

## 2014 meetings

### Hackett Community Association Meeting at ACT Sports House, Hackett 17 February 2014

**Present:** Marian Williams, James Walker, Terry de Luca, Lorraine Mason, Kaye Murphy, Greg Haughey, Bruce Smith.

Visitors: Kris Boyapati, Ruth Chapman

Minutes: Accepted with the revision that James moved in November that the Committee nominate Dorothy and Waltraud (not James individually).

#### Matters arising

- Bruce wrote the letter to TAMS on thorns in walkways
- Greg checked out the issue about parking on Madigan St – it didn't look like an obstruction to traffic.

Treasurer's report: Terry reported that there was a \$124.30 deposit from sausages and books at the last Table at the shops, and that the total balance is now \$3319.67.

#### Party at the shops on 15 March.

Discussion focussed on:

- We should do something a bit different this time – it should be more participatory.  
There should be a dinner at the end
- Amy will try to put us in touch with someone who organise competitive games
- Greg will talk to Maureen - see if they would like to be involved. Will approach preschool
- There could be a painting competition – to be judged at the end of the day
- We should advertise in the Neighbourhood watch - could also advertise in Chronicle and through other suburbs
- Ruth knows someone who is a clown - will see if she can get in contact
- The afternoon can be for kids and the night for adults
- Two performers are already committed
- We can have bush dancing from 4-5 (Their fee is refreshments).

- Also an r&b singer
- We could do hotdogs for kids
- We could start at 2 and finish around 8.30 (Greg will get back to Amy about this)
- Everyone to bring their own dinner
- May need to get drinks from Wilbur's - but we will check out how a liquor license will work - Greg will ask Amy. Bring your own food.
- We should mention that no BBQ facilities
- We should have donation box - for Association
- Dinner could be from 6.30 to 8.30
- We will need to be a porta-toilet
- Greg will form a sub-committee
- Terry will do PA

### HCA Workplan

The workplan should encompass key activities:

- party/ book/ toilet/ Powerpoint we can use/ tables and chairs we can use
- Committee tables every 3 months
- Chess sets and checkers sets engraved with HCA and kept in IGA
- The history of Hackett booklets ○ every committee member should fill out questionnaire - we need to set example - based on questions that James has already developed.

### Committee table at shops

Agreed that it be on 29 March from 9 to 1

James can co-ordinate roster.

Greg can do 9; Lorraine 9-10; Dorothy can do jams; James will do books; Bruce can fill gap

### Administration

- The scheduled April meeting falls on Easter Monday – agreed to move it to Tuesday 22nd April
- Erika and Jenny have indicated that they will not be continuing to be members of the Committee.

### Other business

- New bus shelter outside the front of the shops (from Curtin) - should get something to Angie Drake thanking her for it

- Toilets at shops: Ruth raised the issue of toilets at the shops – she would like to start a community campaign to get toilets. The original rule was that each shopping centre should have them. A plan was in place but it was cancelled because of IGA extension. But never got going again. ○ Greg will raise with Steve Dozspot
  - Ruth happy to participate in campaign. Greg thinks it may have just fallen between cracks. Need to get it back on the list. We just need to find out when it is scheduled
- NCCC report back - NCCC has challenged 2 decisions relating to the Braddon club and carpark. In relation to the carpark the Raiders have planned to put in climbing roses on the fence – this will soften the look and the NCCC has agreed. The challenge to the redevelopment of the Club is continuing.

#### Upcoming events

Clean Up Australia: Terry will organise a Clean up Australia for Hackett – he has registered on the website. He will put up signs. We need to get numbers. There has been dumping near Kellaway St. This is a big problem in suburb. An old lounge was there at one stage. The HCA should pay any tip fees involved in cleaning up.

Meeting closed 8.50pm

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
17 March 2014**

**Present** - Greg Haughey, James Walker, John Carty, Lorraine Mason, Marian Williams, Terry de Luca

**Members** - Ruth Chapman

**Minutes** - accepted

**Treasurers report.** Terry reported that the account total is \$3319.17. He has written two cheques - for the band and PA hire. \$21 will be deposited from memberships and donations

**Membership:** Greg raised the issue of the low number (about 12) of members renewing recently. There was a discussion about this, including:

- Are subscriptions essential to our financial wellbeing?
- We do need the members - we need credibility. The original reason we decided to have paid membership was that it was some indication of commitment.
- Why the low numbers? It could be turnover of people in the suburb. It could also be that people are not aware that you can pay online.
- People will start to get more interested when there is a campaign.
- We should put a notice in the next newsletter that memberships are overdue.
- We could consider lowering the membership fee to a flat \$2.

It was agreed that the next meeting should have a two pronged attack - membership rates and strategy for going forward

Canberra Day party at shops

There was a discussion about the party at the shops - part of a wider series of parties sponsored by the ACT Government and facilitated, in Hackett, by the HCA. Greg was looking for views to communicate back to the Govt. Discussion included:

- Numbers were low but it was not a disaster. It was, however, a lot of effort for a small result.
- It may be better in future to start it in the morning - nights are difficult. Do not continue with dinners.

- It is a reasonable formula but there were too many other things on -
- But the kids games went well.
- Downer had interest groups at their party - that brought people in
- There should be earlier notice. It was in 2 newsletters, but the actual brochures were not circulated until late. The intention had been to get the brochures into the newsletter, but in the end Greg, Barbara and Dorothy delivered the brochures
- There was not enough public advertising.

#### Hawthorn trees in Walkways

Bruce reported back on talking to TAMS about options for pruning or removing the trees. TAMS acknowledge the problem but are concerned about the resource implications of regularly pruning the trees or planting new ones. It was agreed that Bruce would write an article in the NW newsletter setting out the issue and options and seeking people's views.

#### Table at the shops

Arrangements were made to staff a Table at the shops on Saturday 5 April from 9am to 1pm. It was agreed to put photos etc up to provide talking points to engage residents.

#### **Upcoming events**

Terry talked about the need to have a follow-up to Clean up Australia. We could do a spring clean.

#### Other business

Toilets and seats at shops - Greg contacted Steve Doszpot, who has written to

Greg also informed the Committee that each MP has \$125,000 for commemorating veterans - but that the veterans needed to be in the suburb. Greg has approached the Dept of Veterans Affairs to see if any lived here.

Another option is to have veterans who are connected to people in Hackett - such as parents and grandparents of people who live in Hackett.

Footpath at shops - James reported that a new member has complained about the lack of a footpath on the south side of the shops - a dirt area which gets wet and slushy. It was agreed that we should raise this should raise this. A better footpath would be an asset to the shops.

Meeting closed 8.50pm

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
22 April 2014**

**Present** - Greg Haughey, James Walker, Kay Murphy, John Carty, Lorraine Mason, Marian Williams, Terry de Luca

**Minutes** - accepted

**Treasurers report** Terry reported that the account balance is \$3073.80. The Canberra Day party cost around \$1,100. We received \$850 from the Government.

**Contact Table at shops** - there was a discussion about the Table at the Shops held on Saturday 5

April:

- It was quite busy at its peak - there were people coming and going the whole time asking questions and looking at photos. There were about a dozen renewals
- Overall it went pretty well and raised the profile of the HCA.
- Suggestions for the future included:
- There are still people shying away because they are not sure who we are.
- We need to get a table apron
- We should get the A frame closer.
- It was also good to have the FoMM table nearby - created synergies.
- We should get HCA, FoMM and NCCC together to have a Community information day.
- We could have a table at Woolworths at Dickson? Lot of people go there to shop. • We should do another table in couple of months time - one each season - 4 times a year.

**Canberra Day party at shops** - it was reported that the Canberra Day Party at Lyneham shops went very well. It was held a week after Canberra Day and benefitted from not having clashed with other events.

**Trees in laneways** - Bruce reported that there had been 7 responses to the article in Neighbourhood Watch on the Hawthorn trees in laneways. The majority were strongly in favour of keeping the trees and asking TAMS to prune them. It was agreed that Bruce would report the views back to TAMS and would convey the Association's support for that position. Bruce will also write a follow-up piece in Neighbourhood Watch reporting on the response and the outcome with TAMS.

**Toilets at shops** - There was discussion about the email from Andrew Savouldis about restricting access to the toilets owned by the shops to customers. The Committee noted the email and supported the approach. Greg will follow up about letter from Steve Doszpot to Shane Rattenbury about progress on building public toilets at the shops.

**Membership rates** - there was a discussion about whether to move to a flat fee rate for memberships (say, \$2). The general feeling was to stay with the current fees. A flat fee would not lead to increased membership, and would also remove the recognition of concession status. It was also agreed that we should not automatically make all residents of the suburb into members - it would become meaningless.

It was agreed that there should be a motion next meeting that people who sign up as members between January and June should be members for the following financial year (effectively up to 18 months).

### **Other business**

The Committee noted the invitation to the Watson preschool fete.

HCA notice board at shops - it was agreed that we should ask for that as part of the table at shops. It could be located near the IGA. We will need to ask Steve and Arthur and see if they agree to have it put there.

NCCC - Greg and Bruce gave a brief summary of key activities being undertaken by the North Canberra Community Council. The main focus has been the campaign to reverse the deconcessionalisation of the Raiders Club in Braddon.

Table and chairs at shops - Greg reported back about funding for a table, chairs and a memorial at the shops. Andrew Leigh has confirmed that he is happy for part of the money he has for Veterans (\$125,000) to be used with acknowledgement of veterans. Greg will look at different models for memorials etc and different costs. There are possible examples in O'Connor and Lyons. We should look at ideas and take some photos?

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
20 May 2014**

**Present** - Greg Haughey, James Walker, Kay Murphy, John Carty, Lorraine Mason, Terry de Luca

**Minutes** - accepted with amendments to be made. Dorothy would like to receive the Minutes.

**Treasurers report** - Terry reported that since the last meeting \$7.50 has been deposited and that the total balance is now \$3081.33. Terry will investigate whether it will be possible to get a better rate of interest.

**Trees in lanes** - Bruce reported that he had been in contact with TAMS and reported on the emails we had received about the trees and also conveyed the view of the HCA Committee that the Hawthorn trees should be retained and pruned to reduce the danger of the thorns.

**Toilets** - Greg reported that he had followed up with Steve Dozspot. Steve had not received a response to his letter from Shane Rattenbury - he will follow-up.

**Shops update and issues**

- Andrew will be closing cafe for renovations.
- Steve and Arthur have removed graffiti from walls and are also fitting out the deli. This will take some time - it is still in design phase. The deli is going out the side where the entrance used to be
- Anna is worried about the walls around the garden beds - the bricks are falling out. This seems almost like an invitation to throw bricks.
- Vandals have pushed the sign over. Met cash will fit a large notice board - this could have public notices.

There was a discussion about the need to get onto TAMS to upgrade shops. The shops look rundown and tacky. Lyneham has received two upgrades. Greg suggested that we need to find out what the rolling series of shop upgrades is. We should write to the Chief Minister and copy to Shane Rattenbury.

James raised issue of letter to shop keepers becoming members of the HCA - they could have their own informal working group. This would strengthen the association. It would not have to be a formal arrangement but it would get people talking. The working group could choose to have a Spokesperson for shops.

It was noted that there is often praise for the nice manner of the shopkeepers in Hackett. It is regarded as one of the happiest shopping centres in ACT.

**Tables and chairs at the shops** - Greg reported that he received the pro forma application for funding from Andrew Leigh's office. Terry suggested that the public furniture in John Knight Memorial Park provided a good model - it is strong and modern. Terry will take photos and look for who made them.

**Membership motions** - the following motions were passed:

"That HCA memberships taken out in the period January to June be counted as valid for the following financial year" (moved James, seconded Terry)

"That HCA memberships be calculated on a financial year basis and not from the AGM" (moved Terry seconded James)

**Contact table**

- It was agreed that the next table should be held on Saturday 26th July
- Alison Smith has volunteered to make a table apron - but not for a while. James will talk to Alison and bring a design back to the Committee.
- We should also invite FoMM and also NCCC to make it a larger event. Greg will ask the folkdancers. We should also ask the "ACT embroiderers". James will ask at ACT sports house.

**Committee membership** - there was a discussion about the need for "new blood" on the Committee. We should be thinking about it now leading up to the AGM. We should put a sign up at the shops and put notices in the newsletter. Some specific names were also mentioned to follow-up with. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

**Mrs Jess Taylor** - Mrs Jess Taylor, Secretary of Hackett Primary School, secretary of school, has died. She made a wonderful contribution to Hackett School and the school community appreciated all the work she did. She was also a very supportive member of the Hackett Art Show. Greg has put up notice on the website.

Meeting closed 8.40pm

**Hackett Community Association  
Meeting at ACT Sports House, Hackett  
16 June 2014**

**Present:** Greg Haughey, James Walker, Lorraine Mason, Kay Murphy, Marian Williams and Dorothy Makenzie.

**Apologies:** Terry de Luca, John Carty, Bruce Smith

**Minutes:** Accepted.

**Matters arising:** Nil

**Treasurer's report:** No report as the Treasurer was away overseas.

**Shops update:**

- The falling down sections of the retaining walls at the shops have now been repaired.
- The Committee agreed to a letter being sent to the ACT Government thanking them for the retaining wall repairs. The letter to also request for the installation of a pathway from Madigan Street on the eastern side of the shopping centre to the existing surrounding pathway, outline the inadequacy of current drainage system leading to flooding of the main square during heavy rains, and the lack of maintenance of the plants in the median strip in Madigan Street. Greg to draft letter.
- A new notice board has been installed near the IGA main entrance IGA and can be used by the HCA. It will be locked at night by Steve or Arthur from IGA.

**Preparation for contact table 26 July:**

- The tables at the shops on 26 July 2014 will now include HCA, Friends of Mount Majura, Neighbourhood Watch and the Embroiders Guild. Folk Dances of Canberra will be approached to have a table.
- Greg to contact polities and invite them to drop in to show their interest.

**Other business:**

- A letter was received from Shane Rattenbury advising that there was lack of funding at this time for toilets at Hackett shops.

- Shane Rattenbury suggested that the Committee contact Peter Sullivan from TAMS regarding the installation of table and chairs. Greg to follow up.
- The Committee agreed to purchase an Ipad to provide easy access to HCA documents and membership details for future tables etc.
- The Committee discussed the need for new committee members and agreed to seek expressions of interest to become part of the committee in the next Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter.
- A motion was passed that all committee members are eligible to receipt any moneys received by the HCA.
- The Committee agreed to purchase a rack to hold pamphlets (for the table at the shops). Greg to follow up.
- James suggested that the Committee obtain some historic films from the ACT Archives and hold screenings for local residents. James and Greg to follow up.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
18 August 2014**

**Present** - James Walker (acting chair), Kay Murphy, Lorraine Mason, Terry de Luca, Sharon Farrell, Bruce Smith

Apologies: John Carty, Greg Haughey

**Minutes** - Minutes - accepted (moved Kay and Dorothy)

**Treasurers report** - Terry reported a balance of \$2008.93. We gained \$57.51 in membership fees but payments for the iPad and brochure stand were \$330.

**Contact table** - While it was very cold and there were not a lot of people around shopping centre, there was still interest. Neighbourhood watch and FoMM also generated interest. We gained 5 new members and a number of renewals (including 2 politicians). One person took the opportunity of the table to say that not enough women are involved in the Association.

There has been a suggestion that in spring we have a community contact day. We could invite a wider range of organisations, have a sausage sizzle, sell books etc.

**Garbage collection** - Marian has been talking to garbage drivers, who are saying that the current bins will be replaced by stronger ones. The problem is that the lids are coming off. In addition one of drivers has heard suggestions that government is reconsidering about garden waste bins.

Older people without cars really would like to have garden waste bins. It was agreed that the Secretary would write an email to seek confirmation. We can then tell people about it.

**Annual General Meeting** - It was unclear whether this has been scheduled for the 22nd or 23rd of September. We need to confirm. The possibility of holding the AGM in October was also discussed. It was agreed that the Secretary would contact the Office of the Registrar General and see if it would be possible to delay the meeting until October. This would give us more time to organise speakers and sort of nominations.

In relation to speakers, it was agreed that Dorothy would approach Marian Halligan to see if she would be available, and we would also see if Mike Hettinger from the NCCC will be available and would be willing. It was also proposed that we could have a photo display from the birthday party.

**Future meeting venue** - Most of the sports organisations in ACT Sports House are moving out. Greg has approached Community Services, who have indicated that HCA may not be

able to use the meeting rooms in future (all bookings this year will be honoured). It was agreed that the Secretary would write to the ACT Chief Minister to draw the matter to her attention and see what options we will have.

**Update on shops** - There is nothing happening in relation to the toilets at the shops for for at least 12 months. But we should keep pressure up. Greg is, however, more hopeful about getting tables and chairs. It may not happen through the veterans' money but another source is possible.

**Membership and membership list** - the number of financial members is now quite low. This could be caused by inconsistency in updating the membership list. Greg wants to make sure the current list is accurate. Greg, Terry and Bruce will get together to regularise how this happens.

### **Other business**

- Kay noted that TAMS have done a great job on trimming the lanes near Brennan street.

we should write a letter to Clair McGrath of Neighbourhood Watch to thank her for her participation in the contact table. She may also be an interesting speaker at the AGM about how the newsletter came about.

- We should introduce ourselves at the beginning of meetings if there is a new person.

Meeting closed 8.55pm

**Hackett Community Association  
Annual General Meeting  
20 October 2014  
ACT Sports House, Hackett**

**Attendance:** as recorded in the General Meeting Attendance book

Greg opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

**Capital Metro –Ben Smith**

Greg introduced Mr Ben Smith, from Capital Metro, who spoke about planning for light rail in Canberra. Mr Smith covered a number of points, which were also explored in questions, including:

- Stage 1 will be a High capacity, high frequency line, from Gungahlin to City and will have 13-15 stops, including stops at Phillip Ave, Swinden Street and Macarthur Ave
- People will be able to cross the tracks using lights – it will be an embedded track – a smooth surface to walk over
- There is a lot of support for extending the line, especially to Russell
- Trees will need to be removed. Due to irrigation, the current trees have shallow roots. In 2010 there were 800 healthy trees, but recently only 400. New trees will be planted, with leaf mass high up - so enabling good visibility.
- There will be provision for parking, including new Park and Rides facilities, possibly at Dickson. There will be provision for bikes in some cases – but seating should get priority
- While the cost of the new infrastructure will be high, it needs to be compared with the hidden costs of cars, including the costs of roads and the costs to residents of second cars. We also need to consider the issues in the context of what kind of city do we want.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the 2013 AGM were accepted (Greg/Kate)

**Treasurer's report.** Terry reported that the financial situation of the Association has improved over the last year. We had a balance of \$2019.29 at the beginning of the year and \$3081.36 at the end of the year. Terry reported that this improved position was partly due to Greg's hard work in getting sponsorship for the Hackett parties and also due to the increase in the number of members. Terry noted that we may need to think about purchasing a PA system if we are going to continue to host parties regularly. The report was accepted (Greg and Len)

**Chairs report.** Greg reported that it had been a very active year:

- The website continued to be developed and has been progressively taken up. There are now 130 newsletter subscribers
- The toilet at the shops didn't happen. It was put on hold and now there is no money. We are now, however, top of the priority list
- The table and chairs at the shops are now in place
- As a direct result of lobbying we now have a bus shelter at the shops.
- The Party at the Shops was successful, but in future we need to avoid the clash with Canberra Day
- Membership numbers have increased, though we may need to distribute the brochure once again to get a new surge.

Greg flagged that a major priority going forward will be the work on the History of Hackett (the "50 years book")

Greg noted that there had been 10 committee meetings during the year, and thanked the other Committee members.

**Election of office bearers**

The following people were elected to the Committee:

Chair - James Walker  
Deputy Chair and Public Officer \_ Greg Haughey  
Treasurer Lorraine Mason  
Assistant Treasurer - Terry de Luca  
Secretary - Bruce Smith  
Assistant Secretary - Kay Murphy

General Committee members

Marian Williams  
John Carty  
Len Crossfield

**Election of Life Members:** The HCA Committee had nominated Dorothy Mackenzie and Waltraud Pix for life memberships of the Association. Greg spoke to the nominations, talking about the tremendous contributions both Dorothy and Waltraud had made to the Hackett community over the years, both in the HCA and also in other organisations such as Neighbourhood Watch (Dorothy) and Friends of Mt Majura (Waltraud). The nominations were approved by acclamation.

**Marian Halligan:** Ms Marian Halligan, a writer and resident of Hackett, spoke generally about the experience of being a writer in Canberra. She talked about gardens and about the future of writing in Australia. Marian also spoke about the importance of offering encouragement and support to young writers. She read extracts from her novel *The Taste of Memory*, and elaborated on her description of suburbia (including Hackett) as “**republics of pleasure**”.

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
17 November 2014**

**Present –**

Committee: James Walker, Kay Murphy, Marian Williams, John Carty, Lorraine Mason, Terry de Luca, Bruce Smith

Members: John O'Brien, Marjorie O'Brien, Dorothy Mackenzie, John Lee,

Vistors: Steven Bailey

**Minutes** - Minutes - accepted

**Treasurers report** - Terry reported that there was no change since the AGM. We had received \$37 from membership fees, and the current balance was \$2,982.20

**AGM follow-up**: There was general agreement that the AGM was one of the best for some time, with very good speakers. In terms of getting more people to the meeting, suggestions made were:

- we need to get the news out faster – we could put notices in the shops
- we can't just rely on newsletter – some people don't get it
- Signs at shops would be a good idea – a couple of weeks before the meeting
- Let people know that we need a quorum
- Need to make people aware that numbers make the Association credible

James raised the need to make a decision now if we would like to have films for next year's AGM – an evening of historic film watching to be associated with AGM. The films could feature Canberra in the 30s or 60s – this could be a draw card.

**Chair's priorities**: James spoke briefly about his priorities for the coming year, including the production of the 50 year book and the organisation and location of Committee meetings. He circulated a printed list of his key priorities.

**50 year book**: The 4th draft structure of the history was circulated. It has two colours - Green for instructions and reminders, and Red for background materials. Committee members should contact James or Greg if there is anything missing.

The Questionnaire will be circulated to Committee members. If we can all do it, it will serve as an example, and also be a way to identify improvements.

**Location and frequency of committee meetings**: Greg and Jochen have checked out other buildings to see if there are any possibilities. They have contacted Maureen Hartung to see what is available connected with Blue Gum. It is fairly packed, but there may be possibilities. If we can't find anything suitable, we should write to Katy Gallagher to protest.

She can explain why the ACT Govt can't provide anything face to face. This is meant to be a community facility for the community.

It was decided that we would decide on frequency when we have location.

**Association membership:** A number of matters were discussed in relation to membership:

- we need to address membership records – we are currently using a number of ways of recording membership – we need to bring it together.
- we also need to address the large number of members who are not financial ☐ It would be possible to do another letterbox drop through Neighbourhood Watch.

It was agreed to have an informal Working group – the Treasurer, Secretary and public officer to work on these matters.

**Contact Table at shops:** It was agreed to have the first contact table for 2015 in March. We will need to get notices out about the table as early as possible given there is no newsletter in January.

**Christmas dinner:** It was agreed to have the Christmas dinner on Wednesday 17 December at Siam Twist.

**Music in the park:** There was a discussion about how to pay for the toilets for Music in the Park (around \$220). It was agreed to ask NCCC to pay at its meeting on Wednesday.

**Development in Dickson:** There was a general discussion about development in North Canberra, and particularly in the Dickson precinct near the Tennis courts. In particular there was concern that development was happening without considered community consultation and regardless of long-term community planning. It was agreed, however, that the NCCC was probably the best place to have those discussions given they are wider than what is happening in Hackett.

Meeting finished 9.05pm