

NORTH CANBERRA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE MEETING

7.30pm 22 April 2009-05-17

ACT Sports House, Hackett

Minutes

Present: Jochen Zeil, Richard Larson, Jonathon Reynolds, Mike Hettinger, Waltraud Pix, Laura Turnbull, James Walker

Visitors: Heather McEvoy (Canberra North Rotary Club); Damian Haas (Belconnen Community Council)

Minutes of 26 March 2009

Jochen read through the minutes - Accepted (Richard and Waltraud)

Matters arising from minutes

- Meeting with ACTPLA on planning was constructive
- Letter from ACT Chief Minister on Monash Drive still not signed
- Not clear whether there will be a scoping process on Dickson development
- Community Engagement Unit
 - Big improvement - one-stop-shop within ACT Government
 - Regular Community Board sections in Canberra Times
- Deed of Grant signed and sent to Community Engagement Unit
- Website progressing well - a major achievement. Debates starting to form on key issues
- Emerging issues include:
 - New road into Federal highway roundabout
 - Majura Parkway realignment
 - Dickson Shops development process
- Administration - we need to think about membership

Chair's Report

- Funding provided for sponsorship of Aquaculture event returned
- Insurance: about to finalise bulk insurance from 1 May, and will aim to have sub-groups covered also
- Change to planning system: we need to raise issues if there is a problem with this. Particularly important to look at them from a climate change perspective.

Heritage Village redevelopment

Richard reported that:

- Draft variation passed on 18 April in Assembly
- Now awaiting application from developers - over 300 residences to be built
- Been liaising with Environmental Defenders Office
- Will request that an environmental assessment be done

- With particular focus on honey-eater nests
- Plan is to demand an off-set - give us some of the bush back
 - Its not about putting trees in reserve - we want the land
 - Offset will provide a link between Justice Hope Park and Mt Majura
- Need to determine whether to submit together or separately(????)
- Richard would like submission to under the name of the NCCC rather than his own name
- All related community groups should put in submissions - will strengthen the case for an offset

It was agreed that NCCC gives in-principle support for the environmental offset and referral in the context of the Heritage Village development application (Richard/Waltraud)

- It was agreed that Richard would put appropriate documents on the website for Committee access only.

Traffic

- Bruce reported that Hackett traffic options are back to the drawing board and there is no need for the NCCC to take action at this stage.

Majura Parkway and Dickson development

- Need to focus on these mid-year

Membership

- We do need to find a way to update the membership register
 - In Gungahlin CC, need to attend a number of meetings a year to have voting rights

Connections with Canberra North Rotary Club

Heather reported that the Canberra North Rotary are keen to get more involved in the community in North Canberra:

- Looking at how NCCC could make use of Rotary
- Happy to make contributions to activities, through donations and/or through things like sausage sizzles (on model of what was done for Hackett Birthday) or parking assistance
- One possibility (raised by James) was provision of prizes for the Hackett essay competition. Other possibilities discussed included: support for parkcare groups, local homeless people, Healthy Hackett and local schools.
- Another possibility would be to assist groups like FoMM to link to Ted Noffs - intermediary expertise.

Light Rail

Damien reported on the campaign for Light Rail in the ACT

- He is proposing to submit a request for funding a study into light rail in Canberra (has to be completed 22 May to DEEWR). Would involve 2 engineers and one project manager.
- Would like NCCC to offer its support
- It was agreed that NCCC would support the bid, and would also be prepared to contribute some funding to the preparation of the bid if necessary.

Meeting closed 9.00pm