

Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance

Ordinary Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 16 June 2015, 6.00 – 8.00pm

Committee Room, Lake Macquarie City Council Administration Building, Speers Point



Attendees:	Steve Dewar, Norbert Lica (arrived 6.30pm), Jean McGarry, Colin Mondy, Dot Seiffert Rachelle McConville (LMCC) Christine Harle (LMCC – Sustainability Engagement Coordinator)
Apologies:	Avril Lockton, Christine Aus, Susan Denholm (leave)

1 Welcome & acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the Awabakal people who are the traditional custodians of this land. We would also like to pay respect to Elders both past and present of the Awabakal nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people present.

2 Apologies

2.1 Apologies

As above.

2.2 Leave request

Chris's daughter is still unwell, and she has requested leave from evening meetings until further notice. Chris is still keen and able to participate in discussions and decisions that need to be made via email.

MOTION: To grant a leave of absence to Christine Aus from evening meetings until further notice.

Moved: Dot

Seconded: Colin

Passed unanimously

3 Conflict of interest

None reported.

4 Previous meeting

4.1 Ordinary meeting minutes, 19 May 2015 as circulated

MOTION: That the previous meeting minutes dated 19 May 2015, be confirmed as an accurate record.

Moved: Steve

Seconded: Colin

Passed unanimously

4.2 Business arising from the minutes

- **Cycling and transport** proposed special agenda item – postponed for now (check when Chris is available)

Rachelle is attending meeting with relevant Council staff, 17 June, and will report back with ideas for how the Sustainable Neighbourhood network could effectively contribute to this issue.

- **Accountant – audited report for 2013-14.** Huw Thomas completed an audit of the Alliance's accounts for the 2013-14 financial year, and waived his fee for taking so long. The audit report has been circulated via email, and states that our books are all up to scratch as required. Rachelle can now go ahead and formally apply for an 'Authority to fundraise' for the Alliance.

ACTION: Rachelle to enquire whether Huw is able to audit the Redhead SNG's accounts.

- Unsuccessful in **Blue Star Awards**.
- **Hunter Electric Vehicle Festival** – Rachelle has enquired about having an Alliance stall there, and asked them to clarify which date(s) would be most suitable.
 - Wednesday 13 August: Race Day – that schools participate in
 - Saturday 3 October: Electric Vehicle Festival as part of the 'Smart Future Cities 2015' conference in Newcastle. \$300 to have a stall there. (www.smartfuturecities.com.au)

Discussed that it's not affordable for the Alliance to pay \$300 for a stall.

- **Success stories / network gathering** – originally scheduled for June, but now looking at a July date.

5 Correspondence

- Email conversation regarding OEH Home Power Savings kits, 19 May. Note that 200 showbags picked up and in storage ready for the eco health fest.
- Receipt of auditor's report for 2013-14 accounts, 20 May.
- Submission to the KABNSW Blue Star Awards, 20 May
- Copy of grant acceptance for Local Land Services grant to Morisset and Peninsula SNG project, Eco Health Expo, 25 May
- Submitted grant agreements to Council for 2 projects, 28 May
 - 'Dob in a Dumper', West Wallsend SNG, \$667
 - Dudley community nature play project, Dudley SNG, \$2580
- Invoice to Council to accept Community Funding Program grant to Morisset and Peninsula SNG project, Eco Health Expo, 2 June

6 Treasurers report

See report attached below.

MOTION: That the Treasurer's report as attached is accepted.

Moved: Steve
Seconded: Dot
Passed unanimously

Thank you to Jean for her work in her role as Treasurer. Certificate of appreciation presented to Jean from the Commonwealth Bank.

7 For discussion & decision

7.1 Plastic bag campaign

A campaign proposal and draft survey have been circulated to board members for feedback. Feedback to be incorporated includes:

- Happy with the proposal so far
- Include an action to encourage retailers to provide reusable bags that can be bought instead?
- Indicate supermarkets and shopping centres as key targets to change behaviour.

- Get rid of the acronyms
- Change Q 3 to agree / disagree with the proposed actions.

Proposal: To amend proposed campaign outline as discussed, and circulate proposal and survey amongst Sustainable Neighbourhood network for their feedback.

Moved: Steve
 Seconded: Colin
 Passed unanimously

8 Requests from member groups

8.1 Risk Assessment: Eco Angel Clean Up, Dora Creek Foreshore. Morisset and Peninsula SNG, 21 June 2015.

Risk assessment circulated via email.

Dora Creek Rural Fire Brigade will be providing a BBQ on the day, and have agreed to provide their own insurance for the BBQ part of the activity.

8.2 Southlake Eco Health Expo, 28 June

Successful grants for the event:

- Council Community Funding Program - \$790 for venue hire, paid advertising and PA hire.
- Hunter Local Land Services - \$2000 for speaker fees, paid advertising and promotional materials

Risk assessment currently being finalised.

A speaker / workshop schedule, site plan, list of stallholders and the promotional poster have also been requested.

ACTION: The risk assessment will be circulated to board members for review via email on Wednesday 17 June.

Alliance stall at the expo. Dot and Steve volunteered to run the stall. Steve can pick up gear from Landcare 3pm Thurs beforehand.

ACTION: Rachelle to seek extra volunteers for alliance stall.

9 Current project updates

9.1 Sponsorship proposal

Steve has revisited [Solar Power Australia](#) (in Warners Bay), and reminded them of our sponsorship proposal. The Manager agreed to examine our proposal carefully. He said he may meet us in a week or two, but doesn't sound hopeful. Steve has visited again, and they still haven't looked at it.

ACTION: Rachelle to re-send the proposal to them, and request a meeting time.

Outstanding action from May meeting: Suggest next organisation to approach could be SUEZ environnement. Rachelle to investigate.

9.2 High Schools project

Steve has visited Belmont High School recently to good reception.

Have recently contacted Morisset, Cardiff, Glendale, and Booragul High Schools, and plans to visit them soon.

10 Report backs from member groups

10.1 Toronto Area – Tossers can be binners – stage 2: fast food rubbish

ClubGrants application submitted by Toronto Tidy Towns (affiliated with TASNG). Project is aiming to reduce litter from fast food outlets in western Lake Macquarie. Includes installation of signage and recycling bins on fast food premises; approaching Council to install signage along roadways; and education / promotional activities.

TASNG may require volunteer / PL insurance from the Alliance to deliver the project. If so, risk assessment will be submitted.

Some other related updates:

- Woolies (nationally) has committed to reducing plastic wrap of veggies (eg wrapping 2 avocados together).
- Coles – recycling plastic bags + other soft / scrunchable plastics – can all go in the 'plastic bag recycling bin'. More information here: www.coles.com.au/corporate-responsibility/responsible-sourcing-and-sustainability/waste
- 'Hey Tosser' – littering reporting app or website from the EPA.

10.2 Toronto Area – Footpath improvement project with Coal Point Progress Association.

Coal Point Progress Association's grant to the NRMA (for their footpath project) was unsuccessful.

ClubGrant grant submission for footpath project. Circulated via email for information.

10.3 Redhead – planning an 'emergency ready' / storm debrief event, 23 June

What were peoples' experiences in the storm and what could we have done better.

10.4 West Wallsend – looking at holding a 'waste as art' competition in conjunction with the Billy Cart Derby in October.

10.5 Dora Creek – working with Council on 'whole of community emergency planning'

Film screening, 12 August and community workshop later in August.

10.6 Dudley Community Garden – planning for their first working bee

10.7 Redhead newsletter

Latest edition has gone out to 1500 residents and businesses.

10.8 Lake Macquarie Wetlands Park

Redhead, Dudley and Greater Charlestown groups have jointly written to OEH, Minister for Planning, and local MPs, and have received responses that there is some progress eg biobanking in part of it. The groups now plan to meet with Council staff to find out more about the boundaries.

11 General business

11.1 **Save the date:** Saturday 26 September, 8-2pm. Living Smart Festival

12 For information only

- Alliance website activity for May: 620 unique visitors, 4411 pageviews.

13 Next meeting date: Tuesday 21 July, 6-8pm

14 Meeting close

Attachment: Treasurer's Report

LAKE MACQUARIE SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS ALLIANCE

GENERAL MEETING

19 June, 2015

TREASURER'S REPORT

1 May 2015 to 31 May, 2015



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

Balance **\$ 5,052.65**

RECEIPTS

Interest Credit	0.05c
Bicycle Network (Toronto SNA)	100.00
LMCC-981558	667.00
LMCC-981558a	2,580.00
Total Receipts	\$ 3,347.05

EXPENDITURE

Chq 000033 –F.Jacobi-Sutton Dud.SNG	393.00
Chq 000034 “	21.50
Chq 000035 “	112.57
Total Expenditure	\$ 527.07

BALANCE **\$ 7,872.63**

This is a true statement of accounts for the Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhoods Alliance for the period ended 31 May, 2015.

Signed _____

Name Jean McGarry

Title Hon Treasurer

Date 16 June, 2015.