

**Tuggeranong Community Council Inc**  
**General Meeting – 2 July 2013**  
**Minutes**

**Present:**

See attendance record of 2 July 2013

President Nick Tsoulias opened the Meeting at 7.30pm.

**Welcomes:**

Andrew Wall MLA, Joy Burch MLA, Nicole Lawder MLA.

**Apologies:**

Russ Morison, Greg Downing, Rusty Woodward, Jan Petrie, Gai Brodtmann MP, Mick Gentleman MLA, Lynne Harwood, Barry Blight, Albert Orszaczky, Geoff Bollard, Janette and Peter Lynch, Terry Robinson and Gail Barton, Alison Ryan, Brendan Smyth MLA.

**Confirmation of Minutes of June 2013 Meeting:**

Eric Traise raised minor changes to the Minutes.

Accepted: *Eric Traise*

Seconded: *Ross McConnell*

**Matters Arising from June 2013 Meeting:**

Glenys Patulny rose to spoke on the issue of tree planting on the foreshores of our lakes and ponds. This followed the deferring of an earlier motion she had put forward to the previous meeting that was deferred due to her absence.

The original motion read: *“That the Tuggeranong Community Council moves that now, and in the future, only appropriate native species be planted on the foreshores of all lakes, ponds, and waterways in the Tuggeranong Valley.”*

The subsequent motion reads: *“That this meeting of the TCC holds over the foreshadowed motion on tree planting on the Lake Tuggeranong foreshores until the meeting on 2 July 2013.”*

Glenys spoke in favour of the original motion on the basis that leaf litter from deciduous and exotic trees planted close to the foreshores of our lakes and ponds add to water quality problems.

Meg Blackman spoke against the motion. She argued natives have a shorter lifespan than exotic trees. She referred to reports that recommend native trees be planted in the catchment and a mixture of natives and exotic trees be planted on the foreshore.

The following motion was moved by Ross McConnell:

*“The word native be removed from the original motion and replaced with “appropriate” to read only appropriate trees be planted on the Lake Tuggeranong foreshores.”*

Seconded by Meg Blackman.

The motion was lost on a show of hands. The following further motion was moved by Darryl Johnston:

*“That an independent expert be invited to address the Tuggeranong Community Council on the planting of appropriate species of trees on the foreshores of our lakes, waterways and ponds.”*

Seconded by Glenys Patulny.

The motion was carried by a show of hands. The TCC will extend the invitation.

**President’s Report (Mr Nick Tsoulias):**

President, Nick Tsoulias presented the following Report:

“The Tuggeranong Community Council welcomes you all to another meeting this month. I write to you all tonight with regards to our petition recently submitted for consideration of the Standing Committee on Petitions, regarding maintaining Australian Public Service jobs in Tuggeranong.

The TCC executive represented this cause and as President the principal petitioner, I was proud to hand over around 1,000 signatures to the Federal Member for Canberra, Gai Brodtmann MP. Unfortunately around 80 of these did not fulfil the petition criteria, as some were spam, often we find these when left at shopping malls or local shops, or incorrectly filled out. However I am also proud to say the petition was considered, certified and presented to the House of Representatives on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2013. This has now been referred to the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Minister for the Public Service and Integrity of the Commonwealth Government. I shall keep the Council and its members abreast of happenings on this, and will be also writing to both the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Federal Opposition on behalf of the TCC seeking support for our petition.

The TCC welcomes our newest MLA for Brindabella, Ms Nicole Lawder, who is the replacement for former MLA and now Senate candidate for the ACT, Zed Seselja. Ms Lawder comes from her last role as Chief Executive of Homelessness Australia and she will be sworn in in August.

The TCC had 3 media releases this month, one of which our Secretary, Mr Darryl Johnston will talk about briefly in his report, on the relocation of WIN Television and what it means for Tuggeranong, and one of the other two media releases welcomed the ACT Government commitment in the 2013 ACT budget for a purpose-built CIT facility for Tuggeranong. The other media release is about the ACT Government's announcement of an Introductory English Centre at the Wanniasa Hills Primary School, which the TCC supported this month. The TCC Executive Committee met last Thursday and unanimously moved to nominate Mrs Rosemary Lissimore and her husband David Lissimore among some other nominations of outstanding service to our community, in the Footsteps to follow project for Tuggeranong. I would also be happy for a show of hands for support for both Rosemary and David who will be acknowledged for getting the TCC up and running as we know today, who both served for well over 20 years building the Council and serving the Tuggeranong Community from the mid to late 1980's.

Earlier on tonight, Treasurer Frank Vrins and myself were guests at the launch of Communities@Work merger with Gungahlin Regional Community Service. This merger for the Gungahlin community will enhance the range and quality of community services available to the people of Gungahlin and the broader Canberra region."

Accepted: *Ross McConnell*

Seconded: *Don Thomas*

#### **Secretary's Report (Mr Darryl Johnston):**

The Secretary reported on incoming mail that included:

- Westpac Bank statement
- Optus invoice
- Office of Regulatory Services re AGM

and outgoing mail:

- Letter to WIN TV re downgrading of local news service.

#### **Treasurer's Report (Mr Frank Vrins):**

The Treasurer delivered his report as follows:

##### **Account Balances**

At the end of June 2013 = \$18,837.42

Operating Account = \$ 2,868.78

Investment Account = \$15,968.64

##### **Expenditure**

Office and internet expenses = \$210.00

**Income** = \$116.00

Accepted: *Lynn Bott* Seconded: *Eric Traise*

**Sub-Committee and other Reports:****- Planning and Environment Committee**

Glenys Patulny reported on recent meeting of the Catchment Group, who have put forward two submissions seeking funding for improvements around Lake Tuggeranong.

**- Transport**

Bill Heins reported on a presentation to ACT Transport planners on Rapid bus transport needs in Tuggeranong.

Also, Beverley Fint advised free Action bus services were now available to Canberra residents over the age of 70, however she questioned the number and frequency of services for elderly residents in East Greenway.

**- Footsteps to Follow Selection Committee – Beverly Flint**

Beverly Flint provided an update on the Footsteps to Follow project and encouraged members to put forward nominations.

**Police Report:**

Sergeant Daryl Neit extended his apologies being unable to attend the meeting through illness. Consequently, no report was provided.

**Update from Local Members:**

Nick invited the local Members in attendance, namely Joy Burch MLA and Andrew Wall MLA to provide a brief report on current activities and issues of interest in the ACT.

Ms Burch highlighted:

- Welcomed Nicole Lawder to the Assembly
- Government tabled Budget
- Welcomed questions to Estimates from Andrew Wall
- Welcomed English Language Centre at Wanniasa
- Expansion of Canberra Institute of Technology in Tuggeranong.

Questions from the floor

- Re expansion of CIT facilities in Tuggeranong
- Re opening of Chisholm Medical Centre
- Re Assisted Living accommodation at Chisholm
- Increases in ACT Government residential rates.

Andrew Wall MLA mentioned the following:

- Welcome to Nicole Lawder on her appointment to the ACT Legislative Assembly
- Welcome to Tom Sefton, ACT Liberal Candidate for Canberra
- Budget Estimates hearing completed
- Masterplan for Calwell and Tuggeranong Homestead precinct accepted
- Upgrade of footpaths in Fadden
- Increase in water and sewerage prices
- Changes in shadow portfolios.

Questions from the floor

- Re laying-off of staff from the Actew/AGL call centre
- Re speed bumps in Fadden, Calwell and Chisholm
- Re new portfolio responsibilities on Small Business.

Also, Nicole Lawder introduced herself as the new Liberal MLA for Brindabella.

**Guest Speaker 1 – Jane Hiatt, Brave Hearts:**

Jane Hiatt spoke on her fund raising marathon campaign across Australia, involving seven marathons in seven states over seven days, in support of Brave Hearts.

**Guest Speaker 2 – Kylie Elliott, Tuggeranong author:**

Kylie Elliott spoke on her career as a local author of a series of romance novels. She also spoke on self publishing and how to become an author.

Questions from the floor

- Re how to become an author
- Re availability of Kylie's books in Canberra libraries.

**Marg Peachey – Canberra Indian Myna Action Group**

Marg Peachey gave a presentation on the invasive Indian Myna Bird in Tuggeranong and the threat it poses to native birds and small marsupials. She also invited TCC members to become Myna Bird trappers.

Questions from the floor

- Re how to identify Myna birds
- Re how to trap Myna birds
- What to do with them after they have been caught.

**Other Business**

The TCC President advised members of the passing of member, Garry Bassett. The President also reminded members of the AGM on 3 September 2013.

The Treasurer reminded unfinancial members that memberships are now due for renewal.

The next General Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, 6 August 2013**. Meeting closed 9.30pm.