

MINUTES OF NORTH ARM COVE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING
held at the Community Hall on Saturday, 11 November 2010 at 10.00 am

MEETING OPENED at 10 am

ATTENDANCE: 24 as per attendance sheet including the following committee members:
Len Yearsley, Peter Chappelow, Susan Carter, Gerry Kilby, Louise Harvey, Tony Hann,
Kerryan Griffin, Stephanie Hunter

APOLOGIES Jim Hunter, Denise Brown, Jeanine Read, Peter Freeman and Kate Washington.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of meeting held Saturday, 9 October 2010 as circulated were adopted.

Moved: John Blackbourne Seconded: Bruce Brown

Carried

ADDRESS FROM DARRIN BRIGGS

The burn off (stage 1) occurred last month without a hitch and the local Brigade tidied up on the Sunday. There will be a planned meeting of the Firewise groups (Len added there were 71 households involved in Firewise). Stephanie asked what outcome was hoped for and the response was that our community will be better prepared for a fire event.

CORRESPONDENCE IN

From	Date	Re	Action
Julianne Sanders – Seniors Week Grants program	5 October 2010	Decision re Safe Tennis application to be advised in December	File: Grants
Nigel – hand delivered	Undated	Copies of newspaper articles re koalas and Fame Cove development	File: Fame Cove
EcoNetwork	Unknown	Membership fees and AGM notice	No representative to AGM but fees of \$25 paid. FILE: ecoNetwork
Climate profile	Unknown	General information	File: Port Stephens Council
Leah Neary, Registration Clerk, Searches, NSW Dept Fair Trading	20 July 2010	Search for name change from Progress Association Inc to NAC residents Association Inc.	FILE: Association
Maureen Kelly, NAC Hall Management Committee	23 October 2010	One off donation of \$352 towards public liability insurance	File: Insurance

CORRESPONDENCE OUT

TO	Date	Re	Action
Communities NSW, Community building partnerships/Len Yearsley	29 October 2010	Invoice 2010/01 for works re extension of Community Centre to house arts and culture (\$6352).	FILE: GLC
Maureen Kelly/Len Yearsley	9 December 2010	Thank you for \$352 cheque	FILE: Insurance
Darrin Briggs/Len Yearsley	9 December 2010	Thanks for burn off – Stage 1	FILE: Rural fire service
Commander Charles Haggett, Local Area Commander Port Stephens Police/Len Yearsley	16 November 2010	Request for police assistance to deal with the increasing number of off road motor cycles causing safety and noise issues in North Arm Cove	FILE: Police

Motion that Correspondence be received.

Moved: Susan Carter

Seconded: Maureen Kelly

Carried

Matters arising – There were several comments that number of bikes seems to have lessened lately.

TREASURER'S REPORT - The balance as at 9 December 2010 is \$3581.31

Moved Stephanie Hunter Seconded : Jan Carter

Carried

General Business

Water Access Reserves – Water Street and Casuarina Reserves – Peter Chappelow - said there was no cause for concern for residents close to the reserves as the impact of the development will be landscaping, a small ramp and public seating. There had been some objection to the jetty being placed on the far side of land and NACRA had suggested the jetty go in the middle with a pontoon on the end which will increase access. John Blackbourne asked what happens from here. Len responded that David Bortfield had said they had a large number of responses for and against and no decision would be made before February. He added Waterways will probably help with funding and said Len Roberts and the Head of Engineering were both enthusiastic about it. Tony Hann asked whether council will report on the comments. Peter said Great Lakes Parks and Gardens Department

will analyse, give recommendation and put a recommendation for or against to council. Tony expressed a strong desire for feedback from the comments and Len agreed to request this.

Insurances - Len reported there had been no further progress on NACRA's attempt to combine with similar groups for insurance purposes. Andrew Brabook has asked the insurance company, Jardin, Llyod and Thompson, for a quote based on NACRA's six usages per year. It was stated that there has never has been a claim in Great Lakes Council area in Andrew's time (approx 20 years). Stephanie and Len approached the Hall Management Committee re sharing in insurance cost and were glad to receive a cheque for \$352 as one-off.

Grant funding – Len said the \$6352 had been passed on and that the grant application for \$21 000 for the pergola and BBQ had been successful. The Hall Management Committee will oversee the work but NACRA remains responsible for signing off. Maureen Kelly added that she had received quotes from Spanline and Greg Bradley (a builder from Karuah who is accredited with GLC) and is awaiting a third. She added that paperwork was in hand for the removal of the tree, that work should commence in February, and that the Theatre Group had donated a BBQ to the tennis group and one to the Hall. Len added that this brings to about \$37 000 the amount that NACRA has been able to obtain in grants for the community.

Clean up Australia Day: Tony said the date was Sunday, 6 March 2011. After discussion, the time was set from 8 to 11am. He asked that anyone finding dumped rubbish or noticing suspicious behaviour should report it to Tony or the Council. Peter suggested GPS readings were helpful when locating areas needing attention from council.

Kangaroo/Wallaby roadkills – Kerryan tabled a map showing She said she had spoken to Julie Savage, an accredited Wildlife rescuer and carer who drives every day in and out of the Cove. Julie questioned whether signs would help since there are already many different signs to read as one drives in – only one of these is a kangaroo warning sign. Kerryan wondered whether wildlife crossing signs, a notice that said 'Welcome to the Cove. This is a Wildlife Sanctuary' or hazard awareness strips would be better. Len said Dave Bortfield had asked for the report as he has Kangaroo warning signs available to put up in appropriate spots.

A review of administrative processes, said Len, will be organised next year by Tony Hann. It aims to reviewing current practices and processes, develop a system for notifying the community (SMS, email?), perhaps undertake another community survey (NACRA has 46 paid up members and 60 unpaid members) and perhaps organise a combined luncheon for GLC executives, Hall Committee and NACRA. Glen Hanford said they would be pleased to come.

Tennis court – The slab extension quote was \$1400 to extend the area outside the practice wall and \$5100 for the whole area down to the gate. Maureen asked for clarification about the two 355 committees: 355 Hall Management Committee and the Parks and Gardens 355 Committee of Hawks Nest Tea Gardens. Len was hopeful that Dave Bortfield will fund this and hopes to have an answer next Thursday. Mick Nolan suggested that concrete could be supplied more cheaply.

Len said Dave Bortfield had requested a quote and that funding through the Parks and Gardens 355 Committee is slow but once on the list, funding comes eventually.

Increase in rates Len mentioned that at a recent forum, the Council had indicated its intention to seek an increase of 60% in rates over 4 years (which Tony pointed out is actually 75% compounded). Peter clarified that the 2.8 cap on increases still exists but that Council had applied to the Tribunal for a greater increase because the Council is running at a \$6.4 million deficit per year. Glenn Hanford from the Council had asked to come to next NACRA meeting to explain council's position and Len said he had allocated 20 minutes speaking time and 20 minutes question time. It was believed that NAC provides around \$1.2 m per year in rates but council only spends about \$30 000 on the area. Len provided two examples of the proposed increase: rates of \$1800 would go to \$3100 over 4 year period and rates of \$924 would become \$1600.

It was moved that questions should be pre-submitted, prioritised and asked by Len.

Moved: Tony Hann

Seconded: Peter Chappelow

CARRIED

Kerryan Griffin and Pat Brennan volunteered to help with the letterbox drop necessary to inform the community and request pre-submitted questions.

Next meeting Len noted that he had invited Craig Bauman (Liberal candidate), Kate Washington (Labour candidate) and the Greens candidate (to be advised) to speak for 10 minutes each with question time of 10 minutes on 12 February.

General Business

Surfacing Eastslopes Way - Tony Hann said that about 5 years ago, Council had listed this as 3rd priority and asked about progress. Len replied that the road into Tea Gardens and some work at and Bundabar are the only roadworks done recently, that Council had 450 kms of road needing attention and the funding ability to do only 15 kms per year. He agreed to follow up with Council.

Fame Cove progress Peter said that there were a great many requirements to be met by the owner before plans could be submitted and these would take some time. However, he planned to meet with the General Manager GLC, the Director General of Dept of Planning and the Dept of Planning Regional Office to ensure them of our continuing interest in the development. Peter wants a 50 metre buffer on all water fronts (the development has 6 kms of waterfront) and public access. It was noted that at least now NACRA is included on list of people/groups to be notified. Peter added he had put up signs in Fame Cove giving an email address if people want to object to the planned development. It was agreed we need to wait for more information before taking further action.

Support for President Tony Hann commented on the excellent job Len has done and support was expressed by applause.

Maps Stephanie reminded people maps are available for sale for \$15.

MEETING CLOSED at 11.30 am.

SUBMITTED – Susan Carter

Approved as a true and correct record:

.....
Len Yearsley (Chair)

.....
Date

Actions

Request to Council for feedback from community comments re reserve development	Len
Kangaroo report to Dave Bortfield	Len?
Quote for concrete slab extension at Tennis court to Dave Bortfield	Len
Notice to community re rate increase and request for questions	Len
Follow up re resurfacing Eastslope Way	Len