



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY SAFETY & PLACE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2014

NOTE: All minutes are subject to confirmation at a subsequent Ordinary Meeting of Council or Planning and Strategy Committee Meeting.

PRESENT:

Councillors

Cllr Jean Hay (Chair)	Manly Council
Cllr Barbara Aird	Manly Council
Cllr Candy Bingham	Manly Council

Other Representatives

Ray Mathieson	Community Member
Sidar Demirbag	Late Night Food Traders Rep
Stuart Sprott	Precinct Representative
Amanda Farrar	Office of Mike Baird MP
Jacqui Smith	Manly Community Centre
Hania Norman	The Corso Precinct
Melissa Palermo	Northern Sydney Health
Amanda Watkins	MDECC
Deb Patenall	Street Pastors
Ged Dore	Manly Liquor Accord
Drew Johnson	Chamber of Commerce

Council Staff

Leanne Martin	Community Safety Co-ordinator
Eric Poulos	Manager, Community Services
Donna Donoghue	Community Safety Officer
Kate Munro	Youth Development Officer

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Safety & Place Management Advisory Committee** met on Thursday 13 February 2014 to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN The meeting commenced at 8.00am.

ACTION

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

ITEM 1

Cllr Steve Pickering, Cllr Alan LeSurf, Anita Ugarkovic

ITEM 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

ITEM 3 UPDATES

3.1 Safer Suburbs Federal Government Grant Funding

In response to the letter sent to The Hon Tony Abbott requesting consideration for the reinstatement of the safer suburbs grant funding, the Council has received an email from the Attorney General's Department confirming that the funding agreement will now be executed forthwith.

To expedite the process the original agreement signed by Kathryn Fayle on 23 August 2013 was signed by the Program Delegate on the 28th January 2014. The first instalment of funding has now been received and work on the CCTV and infrastructure for the North Steyne cab rank will begin within adjusted time parameters.

ACTION

3.2 Manly Ferry Liquor License Application

Council has received a notice of intention to apply for a liquor licence from Harbour City Ferries. In addition the council were invited to provide feedback for a community impact statement to attach to this application. In response, as noted in the minutes of the November meeting, feedback has been lodged with the relevant authority via email.

An application has not yet been submitted to OLGR. The committee agreed that when there has been an application sent to OLGR that Council make known the concerns of the committee as discussed in November. The committee will also be advised on when and if an application happens.

Recommendation:

That the Committee's feedback about this proposal by the Harbour City ferry operators for a liquor license be forwarded to OLGR when such an application is received.

3.3 Stay Safe Project

On 16th January 2014 the Community Safety Team met with the local language schools to launch the "Stay Safe Project". The film clips and wallet cards were received with great enthusiasm with comments such as "a great initiative that put together different local institutions for the sake of our Manly international students".

The link to the resources will be made available on the Manly Council website and the wallet cards are being currently distributed to all relevant stakeholders and outlets.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted.

CSO

ITEM 4 Police Report

There was no Police report as a police representative was not present at the meeting.

ITEM 5 Rangers Report

The committee reviewed the Rangers report and statistics.

A concern was raised about the ongoing number of homeless sleeping in the beachfront shelters with up to six at one stage. Jacqui

Smith advised that they are aware of this and are working on this issue with some excellent results. Rangers and the MCC Homeless outreach worker continue to work closely on the problem.

The quarterly Manly community Centre Homeless Report was tabled for the information of the committee which includes the most recent statistics of homeless people that the outreach worker has assisted in some way. Jacqui Smith advised that a 'rescue' approach does not work (ie. giving handouts or food). The Manly Community Centre continue to do an excellent job and the committee congratulated them on these current efforts.

A question was asked about rate of warnings for the AFZ/APA areas when this has been such a topical issue around East Esplanade. Further it was raised whether it could be a restriction restricted or an increase of police involvement or has the grass restoration had an impact? Staff will seek some clarification from the Compliance Manager about this for next month. The Mayor read a note from the Compliance Manager about the East Esplanade area:

"In late December a safety audit was undertaken in consultation with the Police to determine what aspects may need to be improved at East Esplanade to increase awareness to general community regarding alcohol consumption. The audit revealed the following:

- Signage needs to be improved in terms of content and numbers of signs required.*
- Additional waste bins may be required.*
- Opening and closing times of public toilets.*

As a result of the above, additional signage is currently being installed in the reserve and placed on the light poles adjacent to the walkway. The signs are much larger than the previous ones. Further investigations are being carried out in relation to waste bins and opening and closing times of public toilets.

The Rangers have increased patrols on the reserve on weekends and in particular towards the later part of the afternoon. Photographs have been taken every weekend including head counts on people in the reserve. The Rangers have reported that on average there are approximately 150 people in the reserve per Saturday / Sunday. Not all persons in the reserve have been consuming alcohol and the people have been reported as being civil and well behaved. Police have been called on one occasion where a large group of young adolescents were present.

Patrols will continue on weekends and where anti-social behavior is observed Police will be contacted."

Committee discussed the issue and generally agreed that many people enjoy the location and a quiet drink and there does not seem to be much evidence of crime or anti-social behavior. However the main problem is the resulting litter with broken bottles a concern. It was discussed whether there is a need to retain the area as an APA as a public space management tool with discretion for those not causing trouble. The waste issue needs to be managed better with additional waste bins (including bottle bins) and possible deployment

of cleansing staff to the area on the weekend afternoon as recommended in the audit.

Cllr Aird agreed to discuss these aspects with the Waste Committee and report back next month.

Cllr Aird

Committee was also advised that the Alcohol Free Zones are due to be reviewed in July as required by the legislation. This is will be a good opportunity to debate any changes required in the reserves at the same time. The issue will be put on the agenda in the coming months.

Recommendation:

The committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted.

ITEM 6 LATE NIGHT MANLY WORKING GROUP

The final Market Lane Saturday was held on 14th December 2013. The Christmas Markets were a great success with a winter wonderland atmosphere created with fake snow and carols. A detailed evaluation report is being compiled for submission to the Attorney General's Department and upon completion will be presented to the Committee. The Community Safety Team debriefed with Sarah O'Brien and is working on an evaluation report. A budget bid was put in for Market Lane Saturday for \$60,000 that will hopefully be supplemented with some State Government funding. Notification has been received for the next round of NSW Attorney General Grant Crime Prevention Plan funding and they close on 7 March. As part of this year's application Council will apply for some funding to continue with the Market Lane Saturdays events in 2014.

Recommendation:

To provide an evaluation report to the Committee and to advise on our funding application to the next Committee meeting.

CSC

ITEM 7 CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee was informed about several items of correspondence and media received in relation to the issues of alcohol and drug fuelled violence initiatives including:

7.1 Response To Committee Correspondence

A response to correspondence sent to the Hon Michael Gallagher MLC, (reference Notice of Motion No 76), has been received by Council from Geoff Provest MP addressing the issues raised by the 'Real Action on Alcohol Now Campaign'. These relate specifically to alcohol related anti-social behaviour and violence. A copy of this letter is tabled.

7.2 State Govt Announcement Re New Alcohol Laws

The NSW Premier, the Hon Barry O'Farrell MP, held a press conference at the end of January where he announced the reforms agreed to at the Cabinet meeting on Monday 20th January. The measures aim to reduce alcohol-related violence in NSW and in summary include:

The introduction of a 1.30am lockout and 3.00am last drinks in the Sydney CBD precinct;

Winding back trading hours for all packaged liquor licenses in NSW to 10.00pm;

The introduction of controlled purchase operations to support enforcement of laws prohibiting the sale of alcohol to minors;

The extension of the liquor licence freeze zone;

The introduction of a risk based licensing scheme;

Mandatory minimum sentencing;

Removing involuntary intoxication by drugs or alcohol as a mitigating factor and

The development of a community awareness and social media campaign.

Copies of the media release, letter to the General Manager, fact sheet released by the Government and a response from NAAPA were tabled.

7.3 Steyne Hotel – Good News Story

The Good News Story and acknowledgement of the great work that the Steyne Hotel have done to dramatically change the drinking culture at these premises and substantially reduce the number of alcohol related assaults and incidents within this venue. Reference to Article Telegraph 14 January 2014 – ‘Steyne no longer a blight on the landscape.’ Committee congratulated Ged Dore for his ongoing initiatives that have markedly improved both safety and perceptions of safety in and around the hotel.

7.4 Report on Statutory review of the Liquor Act 2007 – was tabled, with a full copy to be sent with the minutes. The committee made a submission to the review which is mentioned several times in the Report.

7.5 Release of Parliamentary Report

The Parliamentary Inquiry into ‘Strategies to Reduce Alcohol Abuse among Young People’ has been publically released. The report was tabled and a full copy will be included with the minutes. Leanne Martin gave evidence at this Parliamentary Inquiry, which is included in the report.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted.

ITEM 8 GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 Licensing issues:

For the information of the committee there are several liquor license applications that have been lodged at OLGR over the past couple of months that might be of interest:

1. Application by ALDI to operate a takeaway liquor area from the supermarket at Manly Wharf (extending into the old Bay Swiss premises)

2. Mount Pritchard & District Community Club to operate the registered club at 52 Raglan Street called ‘The Soldiers House Manly’ – will open until midnight.

3. A primary service application (which means a restaurant can serve alcohol without a meal) at Terracotta Ouzeria, Sth Steyne & Victoria Pde.

4. Small bar licence application for Market Place cafe to trade until 11.30pm.

5. Change of boundaries of the licensed premises, Hugo's, Manly Wharf.

Community safety staff will provide comment on these applications as considered appropriate.

8.2 Stop The Supply Campaign

Amanda Watkins updated the committee with this campaign. It has proved extremely successful with great community response and high recall rates. They have just signed a MOU allowing Liquor, Gaming and Racing to use the campaign with all liquor accords. It has also been picked up and will be replicated by 23 other CDATS across the State.

8.3 Little Manly Incident

Ray Mathieson and Stuart Sprott expressed some concern about police response times to various incidents occurring in the Little Manly area and cited an example of an incident involving a group of males threatening people at the beach on 25 January. Police were called and apparently did not attend in a timely manner. It was suggested that they forward the specific details of the incidents so they can be considered by Superintendent Darcy for a response at next month's meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE: 13 March 2014

Meeting Closed 9.20am