

Oaks Estate Progress Association

**Minutes of OEPA Committee meeting, 7.15pm, Thursday 1st November 2012,
at the Oaks Estate Community Hall.**

Present. Karen Williams (Chair), Fran Lethbridge, Alex Saeck, Judith Saeck, Bernadette Fitzgerald, Michel Starling, Ewan Maidment.

1. Apologies: John Bruggeman.

2. Minutes of previous Committee meeting held 4th October 2012.

Moved Alex, seconded Bernadette, that the minutes be accepted. Carried.

3. Matters arising.

Community Garden. Alex moved, seconded Fran, that the OEPA offer to sponsor an OEPA member or family who cannot afford to pay COGS fees for one year's subscription and allotment rental to the value of about \$60.00. Carried. Agreed to put notice in the OEPA newsletter if there is no objection from the Community Garden convenor, Peter O'Dea.

See also Action Plan review, below.

Action Plan review.

1. – *Master Plan.*

1a) – *ESDD.*

– David Papps, ESDD Director, is to be invited to visit Oaks Estate in due course. Karen stated that she expected that Mr Papps would come with the Project team after the heritage assessment is clearer.

– Unofficial meeting to be held with Petra Oswald (ESDD) re outcome of July survey.

1d) – *Heritage.* Karen wrote to Gai Brodtmann on 15 October raising unrecognised issues of cross border heritage associated with the proposed railway lands development.

1g) – *Stateline.* No update.

1k/2c – *Public Housing consultation /Community development projects.* Lyn Diskon (South Side Community Services) has agreed to proceed with a meeting. ACT Housing still not involved in Master Plan process. Tim Coxhead (St Vincent de Paul) did not receive a response from ACT Housing. He will re-send an invitation. The meeting will go ahead even if only with the Housing Manager.

3) – *River rehabilitation.* Alex Saeck thanked for his huge mowing job on the river bank.

3a) – *Photographs.* John B. has sent some photos for the OEPA webpage update.

3h) – *Stage 2.* Karen reported that Rebecca Dawson reports that she has organized Volunteering Australia to put in some hours at Oaks Estate – weeding and replacing plant guards. Rebecca also wishes to pass on her appreciation and thanks to those Oaks Estate people who are weeding, etc.

– The fence at the bottom of River St has been replaced, but the gate is not locked.

– The Molonglo Catchment Group organized a weed identification workshop. There were 12 participants. Karen is writing a report for the OEPA webpage.

4) – *The Robertsons' House.*

4d) – *National Trust.* The Trust is organizing a tour to be held probably on the morning of 20 April as part of the 2013 ACT Heritage Festival. The Trust will charge a fee and will cover public liability insurance. Chris Wain may seek to have The Oaks open for the tour. The Trust has asked Karen to help design the tour route and to provide a commentary. Once the date is fixed the Trust hopes to publicise the event through the ACT and NSW Festival Program.

5) – *Membership and constitution.* The sub-committee met several times in October. See item 5 on the Agenda.

6) – *Fundraising.* No change. Waiting for Southside Community Services to provide a copy of their insurance policy.

– Karen reported that John Kelley (Old Narrabundah Community Council & ISCCC) can advise on inexpensive liability insurance for community organizations c.\$300p.a.

7) – *Queanbeyan LEP*.

– Letter to Steve Toms (Cross-Border Commissioner) sent by Karen on 11 October, re: proposed rezoning of railway land (43 Henderson Road, Queanbeyan).

7g) – *Trucks parking on Railway St*. David Papps (ESDD) wrote to Caroline Le Couteur (ACT Greens) stating that the “master plan is currently investigating a number of solutions for future development for Railway Street in particular. These may include providing for a green buffer between new development in Oaks Estate and Railway Street, providing on-going street parking along Hazel Street and Gillespie Park, or introducing traffic-calming measures along Railway Street.”

7h) – *Meeting with Mayor Overall*. Mayor Overall has written requesting a meeting with the OEPA executive to address “offensive signs and other issues”. Arrangements for a meeting on 5 November are to be confirmed. It was noted that we have little leverage in negotiations with the Mayor. The Committee agreed that three or four Committee members would meet Mayor Overall on site to work the cross-border heritage precinct issue in relation to proposed development of the Railway land.

8) – *Communications strategy*.

8b) – *OEPA Newsletter*. Aim to publish a newsletter in November.

8c) – *Sign updates*. Publicise next River corridor weeding activity.

8d) – *Email/letterbox/phone contact list*. No action.

8e) – *Website*. No action on looking for a community development grant to fund upgrading of website.

9) – *End Master Planning – Canberra 2013 Centenary celebrations*. Michel will contact Robin Archer’s office

See also item 4d above.

10) – *Inner South Canberra Community Council*. Karen and Michel raised cross-border issue at the ISCCC meeting in October. They have provided a text for a press release, but ISCCC are holding on to it until the new ACT government is installed.

4. Financial Report.

Judith reported receipt of \$69.59 in interest paid on the term deposit of \$7,110.23 which was reinvested on 10 October. There was \$4,189.00 in the cheque account on 31 July.

5. Rules and Membership Sub-Committee Report.

The draft revised rules were tabled together with a discussion paper on them. It was agreed that the proposed rules revision be publicized in the newsletter. The Committee thanked Terry and the other members of the sub-committee and held over discussion of the rules revision until the next meeting.

6. Other business.

– In response to a request by a resident in Oaks Estate Road, it was agreed to draft a letter to TAMS (addressed to Peter Bruce?) re provision of a footpath between Oaks Estate Road and Florence Street. Alex noted that some time ago Wayne Brown had been hit by a vehicle while running near Hill Street.

– A break-in in George St was reported.

– Proposed River party – BBQ – mowing & weeding – awareness raiser – fundraiser – Christmas party – to be held in December. Use blackboard for notice.

– David Shoebridge (NSW Greens MLC) will be visiting Canberra. Shoebridge has indicated to Michel that he is opposed to the rezoning of the Railway lands. Michel will invite him to visit Oaks Estate.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.