



## MINUTES OF MEETING

### COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD THURSDAY 10 JULY, 2013

*NOTE: All minutes are subject to confirmation at a subsequent Council or Planning and Strategy Committee meeting.*

#### PRESENT:

##### Councillors

Cllr Cathy Griffin

(Chair)

Cllr Hugh Burns

##### Other Representatives:

Karen Pitt

Penguin Warden

Michella Burgers

Community Member

Diana Deeley

Community Member

Jacqueline French

Community Member

Keelah Lam

Community Member

Jan Ritchie

Community Member

Dave Thomas

Community Member

##### Council Staff

Judy Reizes

Manager, Manly Environment Centre.

#### TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Environment Advisory Committee** met on 10 July, 2013, to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

**OPEN** The meeting commenced at 7.10pm.

**ACTION**

#### ITEM 1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Susan Buchan, Natasha Hammond-Deakin, Lloyd Keen and Neil Ohlbach.

#### ITEM 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

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| <b>ITEM 3</b> | <b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</b><br>The minutes of the Committee meeting held 13 June, 2013 are confirmed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>ACTION</b> |
| <b>ITEM 4</b> | <b>MANLY ENVIRONMENT CENTRE ISSUES</b><br><b>MEC Report</b><br>That the monthly MEC Report as tabled be accepted.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |               |
| <b>ITEM 5</b> | <p><b>CABBAGE TREE BAY</b></p> <p>a. <b>Council Trial of Manual Cleaning of Shelly Beach rather than Using the Mechanical Beach Rake.</b></p> <p>The committee appreciates the trial that Council has agreed to with a view to preserving marine biodiversity and preventing sand migration and looks forward to the results. University of Technology staff have agreed to a site visit to provide input.</p> <p>This committee would like Council to consider that cleaning the beach be done during the day when people are using the beach because when people see staff picking up rubbish they are much less likely to litter. It is well known that the community appreciates the staff cleaning of The Corso area, particularly small items not generally collected. We wish to reiterate that the committee's main concern is the marine biodiversity in the sand. We note that volunteers have been cleaning the rear of the beach and each subsequent time it is cleaner and there is less to collect.</p> <p><b>b. Friends of Cabbage Tree Bay Volunteer Enrichment Program.</b></p> <p>i. <b>Dennis Foley Talk on Aboriginal History.</b></p> <p>This was very well attended and feedback was excellent.</p> <p>ii. <b>Science in the Pub – 14<sup>th</sup> August featuring the movie “SHARK”.</b></p> <p>The ABC movie “Shark” will be shown with Amy Smoothie doing Q and A. Other members of the public will be invited to attend. As this event clashes with the meeting of this Committee, it was decided that the meeting should be the next evening at the usual time (see below).</p> <p>iii. <b>Chalkboard Sign Displaying Sightings of What’s In the Water.</b></p> <p>Each day, the volunteers prop this sign up near the boat ramp and have found it continues to be very popular with visitors, snorkelers and divers. The</p> |               |

committee requests that Council provide some fixing arrangements so that this can be hung easily beneath the sign displaying the map of Manly.

iv. **Construction of “You are Entering Cabbage Tree Bay Marine Sanctuary” Mosaics for three Entry Points.**

Everything is in place for this project to be constructed in the OOSH Room directing the OOSH children at Manly Village School. The artisans will carry out the project and it is hoped it will be installed ready for the 20<sup>th</sup> Ocean Care Day celebration on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

**Recommendation:**

This committee requests the General Manager to progress the Master Plan for Marine Parade and Expressions of Interest.

GM

**ITEM 6 SYDNEY WATER NORTH HEAD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT ODOUR MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

Clarification sought for the Odour Management Project at North Head Sewage Treatment Plant.

- a. The committee notes Sydney Water’s letter to Council regarding the replacement of the NSOOS odour scrubber and recommends that the Council ask Sydney Water if this is part of the strategy for the Odour Management Strategy or just a component of the strategy.
- b. Could local member, Mike Baird confirm that the \$34 million remaining has been allocated to North Head.
- c. The committee requests that Sydney Water give a presentation to members of this committee at a separate time to the monthly meeting.

**ITEM 7 LITTLE PENGUINS**

- a. Penguin Warden’s Report.

Two penguin couples are back at Manly Wharf and are carrying out nest refurbishment at present.

NPWS Penguin Warden Training attracted 30 participants and was very successful with good results. A number of people have already put their names down for the roster.

- a. Taronga Zoo’s Project Penguin.

The committee offers its congratulations to everyone involved this year including the Manly Environment Centre staff and volunteers.

b. Australian Museum 2 day Penguin Expo.

**ACTION**

Manly Environment Centre staff and volunteers staged a large penguin expo during the school holidays which was extremely popular with children and parents visiting the Museum.

**ITEM 8 SYDNEY HARBOUR NATIONAL PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT**

There is deep community concern about the proposed commercialization of national parks will impact on the environmental values of the Sydney Harbour National Park as detailed in the final management plan. For example, this plan's proposal to privatise buildings on Middle Head and will affect their natural values and Council is concerned that a similar thing could happen at North Head. Careful consideration should be given to the built aspects currently on North Head and their future uses so that they do not impact on the natural environment.

The committee deplores the change in emphasis by national parks and the move towards commercializing the various aspects of their national parks.

**Recommendation:**

The Committee requests the General Manager to write to the Minister, Robyn Parker and express deep concern at the proposed changes. National Parks should reject anything which contradicts the intent and wishes of the community to maintain the natural areas and conserve these valuable community assets to facilitate enjoyment by the whole community.

**GM**

**ITEM 9 NORTH HEAD SANCTUARY**

Further to the Harbourtrust's last Community Advisory Committee Meeting, there are concerns that less commonwealth government funding could be creating problems for the Harbourtrust and their management of the Sanctuary.

The committee suggested that the community should ask the members of the major political parties in Manly should be asked what plans they have for future funding of the Sanctuary.

**ITEM 10 UPDATE ON SEAGRASS and SEAHORSE ISSUES IN MANLY COVE, PROTECTED PRECINCT**

NSW Fisheries has asked for feedback from Council on appropriate signs and following discussion on signs and their location, the following wording is suggested:

**Signs:**

**"No fishing, no mooring, no attaching"** (to be located near the mooring buoys)

and

**“Protected Marine Area”** (to be located on pool enclosure pylon)

Penguins, Seahorses, Posidonia Seagrass

Mooring on Buoys only

No Fishing

No Tying-up

Fines Apply”

As Manly Council is a stakeholder, the committee would like to request that RMS consult them as to the location of the five new seagrass friendly mooring buoys.

In the event that Council has employed the new Coastal Officer, Council should commence planning for the agreed installation of the new seahorse-friendly net. The first step would be to install the piles between the pool enclosure so that the habitat is not disturbed during the construction phase. We would like to invite the new coastal planner to the September meeting of this committee.

**ITEM 11 NEXT MEETING DATE:**

Deferment of meeting (see discussion under Item 5b ii ), to:

**Date: Thursday 15 August, 2013**

**Time: 7.00pm.**

**Venue: Manly Council Chambers.**

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.