

Tuggeranong Community Council Inc
General Meeting – 4 December 2012
Minutes

Present:

See attendance record of 4 December 2012.

President Nick Tsoulias welcomed members and guests.

Apologies:

Barry Blight, Bill Heins, Robyn and Jeff Chapman, Rusty Woodward, Brendan Smyth, Sue Foley, Irene Scott, Zed Seselja, Andrew Wall, Garry Humphries.

Confirmation of Minutes of November 2012 Meeting:

A member raised questions about the President's Report in the November Minutes suggesting it did not accurately reflect the report that was given at the meeting. However, The President indicated he was happy to amend it if necessary. The same member also questioned the Treasurer's Report on the basis that the total balance did not reconcile with the sum of the individual accounts. The President stated that he believed his report was recorded in the minutes as was given to the meeting. The Treasurer later advised that his report did not include a cheque that had yet to be presented.

Minutes were accepted pending amendments: Alison Ryan

Seconded: Janice Petrie

Matters Arising from November 2012 Meeting:

The Secretary reported that as stated in the previous meeting, talks were held between the TCC and its lawyers to seek legal advice on what, if any, action could be taken by an individual or groups of Tuggeranong residents if aircraft flight paths are changed as a result of concerns by future Tralee residents. He said the TCC had hoped to have that advice at hand at this meeting. However the advice has been delayed due to family issues with its lawyer. The Secretary recommended the draft motion on Tralee be held over till the next meeting.

President's Report (Nick Tsoulias):

President, Nick Tsoulias presented the following Report:

Welcome to our final meeting for 2012. It's been the most incredible year - the speediest I've ever experienced and full of highs for our Community but, sadly, also with incredible lows for the Tuggeranong Community with our loss of 1200 residents relocating to Gungahlin and North Canberra in this last year. We also saw the closure and relocation of the Myer Tuggeranong outlet, and my favourite Darrell Lea Chocolates in the Hyperdome. Although Darrell Lea is not completely out of the game, it just needs to evolve, and I am sure they will be back in Tuggeranong some day with flying colours, more kilojoules and larger fan base!! We also saw two important visits by our Prime Minister, Julia Gillard this year to St Mary MacKillop Catholic College in Isabella Plains, and a fond memory for myself with the Prime Minister visiting Calwell Shopping Centre, part of a national media release on selling the Carbon Tax. (I dont think I'll have a fond memory of the Carbon Tax, but Julia signing my cricket bat was enough to buy me on the debate!! Whilst Christmas has come around so quickly and already the plans for the new year look like making 2013 another exciting and challenging year for the Tuggeranong Community Council, we are proud to associate with Communities@Work, who celebrate 35 years in 2012, and our local Bendigo Bank branches at Wanniassa and Calwell celebrating 10 years in the Valley. Bendigo Bank staff advise me that this Friday 10.30am at the Calwell branch, will be an open day for all the community for coffee and cake.

Moving on, the Tuggeranong Community Council Executive Committee, took the opportunity to visit our Chief Minister yesterday, with Mick Gentleman MLA and Joy Burch MLA also present. Our discussions included to seeing a fasttrack residential developments in Tuggeranong, in a bid to seeing more families call Tuggeranong their home. Our pressing concerns were that these would be developed within 30 years time, and we raised the important challenge to see these large scale developments begin with 3 to 5 years.

We also discussed flight paths and the Tralee development. The Chief Minister also will respond to our questions on Tralee, although the ACT Government feel that this battle may have been lost, however the ACT Government will continue to maintain its strong opposition to this development.

Our legal advice on Tralee is still pending from our solicitor Archie Tsirimokos on the future role the TCC will play with this community concern. Also noted, our Vice President Russ Morison reinforced the Council's strong position to seeing a South East Tuggeranong masterplan for the Tuggeranong Homestead and local group centre and to see support from the ACT Government provided for equality on services for this region as for others group areas that have been around for 20 years or longer. Our Council will continue to urge all the ACT Legislative Assembly Members to finally support a local masterplan for the area to see greater community consultation not just for the wetlands proposal, but rather to understand that the community need to have a say on what will be developed on the parameters of the Homestead site, opposite in Richardson, Isabella Plains and Calwell. No good restoring our creek, when a petrol station may be built for example on Johnson Drive further up on the Monaro Highway. The community does want to see this area beautified and more jobs created in the area. Our Council provided information, graciously handed to us by the Minders of the Tuggeranong Homestead, and Glenys Patulny from the TLC group. I also stressed the high importance, that if we were to see wetlands in the ACT, that the Tuggeranong Homestead would be a priority as the groups have been working on this project now for over 5 years. As this is the last TCC forum for the year, I would like to take this opportunity to really thank all those people that have worked so hard and advocated so loudly for the benefit of all community groups throughout 2012. Our TCC Executive members from the class of 2011/12 and new TCC Executive members elected this year. I thank you all very much for dedicating your time to the TCC. I also mirror this with a special thanks to all our sub committee members, our elected MLA's and Federal Members of Parliament, and local Senators and you all - our members that have made these meetings possible, our sponsors and the Southern Cross Club for securing the venue for us. I would also like to thank Meredith Clisby from the Southside Chronicle for taking the time to work with our Council month after month this year and being the Council voice on many issues and concerns our residents and community have raised, and the ACT Police who have supported our Council in every meeting. Also in looking ahead to 2013 there is still much work to be done on issues such as the Ashley Drive duplication, CIT Campus for Tuggeranong, Park and Ride facilities for Calwell and Erindale, a post office box for Greenway and those other desirable commitments made by our political parties at this year's ACT Election - green bins, water fountain for our schools, and mobile doctors. As we enter the final days of 2012 I hope you are able to spend time with family and friends, reflect on your blessings, and appreciate the good things we share as a community. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th February 2013, 7.30pm. Our guest speaker will be the Chief Minister of the ACT Ms Katy Gallagher MLA. I urge you all to attend this meeting. On behalf of my Council colleagues and our families, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and the very best for 2013.

Treasurer's Report (Frank Vrins):

Current bank account balance is \$22,507.97 comprising of our Operating Account of \$2,843.12 and Investment Account of \$19,664.85. Expenditure totaled \$324.10, with the main items being for phone and internet costs of \$85.10 and office costs of \$239.00. Income during the period was \$2,024.00.

Accepted:

Albert Orszaczky

Seconded:

Eric Traise

Sub-Committee Reports:

- Planning and Environment Committee

Glenys Patulny provided an update on the activities of the Tuggeranong Lake Carers (TLC) group and the recent clean-up activities around the Lake. She advised the planting program has been postponed. The Group is also proposing to establish smaller groups in the New Year responsible for particular areas of the Lake.

- Transport and Community Services Committee

Eric Traise advised that he is meeting with Canberra Airport tomorrow in his capacity as Chair of the Canberra Airport Consultation Forum to discuss the proceedings for the next Forum meeting. He advised the Forum was a good venue in which to express any issues relating to Canberra Airport and the community.

Beverley Flint advised that after 18-months a footpath has been constructed in East Greenway. While it is welcomed the path will be shared with cyclists. She advised there were still some signs and lights to be erected.

Police Report:

Sergeant Daryl Neit, OIC of Tuggeranong Police Station provided the following report:

- Recently released Tuggeranong crime statistics showed a decrease in assaults, property crime and theft.
- Total of 42 arrests for the month, including two illegal motorcycle riders.
- Police arrested a well known property offender at the Hyperdome with the help of a member of the public.
- Police will be out in force on the roads over Christmas and New Year.

Questions from the floor:

Members raised some concerns, including the following:

- How do police stats back up against other districts? Sgt Neit advised crime is down generally across the ACT.
- Why is the RBT out on the roads in the early afternoon instead of the evening? Sgt Neit advised RBT and drug driving testing is out and about at all times including early morning.
- Update sought re hoons in Calwell. Sgt Neit advised police have recently arrested hoons in Calwell, Banks and other areas.

Update from Local Members:

The President invited the local Members in attendance to provide a brief report on current activities and issues of interest in the political arena.

Gai Brodtman advised she and Minister Albanese remain opposed to Tralee and will be making her views clear publicly and in the Government. She said that she will keep the TCC up to date with the Murray Darling funding for Lake Tuggeranong and was keen to hear from TCC members in regard to quiet achievers in the community that she can highlight in the Parliament. Ms Brodtmann said she was looking forward to the official opening of the redevelopment of the Tuggeranong Hyperdome. She wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and advised everyone should receive her new fridge magnet soon. She apologised that she will not be able to attend the next meeting due to the sitting of Parliament. Ms Brodtmann presented the President with his framed copy of Hansard of her speech to Parliament on the TCC.

Mick Gentleman congratulated the Council on its work over the past year. He advised he had been involved with the Council and its committees in regard to its work on Lake Tuggeranong and proposed wetlands. Mr Gentleman also provided a report on the meeting with the Chief Minister and the TCC. He said the Chief Minister has not given up on Tralee. He said the ACT Government remains opposed to Tralee. Mr Gentleman said he supports the TCC's position on Tralee and was looking forward to any forum that may be held on the issue. Mr Gentleman wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Questions from the floor:

- Mr Gentleman was asked if the ACT remains opposed to Tralee then why is it cooperating with the NSW Government to provide infrastructure to the new development.
 - Mr Gentleman advised this question was asked in discussions with the Chief Minister as well as the TCC's suggestion for a land swap with Village Building Company. Mr Gentleman advised he would also put that question to the Chief Minister.
- Mr Gentleman and Ms Brodtmann were advised the TCC has put forward a resolution to the Tralee debate by suggesting the land be developed as an extension to the existing Hume Industrial Estate.
 - The NSW Government supports residential development. The planning process underway at the moment is for residential development.
 - Gai Brodtmann commends the TCC for the proposed resolution and will put it to Minister Albanese

A short break was taken at this stage prior to the presentation by our guest speaker(s).

Guest Speakers – Health Care Consumers Association of the ACT:

Representatives of the Health Care Consumers Association (HCCA) of the ACT provided a detailed report on the ACT Health Infrastructure Program which will see \$1.4 billion expenditure over the next ten-years. The HCCA is a health advocacy group that is funded by the ACT Government.

Items mentioned included the following:

- Improvements

- Issues to be addressed
- Progress and Timelines
- Community Health Centres (3)
- Other Facilities
- Further information and contacts.

The matter of staffing availability for the proposed facilities was raised and it was acknowledged that it was an important issue and an essential consideration to ensure the overall success of the proposals.

Also, representatives from Consultancy firm, AECOM, also provided an update on the planned duplication of Ashley Drive and the various stages of the project.

Members welcomed the improvements and provided various suggestions for consideration, which would be included as part of the community consultation process. The location of the proposed additional roundabouts and/or traffic lights was a contentious issue that needs to be addressed to ensure that the traffic flow is not adversely impacted.

Other Business / General Announcements:

No matters were raised by members.

Meeting closed at approximately 9.40pm.

The next General Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, 5 February 2013**, with guest speaker to be confirmed.