

Oaks Estate Progress Association

-serving our community



Minutes of Oaks Estate Progress Association Committee meeting held on Wednesday 14 September 2011 at the Oaks Estate Community Hall. (Meeting postponed from 7 September.) The meeting commenced at 7.05pm.

Present. Peter O'Dea (Chair), Fiona MacGregor, Sarah Hooper, Alex Saeck, Judy Saeck, Nick Saeck, Bernadette Fitzgerald, Ewan Maidment.

Apologies. None.

Minutes of previous meeting. Minutes of the meeting held 3 August 2011 were accepted by the Committee.

Matters arising.

- **Reimbursement.** The president reminded the Committee that he had not yet been reimbursed for expenses. He has forwarded receipts to the Treasurer.
- **Gillespie Park.** Peter reported that he had received advice from TAMS that the previous plan for the site of the playground would endanger the health of the elm tree. The plan has been revised to re-situate the swing and to cut down two poplars. Copies of the revised plan were given to committee members. The President suggested that the tree growing into the elm tree at an angle should also be cut down. Comment was made from Alex and Bernadette that it is a shame to see that the big eucalypt near the park has been cut down and would be very sad to see any more trees cut down in the park. Peter reported that he had received advice that there was rot in the tree. Alex Saeck commented that the Park and adjacent area is becoming bare of trees. Alex also reported that the new lamp posts in the Park have been painted charcoal colour.
- **Community Garden.** Peter reported that mulch from under the old playground in the Park has been donated to the Garden and that a truck load of top soil has also been delivered to the garden. He reminded the Committee that there will be a working bee at the Garden on Sunday 18 September. Peter said that he would put up a flyer on the Community notice board.
- **Robertson House.** Ewan agreed to ask the ACT Heritage Unit whether it would arrange an Oaks Estate community tour of the building and discussion of proposed future usage.
- **Rubbish in River Street.** Ewan advised that the Association should not report fellow residents of Oaks Estate to the authorities. Where there are problems, he felt it would be better to talk directly to the residents concerned.

Correspondence.

- Resignations. Having read the minutes of the previous committee meeting, Peter O'Dea withdrew his offer of resignation on the grounds that his actions were endorsed by the Committee.
- The Committee received resignations of Karen Williams and Fiona MacGregor.
- Ewan reported that there was no mail for the Association in the PO Box.

Oaks Estate Progress Association, PO Box 44, Queanbeyan ACT 2620.

Loss of records of the Association. Peter reported that he has circulated a draft letter to Southside Community Services and is waiting on further comments from the Committee before sending it. Ewan agreed to take custody of the remaining records of the Association for the period that he is Secretary.

Membership of the Molonglo Catchment Group. A report by Karen Williams, Oaks Estate storm debris and weed removal project, was tabled. TAMS, ACT Parks & Conservation, the Molonglo Catchment Group and the Queanbeyan Landcare Group are collaborating on the project aimed at clearing the flood debris, removing weeds, willows and poplars, and rehabilitation planting to be completed in the next 10 months. They would like the local community and the Progress Association to be involved. Funding of \$1m has been allocated. John Bruggeman is Secretary of the Molonglo Catchment Group and Karen is an active member. They would keep the Progress Association well informed.

It was agreed that the OEPA renew its membership of the Group. The cost is \$25.00 pa.

Oaks Estate Infrastructure Capacity Study. Ewan reported that he phoned ACTPLA on 7 September and spoke to Gerard Coffey. Mr Coffey would not supply a copy of the Infrastructure Capacity Study but referred Ewan to Aimee Davidson who will administer the Master Planning. Aimee said that the Master Planning will run from October 2011 until August 2012.

Nov 2011 – first consultation – on consultation strategy;

Dec 2011 or Jan/Feb 2012 – draft master plan with different scenarios and options will be presented to the community.

Ewan said he would send a report on the phone conversations to the committee members via email.

Other business.

Dumping commercial waste in Oaks Estate. Nick and Alex Saeck reported that building materials are being dumped at the cattle yards and at Hill Street.

Membership of OEPA. Peter asked whether an OEPA membership register is kept. Ewan confirmed that he has compiled a register from the available records. Peter suggested that an annual membership fee would make current membership clearer. Ewan argued against on the grounds that it would be divisive and add to administrative workload. Alex suggested that we have a look at the OEPA membership rule at the next meeting. Peter agreed to send a copy of the OEPA rules to the committee members.

Website. Sarah reported that she has content from Karen, River project material, wildlife photography and the map of the walking track. She asked for more content. Nick asked if there would be an opportunity for businesses to advertise on the web site. Sarah confirmed that there would be a business section. There would also be a section on the Master Planning. Peter thanked Sarah for all her work on the website.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.