

NORTH CANBERRA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE MEETING

7.30pm, 19 May 2010

ACT Sports House, Hackett

Minutes

Committee members present: Jochen Zeil, Laura Turnbull, Waltraud Pix, Leon Arundell, Bruce Smith

Members - James Walker, Caroline Le Couteur, Carrie Wright, Freddie Turnbull, Carmen McIntosh, Dorothy Mackenzie

Apologies: Richard Larson, Mike Hettinger

Presentation from ACT Police

Supt Mick Calatzis and Sgt Andrew Bailey from ACT Police addressed the meeting and then invited questions and discussion. Issues raised included:

- Funding for Police and Youth Citizens - they are supportive of resumption of the program
- Lack of facilities/activities for youth in Canberra - lot of youth ungainfully occupied - need for programs
- Overall trend in criminal statistics - ACT does well, but increase in number of offenders - could be other factors, such as increased confidence in the system resulting in increased reporting of sexual assault
- Significant increase in number of road deaths - messages are not working - police will keep trying new strategies
- Police cars chasing suspects - police are acutely aware of dangers, and consider all risks in judging whether to engage in pursuit
- Hoons at Summernats - police now set up posts nearby and don't patrol inside - this works better
- Young people drinking in Civic - a real problem (not just Canberra - Australia-wide) - will be extending powers to include power to close down premises for 24 hours - injuries to police are a particular concern
- Parking on sidewalks - TAMS is responsible for this issue
- Monitoring of speed of cars on back roads - TAMS is responsible for white vans - we need to tell Police where the trouble spots are
- Graffiti reports - a shared responsibility between TAMS and police
- Use of motorbikes in nature reserve - police concerned about the reported lack of response to reports - there may have been a breakdown in communication - will follow up incident raised by Waltraud.

General Business

- Jochen reported that he has received a new Deed of Grant from the Chief Minister's Dept
- A letter has been sent requesting a community Cabinet meeting in North Canberra
- Consultation has begun on planning for Kenny

- It is completely designed around cars, with a large, Dickson-sized commercial centre which will be completely car-bound
- NCCC agreement with Village Company about North Watson
 - They have put funding into community engagement and the nature reserve, and fencing around the area
 - An issue is a pedestrian crossing across Antill Street
 - Conservation Council looking at community engagement
 - Carrie raised the possibility of moving existing buildings somewhere else to be used for a community centre
- Waltaud reported that there will be a community consultation about Canberra Nature Reserve at 5.30pm on 26 May
 - There was also an NCA Forum on this issue on 29 April
 - There will be a review of the open space system for the National Capital
 - The review will concern the Nature Park, but the Park will be quite safe - it is covered under conservation legislation
 - But mentioned that some parts of the Nature Park have high conservation values, and others don't - so there is the possibility of building on some of the Nature Park - we will need to look at this closely
 - We also need to clarify the status of the review of Monash Drive - it was agreed to write to the NCA to seek clarification
- ACT Budget outcomes
 - No funding for Majura Parkway
 - Funding for traffic lights on Majura/Phillip intersection
 - Planners said they would get back to us on feasibility of intermittent traffic lights
- Caroline described the issues relating to proposed changes in the Abatement Tax
 - Currently a single price for changes to occupancy - not related to value of property
 - Proposal is to change this - will raise significant additional revenue and be fairer
 - Risk is that the price shouldn't be so high to discourage redevelopment in older suburbs (given environmental consequences of green fields developments)
- Regional Development Australia will be holding stakeholder liaison across NSW and the ACT
- NRMA is offering grants for proposals for older road users

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 16 June.