Tuggeranong Community Council Inc General Meeting – 1 June 2010 Draft Minutes

Present:

See attendance record of 1 June 2010.

Apologies:

Eric Traise, Donna Smail, Barry Blight, Greg Downing, Susan Penn-Turrall, Dugald Holmes.

President, Darryl Johnston welcomed the attendees and, in particular, our guest presenter, Mr Geoff Zippel from the Better Place Australia organisation.

Approval of May 2010 Minutes:

Accepted: Jane Hedges Seconded: Jill Faulkner

Matters Arising from May 2010 Meeting:

Darryl Johnston raised the issue of the proposed Motion mentioned at the previous Meeting in regard to the Data Centre development. No details have been provided since and the members involved from the CPR Group were not in attendance this evening.

President's Report (Mr Darryl Johnston):

President, Darryl Johnston presented the following Report:

"Thank you for joining us for another meeting of the Tuggeranong Community Council. It has been another busy month for the TCC Executive.

It began with the handing down of the ACT Budget in early May. Following the release of the Budget the TCC was invited to appear before the Estimates Committee Hearing into aspects of the Budget related to Tuggeranong. I appeared before the Committee on 13 May and addressed the Committee on issues around the Budget and its impact on Tuggeranong including the increase in General Rates, public transport issues and environmental concerns. A transcript of the hearing is available on the main table.

Vice President, Col Petrie and I met with the head of ACT Roads, Tony Gill, on 13 May to discuss roads and other transport issues raised in the recent "Talking Tuggeranong" document presented to the Chief Minister. Our discussions focused around the Monaro Highway and other main traffic routes in and out of Tuggeranong. Mr. Gill has indicated an interest in addressing a future meeting of the TCC.

I participated in the ACT Government's Review of its wood smoke pollution program. I attended an Environment ACT workshop held on 18 May with the Australian Lung Foundation's Tuggeranong Lung Life Support Group and the Belconnen Community Council, as well as Government representatives and representatives of the wood heating industry, to discuss programs to educate the community on how to use their wood heaters correctly. Our groups are working up a submission to the review of these programs.

On Sunday, 30 May I attended the launch of the Neighbourhood Watch Program at Isabella Plains. There was a good turnout despite the inclement weather.

Finally, I wish to remind all members that membership fees are now due to ensure that everyone is paid up as a voting member by the new financial year. Membership forms are available on the main table along with copies of the new TCC Code of Conduct. Thank you."

Accepted: Rusty Woodward Seconded: Alison Ryan

Treasurer's Report (Mr Albert Orszaczky):

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Minute Secretary, Albert Orszaczky presented the following Report:

Current bank account balance is \$12,522 comprising of our Operating Account of \$2,410 and the Investment Account of \$10,112. Expenditure was reported for the usual regular administrative and general office expenses totalling \$647, with the main item being for telephone and internet expenses of \$385, including an overdue payment of \$250 from January to Jonathon Reynolds. Income during the month totalled \$48.

Accepted: Jan Petrie Seconded: Alison Ryan

Sub-Committee Reports:

Darryl invited the Chairs of the various Sub-Committees to provide a brief report on their activities.

Col Petrie from the Planning and Environment Committee advised that the Committee met on 17 May and members decided to split the Committee into two separate groups with related responsibilities. A further meeting will be held later this month and update will be provided at the next General Meeting.

Jan Petrie provided an update on the status of the review of the TCC Constitution. She acknowledged the enthusiasm and commitment of the other Sub-Committee members, Rusty Woodward and Alison Ryan, who made valuable contributions to the review. No direct input had yet been received from members, although valuable advice and suggestions were provided by Sue Penn-Turrall. The review is now completed and copies of the current and revised draft documents will be distributed shortly for perusal and comment by members, prior to discussion and proposed approval at the July General Meeting.

Alison Ryan indicated that the Community Services and Transport Sub-Committee would be meeting on Wednesday next week (9 June) and various matters were planned for discussion, including the proposed Random Roadside Drug Testing legislation. The draft Regulation document had recently been released and copies were made available for the information of interested members.

Other Reports – Police:

Sergeant Rod Anderson, OIC Tuggeranong Police Station, presented the usual report on crime statistics and information on other local Police activities during the past month. He indicated that most crime activities were fairly static over this period and provided the following details:

- Burglaries are down during May, with 13 less than April.
- Reported incidents of property damage are down with a decrease of 34 during the month.
- Confirmed incidents of assault have increased, with 4 more confirmed incidents reported.
- There was an increase of 2 stolen motor vehicles reported in May.
- A total of 57 arrests were effected by Police in the Tuggeranong Zone during the past month for offences ranging from breach of bail conditions to outstanding warrants, through to offences such as assault, drug possession, theft, burglary and other property related offences, as well as traffic offences including drink driving.
- Police conducted almost 600 Suburban Policing Strategy patrols within the Tuggeranong patrol zone during May.
- During the past weekend (28-30 May) unmarked proactive patrols were conducted within Tuggeranong, with the assistance of ACT Traffic Operations. The patrols were conducted in response to several stolen motor vehicles in the Calwell / Chisholm area. The results saw Nil stolen motor vehicles in the targeted areas. Further, several Traffic Infringement Notices were issued for a range of offences including: perform burnout, negligent driving and speeding.
- On Saturday, 22 May Crime Prevention members attended the Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) ACT Tuggeranong Area Coordinators meeting at the Calwell Club. Mr Steve Doszpot MLA was present, as was ACT NHW President, Mrs Margaret Pearson and Tuggeranong District Delegate, Mr Nick Tsoulias, as well as a group of about 8 Area Coordinators. The meeting provided a chance for those people to report on their activities within their areas and to discuss common issues. Appreciation was expressed for Police attendance at the meeting.
- On Sunday, 23 May Crime Prevention members, along with the patrol team leader for Bonython attended the Neighbourhood Watch ACT launch for Bonython held at the Bonython Primary School. Local MLAs Joy Burch and Steve Doszpot were present, along with ACT President Mrs Margaret Pearson, Tuggeranong District Delegate, Mr Nick Tsoulias, new Area Coordinator for Bonython, Mrs Carol Vincent and Safety House ACT President, Mrs Chris Liddiard. Several local residents attended the meeting, and engaged in a positive manner with the panel and Police members.

• On Thursday, 27 May Tuggeranong Patrol arrested a juvenile male at the Tuggeranong Hyperdome. The youth is currently Tuggeranong's priority target and has been charged with aggravated robbery at the IGA store in Lyons, possession of a prohibited substance, and escape from custody. The person was in breach of his bail conditions at the time and is currently remanded at Bimberi Youth Detention Centre. The offender has been charged with multiple burglaries in the Tuggeranong area.

Questions from the floor:

- Sergeant Anderson was asked to define the term "aggravated" and stated that it basically meant "armed" or "in company" (two or more).
- He also confirmed that local Police are in support of Random Roadside Drug Testing and the current procedure is based on the model in place in Victoria.
- The issue of the ban on fireworks over the upcoming Queen's Birthday holiday weekend was mentioned and any apparent breaches are to be promptly reported through 131 444 for investigation.

Assembly Update:

Darryl invited our local Members, Joy Burch MLA (ALP), Steve Doszpot MLA (Liberals) and Amanda Bresnan MLA (Greens) to provide a brief report on current issues and activities in the ACT Assembly.

Ms Bresnan provided the following information:

- Involvement with the Budget Estimates Committee over the previous 2½ weeks and good wins achieved for Tuggeranong, including funding for the Erindale and Tuggeranong Master Plan, the Over 55s Club, Tuggeranong Health Centre improvements and significant funding for the local road network. Extension of the Redex bus service and more Park 'n Ride facilities for Erindale and Tuggeranong are likely additions in the next Budget;
- Further discussions on the woodsmoke in the Valley issue with incentive subsidy for replacement of wood fires with gas;
- Introduction of Random Roadside Drug Testing legislation agreed to in principle with tri-partisan support.

Ms Burch mentioned the following matters;

- Scope for improvement of local community facilities, including introduction of dedicated mural/graffiti walls;
- Budget highlights include:
 - Park 'n Ride facility at Erindale, more bus shelters,
 - Range of training services, additions to P12 school at Kambah,
 - Tuggeranong Health Centre upgrade,
 - Murrumbidgee Golf Club potable water,
 - Redex bus service and improvements to Monaro Highway.
- Update on Random Roadside Drug Testing (Hansen Bill) different models being canvassed, including testing for a range of recreational drugs.

Mr Doszpot raised the following issues:

- Planned introduction of Park 'n Ride concept at Erindale is a cause for some concern based on the present traffic situation and road conditions some issues to be addressed;
- Additional responsibilities beyond activities in Assembly involve representing the interests of constituents and investigation and follow up contact on Federal issues requiring attention, eg. recent insulation "debacle" reported due to lack of interest or support;
- Active involvement with local Neighbourhood Watch expansion \$20,000 grant provided by ACT Government.

Questions from the floor:

The following concerns were raised by members:

- Update sought from Ms Bresnan on the status of the Hume Data Centre/Power Station development. Greens colleague, Caroline Le Couteur, was investigating the issue and Bill Reid had been kept informed of the current situation.
- Query on whether funding had been provided in the Budget for the next stage of the planned Southern Cemetery development.

Ms Burch indicated that only advanced tree planting project was involved at this stage. No final decision to proceed on the planned Mugga Lane site and if a Crematorium is to be included, but project is broadly supported.

- Comment on the minimal funding provided in the Budget for local sporting facilities. Enquiry as to why a second sports stadium was being planned for the northside instead of southside.
 - This is related to the issue of adequate facilities to support the proposed bid for staging of the Soccer World Cup in the near future. More need to foster grassroots intervention to improve sports grounds for local children's sport several are currently quite dangerous.
- Query raised on why no funding has been designated for the next stage of the Stage in Tuggeranong Park to enable completion for this year's Tuggeranong Festival as promised.
 - Ms Burch undertook to follow up and support the prospect of completing the facility as soon as possible. Mr Doszpot indicated that inadequate funds were available due to apparent poor allocation of funding and prioritisation of projects by the ACT Government.

Guest Speaker: Mr Geoff Zippel

Darryl Johnston introduced our guest speaker, Geoff Zippel, Head of Deployment – Better Place Australia to inform the meeting about their plans to develop an electronic car network in Canberra. Darryl asked that members show the usual courtesy and respect to our guest speaker, who had come up from Melbourne. Mr Zippel indicated that he was happy to take any questions during the presentation and provided the following information via PowerPoint:

- Background of company founded in 2007 with head office in Palo Alto, California USA;
- Details of "Perfect Storm" project involving batteries, electric motors, improved technology, Regulations/Incentives, Infrastructure, auto manufacturers, commercial opportunities;
- Rapid Growth Projection for electric vehicles (EVs) various models and sizes released since 2006;
- Better Place Solution Elements provide power for vehicles via:
 - charge spots and battery switch stations at various convenient locations,
 - in hand, in the car: driver services,
 - behind the scenes services.
- EV needs ease of use, extended range, affordability, positive ownership experience, energy supply;
- Break-even point -15/20,000, kms per year;
- Charge spots widely deployed;
- Battery switch stations for long trips;
- Recharge facility for depleted batteries to be arranged (eg. NRMA service);
- Impact on Power Grid supply;
- EV taxis currently operating in Japan using switchable batteries;
- Initial test of full Solution in Israel to commence in 2010, also Denmark in early 2011;
- Pilot of full Solution in Australia in late 2011;
- Canberra planned for October 2011 pilot timing details;
- Why Canberra? various benefits involved based on:
 - High income levels, significant number of 2 or more car households,
 - Off-street parking facilities, distances travelled, convenient installation, etc.
- Batteries being manufactured in various electronics-strong countries in Asia;
- Relative Performance comparisons more efficient, less noise pollution, etc.

Questions from the floor:

Several related issues of interest were raised by members during the course of the presentation and were suitably addressed by Mr Zippel.

General and Other Business:

No particular items were raised, but Darryl reminded members that membership fees were due for renewal by the end of June and could be paid tonight.

The next General Meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 6 July, and there will be no guest speaker as it is intended to discuss and finalise the review of the TCC Constitution. The meeting concluded at approximately 9.20pm and members were invited to stay on for the usual light refreshments and informal chat.