

# Oaks Estate Progress Association Inc.

## Minutes of OEPA Committee meeting held at the Community Hall, Oaks Estate, 7.00pm, Thursday 5 December 2013.

**Present.** Karen Williams (Chair), Alex Saeck, John Bruggeman, Judith Saeck, Ewan Maidment.

**1. Apologies:** Dan Heldon, Michel Starling.

**2. Minutes of previous meeting.** It was suggested that the draft minutes be corrected to state explicitly that, "the Party in the Village was a community event conducted under contract between Michel Starling, Rachel Bowak and the Centenary of Canberra and, as such the OEPA gives general support and volunteer effort, but no management in-put."

Moved Alex, seconded Jon B, that the minutes of the meeting held 7 November be accepted with the amendment. Carried.

### **3. Matters arising**

**# Master Plan.** As ESDD have not issued their Oaks Estate master planning newsletter, it was agreed to go ahead with ours.

**# Boundaries.** Dan has sent an email stating that he is waiting on a response from John Holland re discussions about the Railway lands.

**# Traffic.**

- OEPA letter to Gary Byles re footpath, etc., on Railway St sent on 4 December.
- Note that traffic guidance lines at the stop sign on the corner of Railway St. and McEwan Avenue have worn out. Canberra Connect to be informed.

**# Fire fighting trailer.** OEPA to contact the Emergency Services Authority to set up a meeting with the Committee re provision of a trailer and training.

**# Bus fares.** The OEPA sent a letter to Katy Gallagher, dated 18 November, accepting the government's revised basis for setting fares for residents travelling to Canberra on Qcity Transit buses and also arrangements for purchasing term passes from Qcity Transit for Oaks Estate students traveling to ACT schools.

**# Community Hall signage.** Karen contacted Kirsten Beaumont (Southside Community Services) re proposed corporate style signage, but Kirsten indicated that cost could be an issue. Karen has also spoken to Stuart McCowan, the Scout leader. A possibility would be for us to make the sign ourselves. Karen noted that Lyn Diskon is raising the matter of the proposed MoU in relation to cleaning the Hall.

**# Notice board.** Neville is interested, but there is no obvious spot for the notice board at the bottle shop. He is thinking about it.

**# Website.** The student who wished to experiment with the appearance of our website has been given access. The OEPA has not received a report back from the student. The pass word will be withdrawn from 6 December.

**#TAMS donation.** The Correa Canberra Christmas Bells have not yet been given to the OEPA.

### **4. Financial Report.**

- Alex reported that, in accordance with the resolution of the last committee meeting, Karen has been reimbursed \$826.95 for her expenditure associated with the Bede Tongs memorial dedication ceremony.
- Alex reported \$2,440.82 in the OEPA cheque a/c; and \$7,297.89 in the OEPA term a/c, reinvested on 10 October 2013 and to mature on 10 February 2014.
- Alex noted that two cheques amounting to \$533.25 were banked on 6 May 2013, consisting of \$295.00 grant from ISCCC for printing expenses and \$239.00 being OEPA share of Robertsons' House tour fees (see minutes of OEPA Cmte meeting on 2 May 2013). Alex noted the unexplained discrepancy of \$0.75 which might create an auditing problem.

- Alex reminded the Committee that the OEPA accounts were closed off as at 31 December 2013 to be prepared for auditing.

#### **5. Centenary Events – Party in the Village and Oaks Estate Portrait of a Nation art project.**

- The committee congratulated Michel and Rachel for the wonderful series of events celebrating the Canberra Centenary in Oaks Estate, and thanked them and the volunteers for their enormous efforts.
- Request received from Michel to match, dollar for dollar, money raised at the Party in the Village for donation to the Philippines. Deferred until it is made clear how much is involved.
- Karen and others have sent feed-back on the events to Brooke Small.

**6. Blackboards.** It was reported that the western blackboard is deteriorating quickly. It needs to be replaced, preferably with a compressed cement board. The bent star pickets also need to be replaced.

**7. Newsletter.** Reports: master plan deferred; River report – grass needs cutting, St John’s wart taking over on northern side of the river; heritage walks coming up – Robertsons’ House; pictures from Bede Tongs memorial ceremony, paste-ups, water tower projection, party in the village.

**8. Resignation.** John Bruggeman reported that intends to leave Oaks Estate shortly before Christmas. The Committee accepted John’s resignation from 6 January 2014 with regret. It was agreed to have farewell drinks with John before Christmas.

#### **9. Other business.**

- Agreed that Karen and Michel are the OEPA delegates to the ISCCC and that the Council be formally notified.
- Request for an enclosed dog run. To be referred to Tim Coxhead (St Vincent de Paul, George St flats).
- Garbage at River St Flats. There had been an interruption in pick-ups, but now back to normal, i.e. Mondays and Thursdays.
- Replanting rare Garry Oak trees cut down in McEwan St outside the steel factory, suggested by Michel. Agreed to check availability of seedlings at Yarralumla Nursery.
- Proposed visits by Kate Lundy and Gai Brodtmann. Agreed to invite Senator Lundy to the next OEPA committee meeting, to be held 30 January 2014. It was noted that Ms Brodtmann wants to see an Oaks Estate social development plan.
- ACT Heritage Council. OEPA to write to the Council pointing out what we expect from Heritage Registration, e.g., buffer zones and protection of Aboriginal heritage landscape, with the intention of giving the Council room to act.
- Serious water leak noted on Railway Street, flooding the roadway – OEPA to contact Canberra Connect.
- Electricity in Gillespie Park available by applying to Canberra Connect for a key.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.