**Rotary and University of the Sunshine Coast Community Fund (RUSCCF)**

**Advancing tertiary education opportunities**

**through a partnership between the combined Rotary Clubs of the Sunshine Coast**

**and the University of the Sunshine Coast**

**Minutes of Committee Meeting Held 21st August 2020 (By Zoom)**

**Meeting Opened: 5.45 pm**

**Attendance:**

Ian Barnett (Mooloolaba), Wendy Gilson (Alex Headland), Rod Tunstall (Nambour), Win Fowles (Caloundra Pacific), Ian Hope (Glasshouse Mountains), Graham Barnes (Buderim), Carol Johnston (Cooroy), Merv Paddison (Caloundra), Russell Ousley (SCU)

**Apologies:**

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting 7th February 2020**

Accepted as correct. Moved: Rod Tunstall Seconded: Merv Paddison

**Minutes of the Special Meeting 15th May 2020 (Zoom)**

Accepted as correct. Moved: Win Fowles Seconded: Ian Hope

**Business Arising**

Combined meeting, to be dealt with in General Business

**Financial Report:**

See attached

Donations were down because of Covid, $7,000 was donated (does not include money from raffle, approx. $700), the previous year $14,000 was donated. Three scholarships were still able to be presented due to the foresight of keeping funds in reserve.

President thanked those clubs that had donated acknowledging that all clubs were struggling to raise money because of Covid.

**General Business**

Combined Meeting held as a Webinar**,** hosted by the USC.

Ian regretted the fact that the webinar wasn’t held on the date originally set down.

Comments about Webinar:

Everyone agreed that face to face was obviously preferred, but in the circumstances it was the only option. If it had to happen again we would have to work harder at publicising the meeting.

It was possibly the last opportunity to hear Professor Greg Hill.

The talks from the recipients were excellent. Russell reminded members that recipients were available as guest speakers and if interested need to contact Greg Bradley (USC).

It was suggested that as the feedback about the student’s presentations was good perhaps the students could be recorded and the recording sent out to clubs in order to gain interest in the RUSCCF.

Mention made that some Rotarians were surprised that Greg Hill spoke about his journey through education. Pointed out that was what he was asked to do as Joanne Scott was asked to speak about the University.

Rod thanked Russell for his words about the late Sir Clem Renouf.

Ian thanked Nambour club for purchasing the plaque which was presented to Greg Hill and also to the Caloundra Club for running an online raffle. Mooloolaba Club also thanked for hosting the raffle.

**Russell spoke about the USC**

Graduations unable to be held at the end of this year which has caused some distress to the students.

There will be approximately a $41 million shortfall for the coming year. There will of necessity have to be many changes. There will be some voluntary redundancies, some forced redundancies, and 9 academic schools will be reduced to 6. All departments will be loosing some team members.

In the future the University is hoping to create a pipeline for International students.

New Vice Chancellor Professor Helen Bartlett.

Students will be back on campus this week although some will continue with online learning.

Russell reasonably sure that we will be able to hold our next meeting in a small lecture theatre, Wendy will confirm with Greg a bit closer to the date.

**Next Meeting**:

Friday 20th November 2020 – 5.30 pm for 5.45 pm

**Meeting Closed** – 6.30 pm

Wendy Gilson (Secretary) Ian Barnett (Chairman)