

Tuggeranong Community Council Inc
Annual General Meeting – 5 November 2009
Draft Minutes

In the absence of the President, Rosemary Lissimore the Minute Secretary, Albert Orszaczky acted as Chair of the Meeting.

Apologies:

John Hargreaves MLA, Brendan Smyth MLA, Sergeant Rod Anderson, Annette Ellis MP.

Present:

See attendance book record of 5 November 2009.

Confirmation of Minutes of 2008 Annual General Meeting – 6 November 2008:

Accepted: Dugald Holmes Seconded: Rusty Woodward

President's Annual Report:

The following summary of the past year's activities was prepared by the outgoing President, Rosemary Lissimore, and was presented by the acting Chair:

General Meetings for 2009

- February: Police Committee

Superintendent Matthew Varley discussed his idea of forming community groups to assist the police in their work. It was pointed out that the Neighbourhood Watch already provided support to the police in our area.

- March: Thanks to Emergency Services, Fusion

Darren Cutrupi outlined the position on preparation to prevent fires in the Valley. We also had 5 Firemen attending who presented some of the photographs of the fires they have been fighting in Melbourne. Members acknowledged the fine contribution of the volunteers and expressed their sentiments at the recent sad loss of local fire fighter, David Balfour, during his attendance at the Victorian bushfires. President, Rosemary Lissimore presented a framed Certificate of Appreciation to our guests on behalf of the TCC, with a copy for Mr Balfour's widow.

At the same meeting we also had a presentation from members of the Fusion Youth Group, featuring the role and extent of their youth work involvement and the Christian aspects of their activities. They also provided details of their Horticulture Program being carried out at the Youth Haven premises in Kambah, including trialling of new aquaponics technology for growing vegetables and their interest in sustainability of food supply to promote decentralised and localised food production.

- April: Canberra International Airport

Managing Director of Canberra International Airport, Noel McCann and Alex Ananian, Manager of Aviation and Planning Operation addressed the meeting on the Canberra Airport's Preliminary Draft 2009 Master Plan and related issues of interest.

- May: Judicial System in the ACT

Mr Hugh Jorgenson, Registrar – Executive Section, ACT Magistrates Court addressed the meeting on the local Judicial System and related issues of interest and/or concern. Mr Jorgenson provided some information about his administrative role and the purpose of his visit in response to concerns expressed by members at recent Meetings about the ACT Judicial System and, in particular, the leniency of the courts with sentencing juvenile offenders. He offered to answer any relevant questions during his presentation about the court process, but obviously he was unable to discuss or comment on individual cases.

We attended the Indoor Market on Sunday, 26th April, with our display board and gave out information on the TCC. Meetings attended - Stage for Tuggeranong Park, Salvation Army, Emergency Services, Tuggeranong Police and ACT Health.

- June: Landscaping at closed schools

Plans were presented for the proposed Community Parks to be developed on the closed school sites at Mt Neighbour, Village Creek and Macarthur Schools. There was a good interaction between attendees and presenters.

- July: Smoke in the Valley

A presentation was made by TCC member Darryl Johnston, Simon Corbell, Minister for ACT Environment and representatives from the businesses that sell wood fires. Smoke in the Valley is a regular occurrence every winter and a perceived health hazard.

- July 16: Special Forum - Doctors and General Health in the Valley

The TCC proved with the GP's meetings held on 16 July that this is the way to have consultations. With over 40 people attending and the right mix of people, rather than a few people who attended the first meeting in Tuggeranong. If the Canberra Times had put the correct time for our meeting at 7.30 not 6pm, we would have had more people. The front page of the Chronicle showed that this was a very productive forum with so many doctors, professional people, and residents present. The flu epidemic has shown how seriously we need to take our GPs and Medical Centres, we need to research them all before we put in any more Super Clinics.

- August: Final Plans for School Closures

This meeting was very disappointing as the people concerned had met with the Kambah meeting separately and so the follow up from the previous one failed.

On 11 August David and I attended the Final Sketch and Plan report for the Kambah P – 10 School. The meeting lasted for 3 hours and the presentation was very full on. The children who attend this Super School will be the envy of many other children in Tuggeranong. We are looking forward to seeing the completed school, in the near future.

- September: Transport Plan/ Strategic / Network Plan

Ms Kristin Blume and Mr Kuga Kugathas from Strategic Projects Section, ACT Planning & Land Authority, delivered a presentation on the ACT Sustainable Transport Action Plan 2010-16. Details provided of Public Transport component of the Plan, as well as information on other Sustainable Transport planning in the future.

Also, Mr Tony Gill – Director, Roads ACT provided an update on the progress of the Tharwa Drive duplication, and addressed other local road/traffic concerns. Work on the project commenced in January this year and completion was expected by end of September. Current delays in peak hour were acknowledged as being a constant source of frustration but duplication is progressing well with noticeable improvement expected shortly. Woodcock Drive causing major delay problems – also use of alternative routes/detours to bypass road works. Option is being considered of installing traffic lights if needed to control flow of traffic in the area.

- October: Future Housing Developments in Tuggeranong - Conder, Bonython, Kambah

Affordable housing for the elderly it was asked if they would be available to the young couples as the tide may turn and we could have Nappy Valley back. This was not at this time possible, there would be three bedrooms in some of the houses so a carer could be accommodated. There was one important point that was the width of cycle paths and how they disappeared part of the way through. It was suggested that the people attended thought more about this subject and contacted the person concerned later.

November AGM

The AGM for the TCC is on the 5 November and for the first year ever we have many people who are eligible to put themselves forward for the Executive positions so Rosemary and David feel that we can leave the council in good hands. Rosemary and David Lissimore wish to announce that they will not be standing for re election to the Tuggeranong Community Council for the forthcoming year 2010.

Rosemary has served on the Council for nearly nineteen years, mainly as President, David has served for ten years as Media Officer and Public Officer. They have both enjoyed representing the people of Tuggeranong and feel proud of the projects undertaken and successes they have achieved over these years. They now feel that this is the time to move on and let other persons take over.

They would like to thank all the Tuggeranong residents for their support, the Vikings Club who have provided the TCC with a meeting venue, the ACT and Federal Government departments, all media outlets who have assisted them with concerns, Tuggeranong Police, not forgetting Canberra Connect who have helped them with contacts and advice, and last but not least, over the years we have had the support of some very hard working and loyal residents who have served on the Executive. Without their help we could not have achieved so many successful outcomes.

Accepted: Greg Downing Seconded: Barry Blight

The acting Chair invited Steve Doszpot MLA to address the Meeting to acknowledge and recognise the efforts and contribution of the long-serving President, Rosemary Lissimore and her husband, David (Public Officer). In the absence of senior Brindabella MLAs, John Hargreaves and Brendan Smyth, Mr Doszpot delivered the recent Adjournment Speech presented in the Assembly by Mr Smyth, which provided some background of his involvement with Rosemary and David over many years. He made reference to some of the Council's achievements and some memorable events during Rosemary's 19 years term. The speech is contained in the Hansard records of the Legislative Assembly proceedings of 15 October 2009 (page 4636), and Mr Doszpot presented a copy to the acting Chair to be passed on to Rosemary for record purposes.

The comments were endorsed by the acting Chair who also acknowledged Rosemary and David's long-term involvement and fine contribution on behalf of the membership of the Council.

Treasurer's Annual Report (Mr Eric Traise):

Treasurer, Eric Traise, provided a summary of the Council's annual (audited) financial statements as at 30 June 2009 showing a balance of \$8,675. Total income of \$10,859 included our two ACT Government grants totalling \$10,348, expenditure for the year totalled \$9,460, with excess of expenditure over income for the year of \$1,399.

The Income and Expenditure Report and Auditor's Report were distributed to members prior to the Meeting and copies were also made available at the Meeting for anyone interested.

Accepted: Paul Armstead Seconded: Joy Burch

Eric proceeded to introduce Mr Peter Johns, Project Management at the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services and two representatives from Consultants, Collins Caddaye Architects to make a presentation on the proposed site and development for a Seniors Club in Tuggeranong. Andrew Collins and Craig Taylor commenced by providing some background information based on current studies by planners and demographers.

Indications are that people aged 55 plus in the Tuggeranong community have increased by 120% during the period 2001 to 2006, and a further substantial increase is forecast with that age group making up approximately 25% of the population of the Tuggeranong Valley by 2018. The ACT Government has acknowledged the important role of Seniors Clubs in the community and has supported the establishment of such a Club in the Valley to provide support for local groups that are currently established without suitable facilities.

Funding of \$1.5 million has been set aside for this purpose and relevant advisory groups and consultants have been engaged to carry out analysis on the suitability of the following three selected sites:

- Cowlshaw Street (Child Care Centre building);
- Adjacent property at Tuggeranong Park; and
- Comrie Street, Wanniasa (adjacent to Uniting Church).

They provided details of the comprehensive assessment process involved and highlighted the relevant features and characteristics of each site as follows:

- Child Care Centre building for knock down / rebuild, distance to bus interchange favourable, ideal orientation and environmental aspect ; limited car parking facilities;
- Tuggeranong Park site is most suitable due to its convenience to transport facilities; access is good and the aspect is generally favourable;
- Wanniasa site is appropriate for development under the Territory Plan – no current vehicular access and an urban site with current transport limitations.

All factors considered, the second site was generally considered by the various advisory groups as being the most suitable site for the proposed development. The draft recommendation was subject to consultation and comment from the local community and the Department was anxious to commence construction in the early part of next year.

Questions from the floor:

Some relevant matters of interest were raised by members, including the following concerns:

- distance of the favoured site to the local bus interchange;
- access to available transport facilities;
- potential road/traffic safety issues; and
- available car parking facilities.

The various issues were suitably addressed by the presenters and it was agreed by the attendees that the Tuggeranong Park site generally appeared to be the most suitable environment, with the adjacent Child Care Centre considered to be quite beneficial for both facilities. Peter informed the attendees that the outcome of the consultation session and the various issues raised will be passed on to the relevant Government authorities for consideration.

Election of Officers to Executive Committee:

The acting Chair proceeded to declare all positions on the Executive Committee vacant in accordance with the Council's Constitution and handed over to Ms Liz Buckley from the Chief Minister's Department, who agreed to act as the Returning Officer for the election of Office Bearers on the Executive Committee.

Nominations are not permitted from the floor at the AGM under the Council's Constitution and written nominations were received 10 days prior to the AGM as required from the following voting members, who were introduced individually:

President	-	Darryl Johnston
Treasurer	-	Eric Traise
Public Officer	-	Colin Petrie
Minute Secretary	-	Albert Orszaczky
Officer	-	Richard Hedges
Officer	-	Jane Hedges
Officer	-	Janice Petrie

Since there were no multiple nominations received for the seven vacancies, **all candidates were duly elected unopposed.** A concern was raised regarding the eligibility of married couples to serve together on the Committee. It was pointed out that this was not specifically prohibited under the TCC Constitution and it was considered inappropriate and unreasonable to deny involvement by people willing to give up their time to undertake the voluntary positions. The Returning Officer declared the Election results, with the incoming Committee to decide on the actual position and role of each of the five Officer nominees. The acting Chair congratulated the new Committee members and proceeded to hand over the meeting to the incoming President.

Darryl Johnston took the Chair and thanked the members for their confidence and outlined his reasons for seeking the position and his strong interest in the future direction of the TCC. He sought the assistance and support of the members to build the Council into one that is open, inclusive and effective in representing the independent views and aspirations of the local community. He confirmed that every member has an important role to play and they would be given the opportunity to provide input into the operation of the Council by openly airing their views and contributing to the decisions being made. Darryl indicated his intention to share the work load and responsibilities of running the Council by establishing Sub-Committees for the main areas of interest and concern, such as Planning, Environment, Transport, Youth and senior citizens' issues.

Members were asked to participate in one or more of these Sub-Committees in the area(s) of their interest and provide regular community feedback on their activities to the Council. Darryl undertook to work closely with other community groups in Tuggeranong and other Community Councils across Canberra, as well as working with our local politicians and the Government of the day. He indicated that credit will be gladly given to our political representatives when the Council believes it is due, and criticism will be forthcoming when it is felt that they are not working for the benefit of the Tuggeranong community.

Darryl acknowledged the many community-minded people within the membership and extended an invitation to them to join him in building on the work to be done by the TCC. He concluded by acknowledging the many years of service given to the Tuggeranong community by Rosemary and David Lissimore and the past Executive, and he wished David and Rosemary good health and happiness for the future and assured them that the Council was in safe hands. He also thanked the two ongoing Committee members, Eric and Albert for their past services and welcomed their continued involvement.

General and Other Business:

The acting Chair informed members that Meetings were not usually held in December or January and the next Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, 4 February 2010**, with guest speaker to be arranged. However, this matter was at the discretion of the new Committee.

A Motion was moved on behalf of the Treasurer for approval of the Council's audited accounts and the appointment of the current Auditor, Mr Roy Zacharias for the ensuing year, which was previously overlooked. This arrangement was acceptable to the members.

Darryl took the opportunity to pass a vote of thanks to Liz Buckley for acting as the Returning Officer, and he indicated that it was likely that a further General Meeting would be held in December to make a start on the many matters requiring attention and prompt action. Members would be informed through the usual channels and the TCC website.

The meeting concluded at approximately 8.45pm and members were invited to stay on for the usual light refreshments and informal chat to celebrate the end of a memorable year.