

# **NORTH CANBERRA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **COMMITTEE MEETING**

**7.30pm 21 September 2011**

**ACT Sports House, Hackett**

### **Draft Minutes**

#### **1. Opening**

The meeting was opened at 7:35 with Jochen Zeil in the Chair. A warm welcome was extended to all present.

#### **2. Attendance/Apologies**

Present: Jochen Zeil, Leon Arundell, Richard Larson, Bruce Smith, Laura Turnbull

Apologies: Mike Hettinger, Shane Rattenbury, Caroline Le Couteur, Renzo Grobbin

#### Visitors:

Waltraud Pix – Hackett

James Walker – Hackett

Jackie de Chaza

Freddie Turnbull - Hackett

#### **3. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising**

The draft minutes from August 17 were accepted..

#### **4. Business Arising from August 17**

##### **1. Size of Assembly**

Bruce Smith is still working on a draft motion to increase the size of the Legislative Assembly, proposing one additional Minister and two extra members be added.

##### **2. Pedestrian lights**

The NCCC Secretary has used a draft prepared by Leon Arundel to write to the ACT Minister for Territory and Municipal Services supporting changes to pedestrian lights to make them safer for pedestrians.

##### **3. Very fast train**

Bruce is still working on a draft motion asking the ACT Government to comment on its preferred position on a route and terminus for a VFT.

#### **5. Business**

- 1. AGM 2011.** Jochen Zeil moved to bring the AGM forward to Wednesday October 12 as he was unavailable to attend a meeting on October 19. The meeting agreed to move the date forward. Action: Jochen agreed to contact the City Chronicle to publicise the AGM and to invite guest speakers Sherry McArdle-English and Frank de Loo for the meeting. Jochen is preparing

financial statements. Hopefully, an audited financial statement should be ready to present at the AGM.

**2. Launch of the 2011-12 Strategic Regional Plan.** Richard Larson introduced the topic and sent around a hardcopy version of the plan for perusal at the meeting. The discussion was brief. There was some agreement between the Secretary and Chair that the updated version of the plan was a shallow document, and didn't offer any real new ideas or solutions. The plan was prepared by Regional Development Australia, Australian Capital Territory (RDA ACT). This is an initiative jointly funded by the Commonwealth Government and the Chief Minister and Cabinet Directorate.

**3. Carrying Capacity of the ACT and Region.** Richard Larson introduced the topic by giving a summary of the Hansard transcript of proceedings of the Standing Committee on Climate Change Environment and Water hearing held on 8 September. The hearings are part of the ongoing inquiry held with experts in the field. The committee on this occasion heard from the ACT Chief Minister and representatives from RDA ACT. The Chief Minister spoke about population pressures, and the RDA commented on community engagement and grant money available through RDA. The RDA ACT Executive Officer mentioned that obtaining grant money "is sometimes a hard fit, especially for small not-for-profits, because the minimum value you can ask for under this fund is half a million and the maximum is \$25 million." The NCCC would be interested in seeking funding for a worthy community project if one could be found.

**4. Update on multi-unit residential development Marsden Street Dickson.** Richard Larson was sent an email just before the meeting. A group of Dickson residents are planning an appeal of the approval of a 10 unit development, and were seeking assistance with information gathering to further their case. This would have involved expertise and labour which NCCC committee members cannot provide. As a non incorporated body, they also have difficulties administering funds needed for the appeal. The NCCC has offered suggestions on how it might help with finances and administration, but this remains unresolved.

## **6. Other business**

**1. High speed rail.** NCCC sent our Deputy Chair (Leon Arundell) to a high speed rail forum sponsored by RDA ACT in association with the ACT Business Council. The long term goal would be connectors from Brisbane to Melbourne costing \$100 billion. There were a number of talks, one on the movement of freight from Canberra International Airport to Sydney by Andrew Barr. Participants were divided on a terminus location, some in the City, most at the Airport. The trip to Sydney would take approximately one hour. Seventy to eighty movements daily are projected in the far-off future. The Sydney-Canberra portion of the route costs would vary from \$11

billion (Airport terminus) to \$25 billion (Civic terminus). Operational greenhouse emissions are estimated to be:

1/3 of cars

1/4 of air

> or = to coach

< or = to traditional track train

**2. Centenary Trail.** Jochen Zeil has agreed to prepare a response to this proposal for the committee's consideration.

### **7. Next Meeting**

AGM scheduled Wednesday October 12 2011

### **8. Closure**

Meeting closed at 9.30

Richard Larson

Secretary

North Canberra Community Council

3 October 2011