

OEPA COMMITTEE MEETING

**7.00pm, Thursday, 13 November 2014
at the Community Hall, Oaks Estate**

Minutes

Meeting opened at 7.11pm

1. Apologies and attendance

Apology: Karen Williams

In Attendance - Michael Starling (chair) Dan Heldon, Alex Saeck, Judith Saeck, Kate Gauthier (Minutes) Adam Stephan-Slade, Ewan Maidment

Charlie Richardson from SCC as observer.

2. Committee nomination

Adam Stephan-Slade invited to join committee. Michel nominated him to board, Kate second, all agreed.

3 Disaster Resilience project

6126 4700 charlie@sscs.org.au

Charlie Richardson from SSCC gave a presentation of the aims of the project and the progress to date.

He is working 4 days per week to end of June. While not a long term project, this does allow for a large body of work. The narrow focus of preparing a disaster plan would not take up all his time. This allows him to broaden out his work into other areas fo community resilience. Noting that integrated communities tend to bounce back better from emergencies, creating a more integrated community will be part of his work. Other key issues are a lack of infrastructure and traffic problems.

25% of Oaks Estate residents don't own a car, across Canberra the average is 6%. Public transport is a huge issue.

He met with public housing residents. Had good discussions with those residents who are keen to participate. Asked people to list their vulnerabilities in various emergency situations eg flood or bushfire. Many did not see these as key problems for them. Tenants reported good relationships with Good Samaritans.

He has also door-knocked on William street.

Charlie reported a better sense of where to go with the project than when he started - is open to feedback on the direction of the project.

Ideas for project: he sees job in 2 parts - community development work AND disaster preparedness.

community development

Need a public tenant's association - can then lobby for public transport, reduction in bushfire fuel, community store. There was discussion around the idea of setting up a cafe in a shipping container.

Disaster planning

- Only 1 public housing resident has made one. Many thought was unlikely to have a flood, or bushfire. Grass fire was seen as more likely.
- Limited number of cars and egress points increases danger.
- No firefighting gear at public housing in George street.

ideas from OEPA

Community fire trailer. - OEPA wanted Charlie to focus on this. Lobbying ACT Govt to provide equipment plus training – result would be to set up the Oaks Estate volunteer fire brigade.

Discussion around community development events: festival last year was very successful with over 300 people attending. Plus art events at the same time.

The projections done by Michel were also good at bringing people together to talk. During screening on water tower he got to meet lots of residents of Oaks Estate and Qbn people who pass through. It was very successful as a community development project in bringing people together.

Charlie said there is a bit of a budget attached to his project which might support another such event being organized.

OEPA idea to run an outdoor cinema after Christmas. Michel and Kate agreed to look into what would be required.

Ewan noted that 2 residences on corner of Railway Street and Oaks Estate Road. They are isolated and may be more vulnerable in disasters. Must be accounted for in a disaster resilience plan.

Ewan noted land on Railway Street past Hill Street - area fills up with water and can be a drowning hazard for children.

Charlie is doing the free Anglicare disaster preparedness training and will let OEPA know whether it's valuable.

Charlie will provide an item for next newsletter - will send to Ewan by end of Nov.

Charlie left the meeting at 8.20pm.

Discussion afterwards about what OEPA can leverage from this project - we need to both publicise and manage the project to ensure lasting outcomes that meet the needs of many people.

Discussion around community shop idea – seen as not a business case for one to be profitable.

Action item: Add grass mowing success to notice board - OEPA got the lawns mowed!

Cross border issues:

There is now an MOU with all police at QBN are sworn in as special constables in AFP. NSW police now patrol on occasion.

SES would come and talk to OEPA or broader community - local QBN SES are likely to be the responder rather than ACT branches.

4 Minutes of previous meeting held 4 September 2014

Kate to re-email the minutes and a vote will be taken via email.

5. Financial Report

Cheque account holds \$2664 as of 31 Oct

Term deposit reinvested on 10 Oct for 3 months is at \$7459

Ewan requested a cheque for \$367.88 for various board costs.

24/12/13	December newsletter	\$80.00
13/6/14	Notice of AGM	\$18.00
26/6/14	June newsletter	\$88.00
28/6/14	Food for AGM	\$24.88
28/6/14	Papers for AGM	\$41.00
15/7/14	July newsletter	\$42.00
24/9/14	September newsletter	\$74.00

Total \$367.88

The board reviewed the receipts and approved issuing of a cheque.

Michel passed a motion to reimburse \$367.88 to Ewan Maidment . Kate seconded. All in favour.

6. Master Plan

- Letter to Planning Minister seeking meeting (draft to be distributed prior to meeting)
- Alex to make changes and send to group by Sunday night.
- Will be sent to planning minister ASAP

7. Other business

- Fix up the blackboard signs. Members to look for old metal signs that could be repurposed. Kate to measure boards and cost construction ply.
- grass cutting - Kate to follow up on getting the schedule.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm