwill Wine

Feedback from the meeting suggests we are not in favour of continuing this relationship if changes proposed by Goodwill Wine take place. However, Scott will provide feedback to Goodwill Wines before severing the relationship.

Next meeting: 25 November