**PRAXIS Committee Meeting**

Meeting Minutes

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| **Subject** | | Board meeting | **Date** | 10/04/15 | | |
| **Facilitator** | | Peter Westoby | **Time** | 10:15am- 12:05pm | | |
| **Location** | | Octane Coffee Shop, Zilmere | **Scribe** | Lynda Shevellar | | |
| **Attendees** | | Neil Barringham, Dave Andrews, Howard Buckley, Peter Westoby, Gerard Dowling, Emily James, Lynda Shevellar | | | | |
| **Apologies:** | | Tina Lathouras, Gillian O’Brien | | | | |
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| **Key Points Discussed** | | |
| **No.** | **Topic** | **Highlights** |
| **1.** | Personal check-in | Not minuted. |
| **2.** | Financial Update | HB notes that our meeting dates don't neatly tie in with Mary's work. If we want detailed figures we need to rethink the timing of them to ensure they occur about 4 weeks after the end of financial year. We acknowledged the sense of this but also the complexity of simply finding meetings times when we are all available. Our sense is that at this time our financial dealings are not complex enough to demand this.  HB provided the following summary:   * Investment $6804.97 (includes ethical investment) * Operating account $1666.35 * No income or expenditure in February. * We only have one live project (Alan Kaplan & Sue Davidoff event) |
| **3.** | Project Updates | 3.1 Alan Kaplan & Sue Davidoff workshop  PW provided a quick update on the Alan Kaplan & Sue Davidoff event: we need 20 people to make it viable. Registrations are just starting to trickle in. Group reminded that as per previous meeting decision, the working group (PW, GD and LS) are eligible for free registration but all others will be required to pay.  3.2 Praxis and accredited training  DA mentioned that Roland Lubbett was keen to have a conversation with us about Praxis offering accredited training. There was interest but agreement we could only do this if there was a pre-existing vehicle we could hook into. (Eg GD suggested Borderlands, GD's sister also has just set up an RTO). DA is seeing Roland next week. |
| **4.** | Conversations Event | Howard and Tina (by email) provided updates on the 2015 CD Qld conference planning. A 2-day conference has been proposed, with a proposed Praxis-run conversations event beforehand and a Coalitions of Boards event to follow Dates are Nov 4, 5 & 6 (with 7th for the Coalition of Boards) event. The venue is yet to be confirmed but will be in Logan.  The feedback from last years' conversation event was very positive, with people saying that it provided a great introduction to the conference. There was also very positive feedback on Praxis holding that space. This was great to hear given how careful and respectful we were in our planning.  There was support to go ahead with the event.  It was noted that the CD Qld conference planners have expressed a preference to do ticketing ourselves (eg via Sticky Tickets).  Decision: Working group established that involves Tina, Em, & Howard (TL): all other Praxis members happy to be there and be involved. (Would be good to explicitly invite Gillian - she was part of the dynamic group last year). Lynda happy to set up the process as per last year. Em happy to help with promotion  To assist the planning group to get started we brainstormed possible topics to connect with the broader conference theme of *Community back in the picture: Are we ready?* Suggestions included attention to ‘doing’ leadership during risk, changing times, insecurity, and anxiety. How do we sustain our community work in a time of insecurity, risk and anxiety? What are the creative possibilities that this creates? How do we hold autonomy and resistance? What gives you vitality? What do you get energised by? When do you feel stuck? How do we inject humour into our work? In our age of conflict and categories how we bridge? How do we work in a context abundant with abstract categories? The consequence of tribalism: "Yeah community is back [but not nec. positive] so what do we do about it?"  Howard pointed out that what was helpful last time was his involvement – as someone in Praxis also part of the conference planning team. As we don’t have this, this time, we discussed bringing in someone who has a strong link with the Logan people (eg Helen Betts? Mark Davidson?) |
| **5.** | Membership | Note to keep extending an invitation to Paul Toon (he is keen - just unable to attend our meetings so far)  There was interest in using the Conversations event - like last time - to bring a few new people into Praxis. However no action was advocated. |
| **6.** | Communication | 6.1. Mailing List  Thanks to EJ for setting up Mail Chimp. EJ notes that if people have contact lists on excel spread sheets we can add them. However, in the interest of expediency, EJ has also kindly offered to be the recipient of excel mailing lists to load on to Mail Chimp.  6.2 Facebook  EJ noted that we are all administrators – we all have the ability to load events and promote activities and articles of interest in CD.  There was discussion about whether we would use Facebook to promote discussion. It was agreed that if a member wanted to start a particular discussion thread they would let the board members know first AND they would take responsibility for moderating it.  6.3 Website  It was agreed our website is out of date and needs some work done on it. We agreed to pay Em for a few hours to get this work done (finally!). Em asked if she could have the registration to the Al & Sue event as payment. This was agreed.  The website is seen as more of a formal site and not as dynamic as Facebook. We agreed it mainly needs static information that won’t easily get outdated.  However EJ and LS also recommended moving to a more user friendly platform to enable easy updating of material should it be needed and easily feeds straight to Facebook. LS offered to assist EJ to set this up. PW offered to provide guidance on material currently on website.  Emily asked if people could send her photos of any Praxis events and activities. |
| **7.** | Writing project | PW reminded us that 2018 was our 20 year anniversary and wondered if this might be a helpful date to benchmark for a particular writing project. We agreed to have a running agenda item on this. |

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| **Action Plan** | | | |
| **No.** | **Action Item(s)** | **Owner** | **Target Date** |
| **1.** | DA to invite Roland to our next Praxis meeting to progress the training discussion. | Dave | Next week |
| **2.** | Conversations planning group to meet to begin planning. | Howard (with Tina & Em) | Before next Board meeting |
| **3.** | Anyone with contacts in Excel spreadsheet mode to send to Em. | All + Em | ASAP |
| **4.** | Emily will use the updated Mailchimp list to promote the Al & Sue event – she will use this as an opportunity to set up a Praxis mailing list and invite people to opt out if they would prefer. | Em (in discussion with PW) | May? |
| **5.** | All members to send photos of Praxis events and activities to Em for website | All + Em | *ASAP* |
| **6.** | EJ and LS to meet to work on website | Em & Lynda | Next week |

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| **Next meeting** | |
| **Date** | Next meeting: 12th June @ Octane, Zilmere |
| **Topics** | * Alan Kaplan & Sue Davidoff event * Conversations event * Accredited Training * Use of financial ethical dividend to fund project work around community bridging work or to partially find someone doing that work. * Running agenda items: writing project * Running agenda item: 20th anniversary in2018 |