

Oaks Estate Progress Association

Minutes of a special OEPA Committee meeting re the Community Hall, held at the Hall, Oaks Estate, 7.15pm, Thursday 2 May 2013.

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

Apologies: Fran Lethbridge, Nick Saeck.

Minutes of previous meetings:

Moved Bernadette, seconded Alex Saeck, that the minutes of the meeting held 7 March be accepted. Carried.

Moved Alex, seconded Bernadette, that the minutes of the meeting held 4 April be accepted. Carried.

Matters arising / Action table:

1. Master Plan. Letter received from Gai Brodtmann, dated 4 April, re issues raised with Chief Minister on behalf of OEPA, with copy of Katy Gallagher's letter to Gai, dated 21 March, advising the master plan release has been delayed until 2014 and that the delay has been caused by wider consultation with the Oaks Estate community and one meeting of reps of the Cmty Services Directorate (CSD) and ESDD with public housing tenants. Gai's letter also advised that the extended time frame will also allow inclusion of heritage work; and that the cross border strategic planning is not best place to raise issues specific to Oaks Estate which are best addressed through the master plan process by liaising with QCC, Country Rail and NSW Dept of Planning.

Noted that:

- Draft master planning options are expected to be tabled in June;
- Housing (CSD) did not talk to public housing tenants in River St.
- Peter Johns of CSD attended the meeting in George St.

Michel responded to Gai Brodtmann by email on 5 April and will set up a meeting with Gai.

Karen will contact Petra re exclusion of River St public housing tenants from the meeting with CSD and the outcome of the Roads ACT Railway Street traffic survey.

2. Community Development Projects. Karen will also call a meeting between social services NGOs and COGS, after the AGM, re the community garden and associated matters.

3. River rehabilitation. Planting day, Sunday 5 May 8.00am-12noon, with the Molonglo Catchment Group. MCG will provide BBQ, Karen to shop for provisions, Berna to cook.

4. Robertsons' House. Three Corner Stones Walk: Karen reported that 21 people (the maximum booking) participated in the tour which she conducted on Saturday 20 April. The participants were particularly interested to see the junction of the Queanbeyan and Molonglo Rivers and hear Karen's interpretation of its place in the history of the region. The National Trust and ACT Heritage Unit were very pleased with the tour. The OEPA received \$239.00 as its share of the tour fees. The National Trust will cover insurance for similar activities associated with Robertsons' House that are conducted by the OEPA.

Moved Bernadette, seconded Michel, that the OEPA thank Karen for her efforts. Carried.

5. Constitution. Ewan sought endorsement for two remaining proposed new rules:

- that 14 days notice be given for both general meetings and AGMs, in accordance with the Model Rules;
- that OEPA cheques and other financial documents be signed by both the Treasurer and one designated Committee member, in accordance the OEPA's existing rules.

Moved Alex, seconded Berna, that the proposed rules be endorsed by the Committee. Carried.

Ewan will draft a summary of the new rules and present the proposed new rules to the AGM for consideration.

6. Fund raising: Centenary celebrations. Michel reported on two proposed projects he had discussed with the Centenary Team:

- *Party at the Shops* with a creative event, possibly involving kids; possible \$1,000 funding; deadline next couple of months; needs involvement of artists.
- *Unmade Edges* – combined villages – outsourced to a project manager; deadline lapsed (?); for discussion with Brooke Small on 6 May; Michel to follow-up. Second meeting of reps of ACT villages yet to be convened.

7. Queanbeyan Local Environment Plan (LEP) – Railway lands. OEPA reps met with David Carswell and Beate Jansen (QCC Strategic Planners) on 12 March and were advised to take the matter of proposed development of the railway lands to the ACT Government and RailCorp. QCC would consider anything that was put forward by Railcorp

Petra (ESDD) has reported no outcome from the Cross Border Commissioner meeting.

Karen will present a proposal for a community garden to the ACT Govt and Rail Corp.

8. Communications strategy.

- A flyer for the Planting Day, 5 May, will be printed and distributed.
- The OEPA *Newsletter* will be distributed before the AGM in May.
- Karen has updated the blackboards for the Planting Day.
- Noted that the blackboards are in need of repair and that the siting of the Eastern blackboard needs checking.
- ISCCC has granted \$295.00 to the OEPA to off-set costs of our publications (hardcopy only).

Community Hall.

The Committee recognized that the Oaks Estate Hall is a key community asset and agreed to support in principle the proposed combined management and maintenance of the Hall with Southside Community Services, noting that it will require broad community support.

Ewan to write to Lyn Diskon (SCS) asking for a draft MoU for the Committee to consider.

Bede Tongs Memorial Plaque.

The Committee agreed to allocate \$500 in the first instance toward erection of a rock and bronze plaque acknowledging Bede Tong's role in granting land for the Community Hall and adjacent park.

Community Garden.

Peter O'Dea, the Canberra Organic Gardeners Society (COGS) Oaks Estate garden convenor, issued a statement on 6 March announcing that the garden would be closed and returned to TAMS after the current gardeners' leases expire in September.

OEPA reps met with Walter Steensby (COGS President) and Bob McAlister (COGS Gardens Co-ordinator) on 13 March, where COGS confirmed that they do not want to continue their lease on the garden, but are keen to work with OEPA to come to an arrangement that would both keep the garden open and improve its sustainability

Karen has also met with the convenor of the Queanbeyan community garden (Henderson Rd) and social services NGOs to investigate a strategy for a sustainable garden.

Annual General Meeting.

It was agreed to hold the AGM and a BBQ at 13.30pm on Saturday 18 May at the Community Hall.

Ewan to buy the provisions.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.