

Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance

Ordinary Meeting

MINUTES

Tuesday 21 February 2017, 6.00 - 8.00pm

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



| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Present: | Robyn Charlton, Indra Deamer, Steve Dewar, Norbert Lica, Avril Lockton, Jean McGarry, Dot Seiffert Rachelle McConville (LMCC) Wes Hain (LMCC) Janita Klein (LMCC) |
| Apologies: | Colin Mondy |

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

As above.

3 Conflict of interest

None stated.

4 Previous meeting

4.1 Ordinary meeting minutes, 20 December 2016

MOTION: *That the previous meeting minutes dated 20 December 2016, be confirmed as an accurate record.*

Moved: Steve. Seconded: Robyn. Carried.

4.2 Business arising from the minutes

- Report-back regarding trolley management. Council is considering trolley locking system – media articles.
- Paper/cardboard 'I heart my Dog' poop scoop bags. Colin contacted the suppliers in the Netherlands to see if they are available in Australia. The cost for 750 bags is AUD\$73 (= \$0.09/bag). But with the shipping it would be AUD\$204 for 750 bags (= \$0.27/bag). ACTION: Colin will follow up with manufacturers to investigate possibility of licencing a similar product in Australia. Or to find existing Australian manufacturers. Carried over from November meeting.
- ACTION: Suggestion to approach / research plastic manufacturers / packaging associations to tackle plastic packaging and pollution from the other end. – Carried over from November meeting.
- Discussion regarding a possible visit to Coastal Springs ('Spring water' bottling and plastic bottle manufacturing). Norbert and Dot intend to go on a tour as interested individuals, but will not be representing Sustainable Neighbourhoods. The board were clear that they do not want the visit to be misconstrued as support for a disposable plastic manufacturer.

5 Correspondence

- Invitation to CEN Networking event – see details below.
- A number of new enquiries coming through the website contact forms. These were directed to relevant groups, as required.
- Notes from the December teleconference of the Plastic Bag Alliance
- Invitation to attend the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan workshop (Tues 28 February) → Steve plans on attending.
- Various correspondence relating to Council's Coastal Zone Management Committee

6 Treasurers report

6.1 Treasurer's report for December 2016 and January 2017

See report attached, below.

MOTION: That the Treasurers Report is accepted.

Moved: Jean. Seconded: Steve. Carried.

7 Guest speaker: Wes Hain and Janita Klein – Community Strategic Plan

Community Vision and Values have now been formally adopted by Council. Now working to incorporate them into the Community Strategic Plan.

Current survey – 'Our future in focus': Have we got the long term goals right?

www.haveyoursaylakemac.com.au/future-in-focus. Opportunity to help prioritise goals and values. Closes 28 Feb.

The Community Strategic Plan will go on formal exhibition in May.

8 For discussion & decision

8.1 Welcome to the Warners Bay Area Sustainable Neighbourhood Group

Terms of Reference and Membership Register were circulated via email.

RESOLUTION: The Alliance officially ratifies the Terms of Reference for the Warners Bay Area Sustainable Neighbourhood Group and welcomes them as a new member group of the Alliance.

Moved: Robyn. Seconded: Jean. Carried.

8.2 Invitation: Lake Macquarie Environmental Networking event, 26 February

The Community Environment Network (CEN) has invited the SN Alliance to make a presentation at the 'Lake Mac Environmental Networking Event' on **Sunday, 26 Feb 9.30am-1pm, at Lakelands Community Centre.**

Dot is available to do a 5min presentation to give an overview of the Sustainable Neighbourhoods program and the Alliance.

Robyn will be talking and having a stall on the Awaba Conservation Area

Steve will be talking about the Plastic Pollution project.

Together they can have a small stall with SN brochures and the pull up banner

ACTION: Rachele to organise some materials for Steve to pick up Thurs/Fri

8.3 Procedure for managing grant funds

New document to add to the toolkit to clarify the process for SNGs:

- to seek approval from the Alliance Board before applying for a grant;
- and how to access grant (and other) funds that are held in the Alliance bank account.

The process outlines our existing procedures, but it's important to have this documented for everyone.

Resolution: To approve the new procedure to be circulated to SNGs, and added to the toolkit.

Moved: Steve. Second: Indra. Carried.

9 Requests from member groups

9.1 Dudley Nature Play activities at monthly markets, January – December 2017

Risk assessment circulated and approved via email.

9.2 Rathmines Area Sustainable Neighbourhood – Launch event

Risk assessment circulated and approved via email.

9.3 Warners Bay Area Sustainable Neighbourhood – Launch event

Risk assessment circulated via email.

Approved.

9.4 West Wallsend District Sustainable Neighbourhood Group – Grant application – Community garden

Draft application expected in the next couple of days.

10 Report backs from member groups and projects

10.1 Congratulations to Australia Day Award winners!

Congratulations to all of the nominees and winners for their contributions to our community and environment. Especially to our Sustainable Neighbourhood winners:

- Cardiff Area Sustainable Neighbourhood Group - Community Group of the Year
- Wangi Centenary Celebrations (Wangi Area Sustainable Neighbourhood Group) - joint winners of the Community Event of the Year
- Frank Mieszala, a member of the Pelican Area Sustainable Neighbourhood Group, won Volunteer of the Year for his significant contribution to the Marks Point and Belmont South Local Adaptation Plan.

10.2 Council's Coastal Zone Management Committee – report back

Both Colin and Robyn attended. Usually only one of them will attend to represent the Alliance.

The purpose of the Committee is to provide guidance and assistance to Council on coastal, estuary and floodplain management, including the preparation, implementation and periodic revision of Coastal Zone Management Plans. The Committee consists of representatives from a wide range of stakeholder groups, Councillors, community organisations.

Some time was spent at this first meeting introducing committee members, and Council staff gave a number of short presentations.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 5 April.

10.3 Plastic Bag / Plastic Pollution Campaign - update

Education Days / Information booth (citywide), March / April 2017

A project to develop a display / materials, and hold coordinated information stalls around Lake Mac. Focus on 'replacing' plastic bags, instead of 'banning' to help get the broader public onside.

Steve has gained permission from shopping centres at Glendale, Toronto, Charlestown and Belmont, and is working on confirming some dates.

Once dates are available he will seek volunteers to help at each of the locations, and to assist with development of materials.

Tentative dates are:

- Thursday 6 April, 4-6pm Toronto Town Square
- Monday 10 April, 4-6pm, Belmont Citi Centre
- Thursday 13 April, 4-7pm Charlestown Square
- Saturday 15 April, 9-12pm Glendale Stockland

10.4 Awaba Conservation Area

LT Creek SNG and Glinda has been busy over the summer break, regardless of the holiday season and the weather. Glinda continues to bring awareness to the area. This includes:

- A site tour with The Alliance's Treasurer, Ms McGarry to discuss the opening of a separate account for the Scribbly Gum Reserve.
- Information from Crown Lands has come through and I am hoping to meet with LMCC Staff to discuss what it all means.
- Research continues and the threatened species, *Varied Sitella* was spotted on the site.
- A representative from Origin Energy has been on site.
- The tunnel under Wangi Road has been found.
- The concept of a rail-trail from Awaba to Myuna Bay has been floated.
- Application to the Regional Australia Institute has been made in their 'Bright Ideas program' in regards to the rail-trail. (from Robyn as an individual).
- A SNG sub-committee for the Scribbly Gum Reserve has also been floated.
- Councillors have been invited to come out on site.
- Glinda has visited and had a tour of the Belmont Wetlands State Park.
- One of members has organised a Clean Up Australia Day event at the Scribbly Gum Reserve.
- Glinda has her own website glindaofthescribblygumreserve.wordpress.com.
- Expanding the albums of the Flickr Account to include a Rail-trail Adventure and A Dessert Trail Adventure www.flickr.com/photos/146759871@N04/albums.
- That Glinda has Joel Fitzgibbon and Catherine Cusack following her on Twitter.

Proposal: Robyn would like any funds for the Scribbly Gum Centre to be managed through the Alliance's bank account, and is seeking approval from the Alliance board.

RESOLUTION / ACTION: Robyn to seek confirmation and agreement from the LT Creek Sustainable Neighbourhood Group members

Regarding setting up a project team for the Scribbly Gum Reserve: Robyn has received positive indications from: Avril, Nico, Mark, Jean. There may be some other potential volunteers from nearby SNGs, Belmont Wetlands State Park reps, Greg Piper etc.

Robyn was congratulated for her commitment to the project, and her networking efforts.

10.5 Dog Management Brochure – project update

Grant funding is for 6200 brochures (LT Creek 1800; Redhead 1500; Dudley 600; Toronto Area 1500; Spares for general distribution 800).

Graphic design has started, and a draft was tabled. A number of amendments to the text were suggested.

Once the committee is happy with the draft, it will be submitted to relevant Council staff for review, and then finalised for printing.

10.6 Sustainable Neighbourhoods review

We have engaged a consultant to survey people who attend SN events, to get an outside perspective about the impact of the program, how people find out about our events, and what people know/don't know about Sustainable Neighbourhoods. Looking for suitable events scheduled for Feb – Apr.

Stakeholder surveys (eg Council staff and Councillors) are currently being prepared.

10.7 Cardiff Area Sustainable Neighbourhood Group – 2017 Plan

CASNG have set out a draft plan for their activities for the first half of 2017. Note the dates and details are to be confirmed.

| DATE | EVENT |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Tues 7 th March | Super Tuesday Bike Count |
| Sun 26 th March | Eco Angel Day – Cardiff South |
| End of March | Harmony or Neighbour Day Activities |
| Sat 1 st April | Tree Planting with Afton Close Landcare |
| Tues 25 th April | ANZAC Day Wreath Laying |
| Sat 29 th April | Compost Bin Making Activity |
| May / June | Bee Hive Splitting Activity |
| July / August | Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser |
| Sun 30 th July | National Tree Day |

11 For information

- Landcare Super Saturday Session - 8 July – Native Tree Information Day – ID of native trees, street trees, backyard trees. Possible speakers include Graham Pritchard (LMCC), Margo Smith (LMCC), Suzanne Pritchard (Coal Point Progress Association), Anne Loughram (Landcare).

12 Meeting close.

Meeting closed 8.05pm

Next meeting date: 21 March 2017, 6-8pm

Treasurer's Report:

LAKE MACQUARIE SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS ALLIANCE

GENERAL MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

1 December 2016 to 31 January 2017.



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

Balance **\$ 19,000.69CR**

RECEIPTS

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 09 December Direct Credit 1000971 | \$ 2,002.58 |
| 16 December Direct Credit 1001164 | 946.00 |
| 22 December Direct Credit 1001495 | 3,000.00 |

Total Receipts \$ 5,948.58c

EXPENDITURE

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Chq 000065 Guild Insurance | 2,002.58 |
| Total Expenditure | \$ 2,002.58 |

BALANCE **\$ 22,946.69CR**

This is a true statement of accounts for the Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhoods Alliance for the period 1 December 2016 to 31 January 2017.

Signed _____

Name Jean McGarry

Title Hon Treasurer

Date 21 February, 2017.