

Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance Inc

Board meeting – MINUTES

Wednesday 1 March 2022, 6.00-7.15pm

Online via MS Teams



Present: Gabrielle Clappison, Steve Dewar, Nico Marcar, Jean McGarry, Bruce Robertson, Bruce Tozer

Chris Harle, Sustainability Engagement Coordinator (Council)

Andrew Bryant, Community Partnerships Manager (Council)

Apologies: Mark Howells, Mackenzie Robson

MINUTES

1. Welcome and acknowledgement of Country

Check in and 3min video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m0xmFiWFBOA>

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

2. Special guest: Andrew Bryant, Manager Community Partnerships

Opportunity for informal catch up with Andrew and Chris about opportunities related to Sustainable Neighbourhoods and Council.

- Steve Dewar expressed dissatisfaction with the meeting being online and had not realised so had travelled to Council admin building.
- Steve Dewar raised issues with Warners Bay Landcare to which AB responded that Council was currently working with the group to resolve the long-standing issues.
- Bruce Tozer noted successful partnership with Oz Fish.
- Nico Marcar requested an update on the Tiny Forest project and AB noted the current status of the project from Council's viewpoint.

3. Board member visits to local groups

Valuable for board members to visit one or two local groups that you're otherwise unfamiliar with to share information and create closer connections between the board and the wider SN network.

Each group and their meeting times are listed in a shared document.

Steve Dewar indicated he is unable to edit google docs due to him using a Mac.

ACTION: Please nominate one or two groups you intend to visit (add your name to the doc above), and contact them directly to confirm their upcoming meeting times.

4. Display space at Landcare and Sustainable Living Centre

Lois (deputy Chair Landcare network) suggested we might want to help plan a display in the foyer along with the Landcare network. The foyer of the new building lends itself to be an area where people gather, read books and wait for people or resources. It is an area where we could possibly have a casual educational display.

What comes to my mind is "Plastic free Lake Macquarie" "city wide events" "promotions for activities displaying actions individuals can take part in," there are some many activities which cross over in our ethos and efforts.

Proposed resolution: The Alliance accept invitation to be on a committee to help plan the display space.

Accepted by all: Gabrielle Clappison, Steve Dewar and Bruce Tozer nominated to be on committee.

PROJECT UPDATES, REPORT BACKS, UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: Please read through these prior to the meeting. We will not read out each item at the meeting, but there will be opportunity to add recent information or ask questions.

5. Strategic Plan Review

Rachelle has started developing the volunteer survey. Aiming to send out to volunteers in mid March.

Board members have each nominated particular actions they would like to pursue.

For each area (eg visibility, financial, volunteer support, impact) need to get together as a small team to discuss details about how they want to do this. This can involve pursuing an existing action or revisiting, reviewing or changing the action to something more useful.

Report back to April meeting.

6. Insurance renewal

Rachelle has started making inquiries to our insurance provider to renew the policy for the coming 12 months.

7. Repair Café

Repair Cafe Saturday 25 February, as part of the umali barai-ku opening celebrations.

8. Landcare and Sustainable Living Centre, umali Barai-ku opening – report back

Thank you to all who volunteered and/or attended on Saturday 18th Feb for the public opening of the Landcare and Sustainable Living Centre, Umali barai-ku, translated from Awabakal language means "to do for the earth."

454 people joined us under heatwave conditions, although being in the new building, you couldn't feel the heat. The event was very close to zero waste with free pizza's and sorbets, which was very much appreciated by all who were present. According to the feedback from the day 76 people attended for the first time, 24 people looking at ways to volunteer, 91 are keen for Gardening workshops and 86 wanting Sustainability workshops.

It was day full of activities our amazing Sam Doove (WBASNG) was on a panel with Hannah Moloney (from Gardening Australia) and other Lake Mac environmental leaders, speaking about “Living the Good Life”



9. ReLeaf

- Tree Trail at the MAC – Grant final report completed, approved by board and submitted to Council.
Congratulations Robyn and the ReLeaf team for a great project. Engaged with more than 1000 people to date, including launch attendees, visitors to the trail and participants at a Council-led workshop in January.
Successful model that could be used for other tree trails elsewhere around the city. Also potential to add more information to the website as further research is completed.
Visit the Tree Trail in person at the MAC Sculpture Park, and find out more here: [MAC tree trail \(sustainableneighbourhoods.org.au\)](http://www.sustainableneighbourhoods.org.au)
- Valentine verge greening project – planting completed and looking great.
- Tiny forest
- Styles Point – progress on OzFish partnership?

10. Waste to Art

Three great expressions of interest received. Planning volunteer induction for Wednesday 15 March.

<http://www.sustainableneighbourhoods.org.au/waste-to-art.html>

11. Toronto Area SNG projects

Toronto Area Sustainable Neighbourhood Group has been busy supporting a Boomerang Bag fabric group at Toronto Library, a Simtable exhibition at Coal Pt hall, clearing a wetland area to set up tracks at Fennel Bay Bridge. Preparing for fast food Recycling Campaign on Cleanup Australia weekend, Repair Cafe March 18 at the Hub, Graffiti Cleanup Toronto CBD soon.

12. Clean Up Australia Day

Lots of Clean Up sites around the city. If your group hasn't organised a site, go and join an existing site: <https://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/join-a-clean-up>

13. ANZAC Wreath making and tool repair

Save the date for 23 April – Cardiff Area SNG

14. Circular Economy presentation

Greater Charlestown SNG are organising a talk with Council's Asset Optimisation Officer, Samantha Bourke, to talk about a circular economy, and ways that community can encourage and participate.

Save the date for Thursday 11 May, 7pm. More details to come.

15. Badges

New name badges have been ordered. Chris Harle noted they have been received at Council.

16. RISK ASSESSMENTS AND REQUESTS

- **Toronto Area SNG – Education stall and Clean Up Aus day, 4 March.** Risk assessment circulated and approved via email.
- **Toronto Area SNG – Monthly Boomerang Bag sewing activities with Toronto Library.** Risk assessment circulated and approved via email.
- **Five Bays SNG – Simtable event with HJO, 28 February.** Risk assessment circulated and approved via email.

17. TREASURER'S REPORT

February Treasurer's Report pending.

Resolution: The board accepts the Treasurer's report.

Moved: Nico Marcar

Seconded: Steve Dewar

18. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

February meeting minutes were circulated via email.

Resolution: Confirm that the previous meeting minutes are an accurate record.

Moved: Nico Marcar

Seconded: Steve Dewar

19. REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Board members are required to immediately declare any: direct or indirect pecuniary interest; or any non-pecuniary conflict of interest; or potential perception of a conflict of interest in any matter before the Board. The following potential conflict is noted by the board, and recorded in the register of interests.

20. CORRESPONDENCE

31 January – 27 February 2023

- Boomerang Alliance guide to key policies and positions – forwarded to board members
- Various correspondence with Council regarding the Tiny Forest project
- Sustainable Neighbourhood News, February 2023
- Ausgrid resilience workshops – Invitations to various local SN groups
- 'Toronto Tackles Tossers' media release promoting TASNG recycling campaign
- Request to insurer for 2023 renewal documents

21. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Nico Marcar and Steve Dewar gave an update on the Ausgrid Workshop they attended. Workshops are seeking community feedback into seeking additional funds from customers (through a submission to their regulator) for initiatives that will improve system resilience.
- Bruce Tozer asked Andrew Bryant how Council checks the status of environmental offsets (i.e. when a DA is lodged and environmental offsets are proposed to replace natural environment, how do we know this actually take places).
- Andrew Bryant gave an update on the availability of University students for one off volunteering projects.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 5 April, 6pm

LAKE MACQUARIE SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOOD ALLIANCE



GENERAL MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

1 February, 2023 to 28 February, 2023

Account 724181724 with Greater Bank, Charlestown Branch.

Balance **\$ 30,984.92 CR**

RECEIPTS

06 Feb 2023 EFT Dep R. Halton Pamper Care \$ 80.00

Total Income **\$ 80.00**

EXPENDITURE

10 Feb 2023 WDL ref 19545890 Pamper Care \$ 403.33

21 Feb 2023 WDL 58075656 LMCC CRN 03143807 122.98

Total Expenditure **\$ 526.31**

BALANCE **\$ 30,538.61CR**

This is a true statement of accounts for the Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhoods Alliance Inc. for the period 1 February, to 28 February, 2023.

Signed _____

Name Jean McGarry

Title Hon Treasurer

Date 1 March, 2023