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Protecting, promoting and enhancing the economic, cultural, social and environmental well-being of the residents of North Canberra

The North Canberra Community Council receives funding and support from the ACT Government



Minutes: Committee meeting 7pm 19 February 2020 Downer Community Centre, Frencham Place, Downer

Minute taker for the meeting: Chris Finnigan (Secretary)

Attendance: Marg Dudley, Margaret Henderson, Gordon McAllister, Marcus Hipkins, Simon Clarke, Andrea Madon, Bruce Pink, Jane Goffman, Geoff Francis, Marianne Albury-Colless, Bruce Smith, Rosina Wainwright, Angela Rymer, Paul Costigan, Leon Arundell, Waltraud Pix, Jochen Zeil.

Observers: Joanna Curtis (President of Turner Residents Association, will formally join NCCC going forward).

A. Machinery of NCCC Governance

- a) Email traffic and communication among Committee members;
 - a. **Confirmed that Committee Meetings will always start at 7pm;**
 - b. **Confirmed that NCCC will have Committee and General meetings on alternating months. Jochen advises that the intent is to reduce unnecessary time burdens on people, but that members of the public are still welcome to attend Committee meetings as observers.**
- b) Regarding email traffic:
 - a. The Committee discusses how the intent of the current email system, where most of the correspondence goes to office bearers and is distributed if deemed of interest to the Committee, is to reduce unnecessary junk mail for most members, noting that there are, on average, 20 emails a day.
 - b. Jane Goffman suggest that there could be a member's login through the NCCC website – to have a capacity to look at any particular news content that comes through.
 - i. **Jochen agrees that we'll ask Lance (who runs the website) if that can be added.**
 - c. NCCC agrees that, considering the large quantity of junk mail that comes through, we'll continue with the current system until it stops working.
 - d. Regarding live-streaming of meetings:
 - i. Marcus outlines how NCCC live-streaming originated as part of the response to criticism that NCCC was not engaging with the community through digital channels. He notes that the audience can vary from 10-

200 views, depending on the issue, and that we have the (albeit lo-fi) equipment to continue recording.

- ii. NCCC members discuss the merits of recording. On the one hand, there are privacy issues, including that it reduces people's capacity to express their views candidly. On the other hand, it improves accessibility to the NCCC, especially for people with hearing or mobility loss, and improves transparency. It is also noted that published meeting minutes address many of these issues.

iii. **It is agreed that only the guest presentations will be recorded.**

c) Framework for funding/membership decisions;

- a. Bruce presents the Financial Paper setting out the NCCC's previous and projected expenditure for 2019-20, and proposed rules for ongoing administration of NCCC finances. He proposes that funding requests of less than \$1000 could be approved by the Officer Bearers (with approvals reported to the following Committee meeting);

- i. The NCCC discusses the challenges of ensuring an equitable split of funding across residents associations (and remaining consistent with the Corporations Act) and the appropriate framework for balancing the need for smaller payments, such as website costs, against larger funding requests.

- ii. **The Committee agrees that Office Bearers make funding decisions, unanimously, on requests up to \$500 and requests above \$500 agreed by the Committee, by a majority of a quorum of Committee members who respond at the next meeting or within an appropriate period.**

- b. **Bruce presents the funding requests at Attachment C of the Paper, which would commit \$11,033 of NCCC's 2019-20 funding.**

- i. The Committee notes that, while there are time pressures associated with the current year's budget, it will be important to establish a framework that ensures an equitable split of funding between residents associations going forward. Joanna Curtis from the Turner Residents Association advises that she had not been aware of the opportunity to request funding and requests the opportunity to put in a funding, which is agreed to. Andrea also agrees to put together a funding request for a local survey of the North Canberra community.

- ii. **The Committee agrees to the funding requests at Attachment C, to reporting on the split of funding between residents associations, and that the proposals are invoiced or committed by 30 June 2020.**

c. New membership applications are enclosed below:

- i. Gillian Reeves (Rivett)
- ii. Warwick Lavers (Campbell)
- iii. Lisa-Marie Iorfino (Watson)
- iv. Louise Baker (Northbourne)

d) Framework for determining guest presentations;

- a. The Committee note that there are several presentation requests pending:
 - i. YWCA – to provide an update on the proposed use of 11 Rutherford Crescent Ainslie through their Yhomes project;
 - ii. EvoEnergy – to provide an update on their strategy on ACT gas networks for the next 5 years;
 - iii. ACT Health – to discuss the new Dickson walk-in centre; and
 - iv. ACT Transport Minister Chris Steele – to discuss the new bus timetables.
- b. The Committee agrees that General Meetings should include up to three presentations (each with 15 minutes for presenting and 15 minutes for Q&A); and**
- c. agrees to invite YWCA, ACT Health, and also the Environmental Defenders Office or the Conservation Council, regarding the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act statutory review.**
- e) NCCC representatives at Airport, Combined Community Council, Environment & Planning Forum etc.
 - a. Jane Goffman and Marianne Albury-Colless agree to represent NCCC at the next Environment & Planning Forum meeting on 24 February 2020.
 - b. Jochen will organize and represent NCCC at the next Combined Community Council Meeting on 14 March 2020.
 - c. Bob Ross will continue to represent NCCC at the Community Aviation Consultation Group (CACG).

B. Presentations from resident/community associations

- a) Associations to outline key concerns and priorities;
 - a. Marg Dudley (Campbell) discusses how the upcoming review of the Territory Plan and Precinct Plan will have a significant impact on North Canberra and proposes that NCCC make a submission.
 - b. Jochen raises the issue of the ACT Government often side-stepping the community consultation process with parallel surveys of dubious methodology.
 - c. Margaret Henderson (Campbell) raises the issue of construction quality and ensuring new developments are constructed to high standards.
 - d. Simon Clarke (Watson) identifies the relocation of Summernats as a key priority, noting the environmental and social impact on the suburb from the event.
 - e. Rosina raises the issue of construction quality and adds that challenging the constructions requires legal expertise that is beyond most people.
 - f. Gordon McAllister (Lyneham) raises ongoing concerns with the Brindabella Christian College and concerns about the impacts of encroaching development on Sullivans Creek, both in terms of environmental impacts and local amenity.
 - g. Joanna (Turner) advises of similar issues to Lyneham in terms of encroachment around Sullivans Creek.

- h. Jane (Dickson) outlines three key issues: one, the importance of protecting the local parklands, wetlands and open spaces; two, the associated issues of densification increasing the urban heat island effect, particularly in the town centre where the future Coles development is located; and three, concerns about the Development Application for the Common Ground project in Section 72 (in particular, the limited flood-mapping and mitigation).
- i. **The Committee agreed that the Territory Plan Working Group, originally established by Leon Arundell, develop a submission on behalf of NCCC.**

Close of meeting at 9.20pm

Committee meetings and general meetings are held on alternative months. The next Committee meeting will be held on 15 April