

# Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance

## Ordinary Meeting

### MINUTES

Tuesday 19 March 2019, 6.00 - 8.00pm

Magenta Room, Council Administration Building



<b>Present:</b>	Christine Aus, Robyn Charlton, Gabrielle Clappison, Steve Dewar, Avril Lockton, Jean McGarry, Colin Mondy Rachelle McConville (LMCC)
<b>Apologies:</b>	-

Start: 6.02pm

## 1 Acknowledgement of Country

Colin presented an acknowledgement of Country, and read an extract from the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

## 2 Conflict of interest

None stated

## 3 Previous meeting

### 3.1 Ordinary meeting minutes, 19 February 2018

*MOTION: That the previous meeting minutes dated 19 February 2018, be confirmed as an accurate record.*

*Moved: Steve. Seconded: Gab. Carried.*

### 3.2 Business arising from the minutes

- (December action): Letter was sent to catalogue distributors regarding littering of junk mail. No response received as yet. – Feb update: EPA Litter grants are available and might be suitable for a project targeting junk mail.  
ACTION: Rachelle to send follow up to prompt a response

## 4 Correspondence

- Signed agreement submitted to Children's University to sign the Alliance up as a Learning Destination
- Invitation to the Lake Macquarie Business breakfast event circulated to board members.
- Letter of support submitted to Council for inclusion in their grant application for the Fernleigh Awabakal Shared Pathway project.
- Letter to Council highlighting the need for shared pathways in western Lake Macquarie and offering to work more closely with Council to progress investment in this infrastructure. An acknowledgement email was received.

- Request from Newcastle University for board members to participate in urban planning interviews for PhD study.
- Hunter Water presentation on Water Resilience received and circulated to network event attendees.
- Updated information from 2017-18 sent to Austcover for quote for insurance renewal (due 1 April).
- Waste to Art – Invitation to participate sent to Waste to Art contacts
- Grant application, 'Reviving Community Garden, Charlestown Pool' submitted to Council's Environmental Sustainability Grants
- Bring your bills and Community expo information circulated to key contacts
- Grant application, 'Cardiff Pollinator Plan' submitted to Council's Environmental Sustainability Grants
- Tree canopy proposal and request to staff regarding progress on the Urban Forestry Strategy was submitted to Council staff.

## 5 Treasurers report

### 5.1 Treasurer's report for February 2019

See attached below.

Moved: Jean. Seconded: Robyn. Carried.

## 6 For discussion & decision

### 6.1 Sustainable Neighbourhoods Strategy

Final Strategic Plan now available on website and sent to network!

Discussion about how best to keep ourselves and our membership focused on these strategic directions and actions. Agreed that Rachelle will provide monthly progress updates to board meetings, including quarterly reviews in May, August, November, and February.

Also discussed the need to prioritise the actions in the Strategy.

ACTION: Board members to identify top 3 priority actions.

ACTION: Identify key tasks or roles and recruitment messages for Sponsorship (Colin), Youth (Steve) and Marketing (Gab) teams. Rachelle to assist.

### 6.2 Nature play forum – opportunity for Alliance stall

Warners Bay, Greater Charlestown and Dudley are collaborating to put on a Nature Play forum on Wednesday 29 May, 6.30-8pm at Club Macquarie. The forum aims to bring parents, teachers and nature play educators together to discuss opportunities in the region.

Agreed that the Alliance would like to have a stall there. ACTION: Steve and Colin are available to run the stall.

### 6.3 SNG stalls at polling places

Query from Greater Charlestown SNG regarding having an SN promotional stall at election polling places. Focus would be on promoting SN groups and activities (not promoting any particular political party), and taking advantage of a captive audience.

Agreed that the board have no objections to this. Could be a good idea for many groups, as polling places attract a very local audience. Suggest contacting the polling place directly (eg school or church) to see what is possible.

## **7 Requests and risk assessments**

### **7.1 Harmony Day Tree Planting at Green Body Gym, Cardiff Area, 23 March**

Risk assessment circulated via email. Approved

### **7.2 Twilight Picnic in the Park, Cardiff Area, 24 March**

Risk assessment circulated via email. Approved

### **7.3 Reviving Community Garden Charlestown Pool, Greater Charlestown**

Grant application approved via email and submitted to Council's Environmental Sustainability Grants.

### **7.4 Cardiff Pollinator Plan, Cardiff Area**

Grant application approved via email and submitted to Council's Environmental Sustainability Grants.

### **7.5 Neighbour Day event, Wyee Hall, 31 March**

Request from Wyee Hall operating committee to partner with Morisset and Peninsula SNG (MAPS) for their Neighbour Day event. MAPs are happy to do this, and Rachelle can assist with administration and promotion. Awaiting risk assessment.

### **7.6 Cardiff Area SNG stall at RSL club Youth Expo, 12 April**

Risk assessment circulated via email. Approved.

## **8 Report backs**

### **8.1 Visiting local group meetings**

- Rathmines Area
  - Very positive about the teams and will wait for more info about their formation.
  - Keen to open up communication channels with Council staff as they are constrained by the Rathmines Master Plan.
  - They stated how important the shared pathway to Kilaben Bay/Toronto was to them, so they praised the Alliance letter regarding shared pathways on the west side of the Lake.
  - Keen to have a repair cafe at Rathmines, and pointed out their antique boat builders group and Wangi Men's Shed could be involved.
- Cardiff Area
  - Gab attending March meeting

ACTION: Rachelle to send reminder to board members for arrangements to attend remaining local group meetings.

### **8.2 Team recruitment**

Summary of roles is now on website, and promotional messages have been drafted. Next step is to prioritise roles, and target specific organisations / people to recruit team members.

### **8.3 Tree canopy strategy**

The tree canopy proposal and request to staff regarding progress on the Urban Forestry Strategy was submitted to Council staff. Working towards a meeting in early April with key staff and SN representatives.

#### **8.4 Insurance renewal**

Have sent information to AustCover for insurance renewal for April.

#### **8.5 February Networking event**

Seventeen participants attended, but not all stayed till the end. Hunter Water presentation on Water Resilience was interesting – presentation has been sent to attendees and SN news.

Spaghetti marshmallow challenge was fun. Here are some photos:

<https://www.facebook.com/SustainableNeighbourhoodsLakeMacquarie/posts/2124442484290632>

#### **8.6 Report from February Coastal Zone Management Committee meeting**

- Upper Cockle Creek Floodplain Management plan. Mentioned project management tool in particular – management matrix ratings.
- The Committee has requested information about seismic testing in the region.

#### **8.7 Dantia report back and invitation to Alliance board meeting**

Robyn, Chris and Nico attended a meeting with Peter Francis, CEO of Dantia as they had requested more information about the Council motion of 29 October 2018. Peter provided a presentation on Dantia's Economic Development Strategy for 2018-2038, but was unable to provide the Strategy itself.

ACTION: Submit request to Council for information session regarding the Economic Development Strategy

#### **8.8 Waste to Art**

Initial invitations have been sent to previous participants and art groups. Also listed in the Eco Advocate and scheduled for Council Facebook, school newsletter and other promo opportunities.

#### **8.9 Repair Café**

Will request grant extension to end of June 2019. Just over \$2000 remaining to be spent.

Developing promotional brochure to be available for Plastic free booths in April.

Project team meeting planned for late March / early April to confirm upcoming dates and locations. Cardiff are holding a repair café event on Easter Monday.

#### **8.10 Plastic Free Toronto**

Kmart, Target, Chemist Warehouse and Reject Shop will very soon end free single use plastic bags.

It appears that pubs and clubs are phasing out plastic straws....all in Toronto have.

Will be distributing 'Plastic Free Toronto' posters to Cafes/ shops in Toronto to display if they have switched out of single use plastics.

#### **8.11 Plastic Free education booths, April (Alliance)**

Shopping centres have been booked and gathering products to promote alternatives to single use plastics. Also, advertising the Repair Cafes, but waiting for a Repair Cafe Meeting to confirm.

Shopping Centres:

- Monday 8 April, 3-6pm Morisset Shopping Centre
- Tuesday 9 April, 2-6pm Belmont Citi Centre
- Wednesday 10 April, 2.30-4.30pm Toronto Woolworths
- Thursday 11 April, 3-6pm Charlestown Square
- Saturday 13 April, 9am-12pm Stockland Glendale

#### **8.12 Valentine SNG are setting up a Facebook page**

#### **8.13 Toronto Picnic in the Park, 22 February (Five Bays and Toronto SNGs)**

Went really well but weather wasn't great. All the activities went really well. About 80 attended.

#### **8.14 Clean Up Aust Day, Sunday 3 March**

Sunday morning was bright and beautiful. Greater Charlestown SNG volunteers were joined by FIFTEEN cheerful students from Evatt House UON. There was quite a lot of take away litter, but no dumped objects as we have seen previously. The students said if we want assistance in the future to let them know. It was a very nice contact to make. And two of them left with a pair of Doc Martens that they plan to share. Score!

Warners Bay Mcdonalds – 30 bags. Noted many less containers and bottles than previous years.

Redhead - 53 volunteers 23 bags of rubbish and 2 bags recyclables. 1 bag of returnable containers.

#### **8.15 Autumn Plant Swap event 16 March, Greater Charlestown SNG**

16 March was too rainy. Has been postponed to 23 March

#### **8.16 Pamper Care project**

The Pamper Care Project, with its partners assisted six people, including a lady with five children. Thanks to the Australian Red Cross - Toronto 10 Scientific Calculators were donated to Toronto High School. Nova Women's Refuge and Lake Macquarie High also received donations.

The Project is seeking not only donations of Personal care items but non-perishable food product.

## **9 For Information**

### **9.1 Harmony Day, 21 March**

### **9.2 Earth Hour, 30 March**

### **9.3 Neighbour Day, 31 March**

9.4 **Have a look at #trashtag.** We could do this for any of our clean up events.

9.5 **Survivors are us.** Organisation in Cardiff offering low price groceries.

## **10 Meeting close**

Close: 8.08pm

**Next meeting date:** Tuesday 16 April, 6pm

### **Treasurer's Report**

**LAKE MACQUARIE SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS ALLIANCE**

**GENERAL MEETING**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**1 February to 28 February, 2019.**



Account 06 2806 10352969 with Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Charlestown Branch.

**Balance** **\$ 10,322.70CR**

**RECEIPTS**

01 February Dep	\$ 300.00
22 February 000437 Pamper Care Proj	<u>50.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 350.00

**EXPENDITURE**

04 Feb Chq 000117	37.17
13 Feb Chq 000118	<u>302.58</u>
Total Expenditure	\$ 339.75

**BALANCE** **\$ 10,332.95CR**

This is a true statement of accounts for the Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhoods Alliance for the period 1 February to 28 February, 2019.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Name Jean McGarry

Title Hon Treasurer

Date 18 March, 2019.