

TUGGERANONG COMMUNITY COUNCIL Inc.
Minutes of the General Meeting 7 April 2020
Meeting conducted via Zoom video conferencing application.

Welcome and Acknowledgment

The Meeting was opened at 7.30pm by the President Jeffrey Bollard

Present

See the electronic register of attendance.

President's Report – Jeffrey Bollard

Virtual Meeting - The President introduced the first virtual meeting of the Tuggeranong Community Council and that was being hosted on the ZOOM application.

The meeting was being recorded as indicated by the icon on participants screen. Registration details have also been recorded which includes your name and email addresses.

The virtual or on-line meeting replaces the April in-person meeting and has been necessitated by the need to protect the community through the social distancing practices to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To the extent possible normal meeting protocol would be followed and the TCC code of conduct applied as it does when we meet in person.

Participants were asked to remain on mute unless addressing the meeting. The Chair at times may mute all participants to allow the designate speaker to be heard without extraneous background noise. There are text functions available within the application and the ability to 'raise hands' if participants wished to speak. The text and icon features would be monitored throughout the meeting.

Cooperation and tolerance are sought as experience is gained with this new form of meeting for the TCC.

Agenda – An agenda was not circulated for the meeting due to the changing arrangements and some uncertainty about the ability of speakers to participate.

The agenda for the evening was announced as;

- President's report
- Police report
- Short presentations by participating MP and MLA
- Presentation on the Results of the Community Survey
- Treasurers Report
- Sub Committee Reports
- Any other business

The minutes of the March 2020 meeting were not circulated in advance and consideration of these minutes were deferred until the May meeting.

COVID 19 – It has been an interesting start to 2020 with smoke, hail, bushfires and now a pandemic. The policy of the TCC is to comply with the directions and recommendations of the Chief Health Officer. Therefore, we have cancelled all in person meetings and events including our monthly meeting, committee and sub-committee meetings and out-reach events such as our Youth Forum.

We have utilising other methods of communications to continue the work of the TCC including virtual meetings such as tonight's and distributing information via our webpage, Facebook and Twitter accounts. We are being cautious not to be a source of misinformation on COVID-19 so our only information we are providing is a link to the ACT Health Website.

The lockdown has impacted the community with the loss of employment, working from home, home or remote schooling and the disruption of our social networks. The advice is to stay home, observe social distancing and only venture out for essential activities. The President invite members to think of innovative ways to maintaining social and community networks whilst observing the containment practices. This should include way of assisting those not coping well with the physical and mental aspects of the isolation.

Planning and Consultation -

The Environment Planning Forum has been deferred.

Draft Territory Plan Variation No. 369 Living Infrastructure has been further extended to 8 May 2020.

Canberra Hospital Master Plan and UNSW Canberra City Campus Master Plan, we are awaiting advice on briefings to the TCC.

Bus network changes are on hold and Transport Canberra will reschedule the presentation planned for tonight to a later time. Transport Canberra will continue to operate the current bus and light rail timetable for the time being, with contingencies prepared should there be a need to reduce services due to COVID-19.

Canberra Planning Action Group and IGPA public forum of 23 March at the Albert Hall has been deferred.

Chief Minister Barr has announced the ACT Government Commitment to infrastructure investment during the COVID-19 Pandemic. On Friday 20 March, it was announced a \$137 million stage 1 economic survival package for the Territory which, among other measures, included \$20 million of immediate funding to fast track infrastructure projects and maintenance on government-owned community, school and other buildings.

The TCC will continue to engage in consultation processes and the various sub-committees will develop positions through on-line conferencing in place of face-to-face meeting.

In response to a question on Zoom security Jeff explained that the TCC meetings are public meetings, preregistration has been implemented to identify participates and meeting controls allow any participant to be expelled or muted.

Wayne King moved the acceptance of the President's report and this was seconded by Rob Lovett.

Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly Updates

Nicole Lawder MLA

Work in Assembly is focused on COVID-19 and community response. Information was shared from the Federal Government on statistics within Australia and internationally and the lockdown provisions asking people to stay at home unless absolutely necessary. ACT testing centres at the Weston Walk-In Clinic and the drive through as EPIC. Considers Australia and ACT well prepared to respond to

COVID-19 however there remains pressure on the health system and acknowledged efforts of the ACT Government to bolster health services.

MLAs are busy supporting constituents cope with pandemic.

It is six months out from the election but now is not the time for politics but is the time to support the community to avoid the spread of the virus and supporting the recovery those that are unfortunate to contract COVID-19.

One version of the truth in the ACT is the ACT health website, a new ACT www.covid19.act.gov.au website and Australia.gov.au websites. Don't believe everything on social media.

In response to a question Nicole confirm the temporary hospital is going ahead. The facility being deployed is designed for the purpose with necessary medical infrastructure as opposed to selecting setting out another available structure.

Police Report – Station Sergeant Rod Anderson

Crime rate in the last 12-month period (April 2019-Mar 2020) show a 20 to 40 percent decrease in crimes against the person and an increase of 30 percent for property crime. In the last two months there has been a decrease in crime possibly attributable to more people being at home.

In March there was an armed robbery of a Chisholm service station and enquiries are continuing. A male attempted to steal three cars in Greenway on the first attempt with the threat of a knife and was successful on the third attempt. He was detected on the following day driving the stolen car and has been placed before the court. Three male youths (14 – 15 years) were detained and charged for operating a motor vehicle in Conder. A female was identified in response to a spitting incident with a store attendant and security staff. A warrant executed in Kambah resulted in recovery \$100,000 worth of bikes and construction equipment.

ACT Police are continuing activities through the COVID-19 response including patrols, RBT and drug testing. An education and awareness stand is being taken with ensuring social distancing.

Results of Community Survey – Glenys Patulny

The Community Survey was undertaken at the end of 2019 and 2020. A dedicated youth survey was conducted in the same period. Focus was on the Community Survey however links and comparisons would be drawn between the two surveys.

In order of response environment, open spaces, local shops and character and streetscape were identified as most of value in own suburbs.

Important issues for Tuggeranong were crime and community safety, public transport and park and garden maintenance. Lake water quality was listed but not as high on the list as it was for the Youth Survey.

Work location reported by respondents were 26% Civic, 18% Tuggeranong, 13% work from home with other locations making up the balance. Own car was used by 78% to get to work with 13% reporting public transport. In response to the bus network changes introduced in 2019, 42% report no longer using public transport and 43% reporting longer travel times. Improvement requested for public transport were more frequent buses and better routes. Support of 70% was found for light rail to Woden and extension to Tuggeranong.

Environment services questions had responses wanting better maintenance of green spaces, more trees and shrubs and organic waste collection.

There has been a reversal in support for a cemetery and crematorium in Tuggeranong compared with earlier surveys.

Additional services and facilities need were outdoor markets, access to mental health support, social activities and support for people with disabilities. Sufficient sporting facilities were reported with a comment that additional in-door multi-use stadiums were needed.

Demographics of respondents showed balance from each suburb, age spread with 35-44 years being the peak and a majority female.

Conclusion from the Community Survey were;

- Improving the bus network
 - more frequency
 - better routes
 - new interchange
- Look at the program to upgrade local shopping centres;
- Look at upgrading parks and recreational spaces and
- Continue to put pressure on the government to improve water quality in Lake Tuggeranong.
- Supporting and promoting more local markets
- Look at a developing a survey on 'Crime and Safety' to clarify issues

Combining the Community and Youth Surveys the conclusions are;

- The bus network more frequency, better routes and new interchange
- Continue to put pressure on the government to improve water quality in Lake Tuggeranong.
- Look at safety concerns including Better lighting, footpaths and safety on buses
- Look at the program to upgrade local shopping centres;
- Look at upgrading parks and recreational spaces and
- Supporting and promoting more local markets
- Look at a developing a survey on 'Crime and Safety' to clarify issues

The President spoke on how to apply the results of the survey particularly in an election year and through the TCC's media engagement.

Additional comment was made on the need to drill down on some of these issues and how to engage the community directly rather than rely on government funding.

The President indicated that results of the surveys will be passed to the sub-committees to develop positions for the Council to pursue. Glenys was acknowledged for the work she has undertaken to complete the surveys and report.

General Business

Apologies

David Smith MP

Treasurer's Report – Sed Bustillo

Expenditure for March 2020 was \$425.12 with income of \$200.00. Funds are Operating Fund \$13,709.56 and Members fund \$9550.47.

Response to a question on arrangement for the Zoom service was that TCC has entered as month by month account at a value of \$23 which is offset in the budget by savings from transition of the mobile telephone service to an alternative supplier.

Moved Sed Bustillo and Seconded by Wayne King.

Planning, Transport and Communications Sub-Committee

No report.

Canberra Airport consultation meeting has been cancelled.

Community, Health and Wellbeing – Glenys Patulny

Last meeting cancelled due to COVID-19. Looking to Zoom meetings to maintain activities. Interest in promoting more community activities.

Environment Sub-Committee

No report.

Youth – Daisy Matsika

Cancelled Youth Forum. To be rescheduled at future date.

Youth focus segment developed for Valley FM. Will be used for youth engagement in the future.

SouthFest – Catherine Jones

Committee is considering ability to stage Southfest in 2020.

Other Business

It was confirmed that TCC made a submission to the Youth Mental Health Inquiry and the submission has been published on the committee web page.

Cate Adams advised the meeting on the establishment of a mutual aid group in Tuggeranong to support people isolated due to COVID-19. Support was sought from those willing to assist. The Facebook page is Tuggeranong Corona Virus Mutual Aid Group. Clarification was provided that emergency food banks across Tuggeranong were continuing to operate. YMCA foodbank is operating on Thursday with appropriate protection protocols in place.

Taryn Langdon inform the meeting that Federal Parliament Members (ALP) are working together to facilitate access to Australian Government programs for COVID-19.

Plaxy McCulloch spoke of the easy to be able to participate in the meeting. She also mentioned that she is scheduled to speak at the May meeting on water quality.

The President thanked Members and guests for participating in the first Zoom meeting of the TCC.

The Meeting concluded at 9.00pm.

Next Meeting Tuesday the 5 May 2020 via Zoom.

Please note: TCC is not a local government. If you have enquiries relating to government issues, we may be able to help point you in the right direction. The main contact for ACT Government enquiries is Access Canberra at <https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/> or phone 13 22 81