

GROWER'S MARKET ADVISORY COMMITTEE – MINUTE

HELD AT THE MELBOURNE MARKET AUTHORITY BOARD ROOM

THURSDAY 26TH JULY 2012, 8.30AM – 9.40AM

ATTENDEES & APOLOGIES

Grower's Advisory Committee Members

David Wallace – Chairman

Vince Doria

David Kelly

Alec Berias

DBI Representatives

Jane Niall

Mary Baker

MMA Representatives

Allan Crosthwaite – CEO, MMA

Aurora Kostezky – Legal Counsel, MMA

Megan Sandiford – Minute Taker, MMA

Rozita Hana – Minute Taker, MMA

Apologies

Nada Kirkwood – Board member, MMA

Luis Gazzola – Advisory member

Meeting opened at 8.30am.

The Committee noted the following:

- A written submission from the Committee was presented, a copy has been sent to the Minister and DBI.
- The submission is a proposal that represents the Advisory Committee's views that there should be no rent increase for stands at the Epping market. However it was noted that most growers had not viewed the final submission given to the Minister. However, it would be discussed once the Committee meeting was complete.
- The Committee advised that growers were approached and provided feedback to their Advisory members and a small minority forwarded submissions individually.
- The Committee noted the rent allocation discussion paper did not provide satisfactory information. The Committee noted that in the past they felt their input was not respected and financial costs overshadowed their issues.
 - DBI advised the purpose of the discussion paper was to encourage open consultation to ensure all queries were addressed.
- DBI advised the Committee that once all the facts are received through the expression of interest, then the allocation process will take place. It was noted that the Minister is committed to a fair and equitable process to arrive at any decisions with regards to stands.
- The Committee does not agree that warehousing should be subsidised by growers. Warehousing should be completely separate. This position will be reflected in the grower's submissions.
- DBI advised the growers submission will be considered by the Minister. The Committee were advised that they will receive an answer most likely prior to Christmas 2012. The Committee were also advised that parking fees will be released at the same time as the rents.

Date of Next Meeting

To be advised. – MMA

Meeting closed at 09.40am