

Tuggeranong Community Council Inc
General Meeting – 4 May 2010
Draft Minutes

Present:

See attendance record of 4 May 2010.

Apologies:

Joy Burch MLA, Greg Downing, Brendan Smyth MLA, Steve Doszpot MLA.

President, Darryl Johnston extended a welcome to Brian Brown from the Curfew4Canberra Group, who had addressed our previous Meeting. Our guest speaker for this Meeting is Noel McCann from the Canberra Airport Group, who is arriving later due to another commitment.

Approval of April 2010 Minutes:

Accepted: Jill Faulkner Seconded: Alison Ryan

Matters Arising from April 2010 Meeting:

No issues were raised.

President's Report (Mr Darryl Johnston):

President, Darryl Johnston presented the following Report:

“Thank you to members and guests for joining us for another meeting of the Tuggeranong Community Council. Since we last met members have been busy on a number of fronts.

The TCC submission on Random Roadside Drug Testing was lodged with the ACT Government. Thank you to Alison Ryan, Greg Downing, Susan Penn-Turrall and Ron Collins from the NRMA for their input into that submission. The document included the results from the TCC Online Survey that showed that most people were concerned about drug driving, supported the introduction of random roadside drug testing and knew someone who had driven a car while under the influence of illicit drugs.

I wish to thank Jonathon Reynolds for the work he has done in placing and maintaining the survey on our website. The Survey is still open and copies of the results to date are available on the (front) table. Meanwhile, the submission team proposes to take this issue further by organising a public forum in the near future on Random Roadside Drug Testing. A copy of the submission is available on our website.

In other business, members would be aware that a Special Meeting was held on 28 April to consider the expulsion of a fellow member. As I said at the meeting, and I repeat it tonight, I regret that the Executive was forced to embark on the expulsion of a member, but it believed the member's activities had left it with no other alternative. The Notice of Expulsion was upheld in a secret ballot of members that attended that meeting. The member has since been formally advised of her expulsion.

You will recall that all members were invited to participate in a review of the TCC Constitution. This is an ongoing process and if you have not made a submission; commented or provided feedback on the current Constitution I ask you to do so as soon as possible. The whole process must be finalised before the next Annual General Meeting, which is scheduled for early September. The Public Officer, Jan Petrie, will give a progress report on this exercise later in the proceedings.

You will also recall that the TCC introduced a common date of 1 July for membership renewal. This means that fees can be paid either tonight or at our June meeting to ensure that all members are financial by 1 July. When paying fees we also ask that you fill in a new membership form recording that you have acknowledged and accepted the new TCC Code of Conduct. Copies of the Code of Conduct are available here tonight and can also be found on the TCC website.

Meanwhile there are a couple of major issues on the horizon that the TCC must deal with. As I mentioned earlier, a Public Forum on Random Roadside Drug Testing and a new issue, the Hume Data Centre Development.

I ask that the Community Services and Transport Sub-Committee meet as soon as possible to begin planning the Public Forum on Random Roadside Drug Testing and that the Planning and Environment Sub-Committee also meet soon to consider the Hume Data Centre Project. Bill Reid will give us all an update on the Data Centre Project later in the proceedings. Thank you.”

Accepted: Sue Penn-Turrall Seconded: Alison Ryan

Treasurer’s Report (Mr Eric Traise):

Current bank account balance is \$13,121, comprising of our Operating Account of \$3,047 and the Investment Account of \$10,074. Expenditure was reported for the usual regular administrative and general office expenses totalling \$663, with the main item being for telephone and internet expenses of \$534. These costs have increased due to ongoing maintenance of our improved website by Jonathon Reynolds, at a cost of \$50 per week.

Accepted: Donna Smail Seconded: Sue Penn-Turrall

Other Reports – Police:

Sergeant Rod Anderson, OIC Tuggeranong Police Station, attended the meeting and presented the usual report on crime statistics and information on other local Police activities during the past month. He provided the following details:

- Dramatic decrease reported over the past month in criminal activity across all areas of general crime.
- Burglaries are down in April, with 16 less than March.
- Reported incidents of property damage are down, with a decrease of 9 compared to March.
- Confirmed incidents of assault are down, with 17 less confirmed incidents reported.
- There was a decrease of 9 stolen motor vehicles reported in April.
- Statistics are pleasing considering it included two weeks of the school holidays.
- A total of 34 arrests were effected by Police in the Tuggeranong Zone during April for a range of offences, including traffic offences, etc.
- Police conducted 570 Suburban Policing Strategy patrols within the local patrol zone during April.
- Operation School Safe has been conducted during the period 9-26 April 2010. Tuggeranong Patrols conducted 37 SPS visibilities, 35 SPS accessibilities and 3 SPS engagements. Patrols have attended 1 burglary at a Tuggeranong school during the Operation School Safe period.
- During the weekend of 16-18 April unmarked proactive patrols were conducted in the Tuggeranong suburbs of Fadden, Gowrie, Chisholm and Richardson, with members of SRS remaining static at Fadden Pines and Chisholm High School. This was conducted in response to several reported fires and stolen motor vehicles in the area. Overall, the proactive patrol saw an actual reduction in offences committed in these particular suburbs. Persons loitering or acting suspiciously were dealt with in an up front manner early in the night resulting in areas such as Fadden Pines and Chisholm High seeing low to nil activity in the later stages of the night. The area has since had a reduction in crime statistics.
- On Monday 20 April, Tuggeranong Patrol arrested five suspects in relation to two separate burglaries in Tuggeranong. Two of these suspects have been remanded at Bimberi Youth Detention Centre and the other three at the Alexander Maconochie Centre. All stolen property was recovered.

Questions from the floor:

No questions or issues were raised by members. Albert Orszaczky commented that the announcement in today’s ACT Budget of more resources for Police recruitment was certainly pleasing and welcome news.

Assembly Update:

Darryl advised that our invited local Members, Joy Burch (ALP) and Brendan Smyth (Liberal) were unfortunately unavailable to attend tonight’s Meeting, due to deliberations on the ACT Budget released earlier today. He invited Amanda Bresnan (Greens) to provide a brief update on Assembly activities and she presented information on the following current issues:

- Library to be established at Lanyon – proposal to be submitted for next Budget similar to successful Kingston shop front facility (information sheet available).
- Hume Data Centre issue – no specific information available other than recent reports in local media.

- Broadacre Study to be available later this year – to be queried in Budget Estimates.
- Chief Minister’s response to Auditor-General’s Report to be tabled in the Assembly this week.
- Funding available in Budget for various Tuggeranong facilities, including improvements to Tuggeranong and Erindale Master Plan for upgraded transport arrangements, also primary health care improvements.
- Extension of Redex bus trial to Tuggeranong expected in next Budget.
- General (small) increase in parking fees, mainly in Civic.

No queries or concerns were directed to Ms Bresnan.

At this point, Darryl introduced Bill Reid to address the Meeting on the latest developments with the proposed Hume Data Centre project. He provided a PowerPoint presentation, which included the following relevant information:

- Reference to recent article in *The Australian* newspaper re new financial backers for Technical Real Estate (TRE);
- Location moved to a nearby position in Hume – distance of 8 kms to Woden, Queanbeyan, Tuggeranong and Jerrabomberra;
- Pollution levels from attached Power Station are a major concern with detrimental effect on health of Tuggeranong residents;
- Approval of development granted without the usual Environmental Impact Study – previous research not taken into consideration;
- Nitrogen dioxide fallout – additional pollution output from turbines;
- 180 tonnes per hour of exhaust at 490°C;
- 3 large Solar Titan turbines of 78 tonnes each at cost of \$38M X 3;
- 2 proposed to be online at any one time with 1 backup as required (unlikely to be left idle);
- Units to be down for maintenance for only 2-3 hours per 100 hours of operation;
- Two turbines to generate exhaust gas at the equivalent to 75,000 family cars circling the site 24/7/365;
- Huge impact on Canberra gas supply with 36% estimated increase in usage for two turbines.

Questions from the floor:

The following concerns were raised by members:

- What expected impact on gas supply in Tuggeranong area to avoid shortage?
Main gas source is a pipeline from Bass Strait that runs through Narrabundah close to the proposed site and nearby power lines at Gilmore sub-station. Also, substantial water usage required for cooling at 60ml per day, with a large volume of steam emissions being a further concern.
- Noise impact also a major consideration and a similar facility in Alice Springs NT with only a single turbine had to be moved 25 kms due to residents’ complaints.
Reference to the related website is recommended for research on individual concerns. Indications are that facility was approved 18 months ago but still an element of uncertainty involved.
- Concern expressed on the impact of pollution on the employees at the site and nearby.
Nature of the landscape and prevailing wind conditions at the site are most unfavourable for nearby locations, including Tralee.
- Strong concerns expressed about the lack of consultation with Jerrabomberra residents.
- Williamsdale power station is intended to be a second power source for Canberra.
- Amanda Bresnan was asked to comment on what can be done at this stage of the process – to be checked out further.
- It appears that the Hume development is clearly not intended for the benefit of Canberra.

A suggestion was put forward for a motion to be moved that TCC submit a formal request to the ACT Government to provide an accurate update on all relevant information on the proposed development. It was agreed that suitable wording will be made available prior to the next Meeting.

Guest Speaker: Mr Noel McCann

Darryl Johnston introduced our guest speaker, Noel McCann, Director of Planning at the Canberra Airport, to provide an update on current developments at the Airport, including the proposal for the 24-hour freight hub. Noel was accompanied by his colleague, Alex Ananian, and he provided a PowerPoint presentation featuring the following points:

- Summary of what has been achieved from the Airport's 2009 Master Plan.
- 12 years of private ownership with \$800 million in capital works expenditure to date – currently \$12-15 million per month with construction of new terminal building.
- 10,000 current jobs in the Airport precinct, including Brindabella Business Park and Fairbairn Park office complexes.
- Airport seating capacity increased from 54,000 to 92,000 per week and jet movements have grown from 350 to 630 since 2002.
- Introduction of major city connectors across various airline companies – direct services now available to Townsville, Hobart, Gold Coast and Darwin.
- Progress with new terminal development displayed, including major update of Qantas Lounge and extensive car parking facilities.
- Current review of flight paths as directed by Minister – new curved flight path technology to meet required noise abatement levels over Jerrabomberra, for both arrivals and departures day and night.
- Canberra Airport activity in 20 years (2030):
 - 425 movements per day (currently 225) and 155,000 per year (currently 82,000);
 - a range of regional, domestic and international flights – New Zealand and Asia services likely;
 - overnight freight hub planned with new freight support industries to be established.
- Canberra Airport meets all 7 of SEATS infrastructure criteria.
- Likely movement of flight paths if Hume Power Station development goes ahead.
- Canberra Airport Freight Hub approved in 2009 Master Plan document – indicative scenario for freight hub.
- Freight Hub benefits for our region – social / economic diversity, additional jobs, business growth.
- Just in Time industry involves mainly high value freight.

Questions from the floor:

Several queries were raised by members during the presentation, resulting in further discussion relating mainly to the relocation of flight paths over Tuggeranong and the proposed overnight freight hub and a range of various alternative options. Mr McCann clarified the relevant details contained in the approved Master Plan and provided suitable responses to the concerns expressed. Other issues mentioned were:

- Local goods and produce leaving the district currently going through Sydney.
- Rail transport is apparently not the most favourable or suitable solution in the short term.

General and Other Business:

Darryl reminded members of the various Sub-Committees to organise their meetings as soon as possible and encouraged any other interested members to become involved. He also took the opportunity to inform members that our Treasurer, Eric Traise and his wife Carole were heading off on an overseas trip to celebrate their 40th Wedding Anniversary and he wished them a safe and enjoyable trip.

Anne Forrest, a visitor from Jerrabomberra, provided some brief information on the objections to the possible movement of the airport flight paths that was likely to impact on Tuggeranong residents and further details were available on a nominated website.

Unfortunately, Jan Petrie's update on the current status of the TCC Constitution review mentioned earlier in the President's Report was overlooked. A comprehensive Report is expected to be provided to members at the next General Meeting.

Other Matters / Next meeting:

The next TCC General Meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 1 June, with guest speaker to be confirmed. The meeting concluded at approximately 9.30pm and members were invited to stay on for the usual light refreshments and informal chat.