



NWMA General Meeting

18th February 2009
7:30 PM
Meeting Room 1
North Melbourne Town Hall
521 Queensberry Street
North Melbourne

Type of meeting: General
Secretary: Alba Gatto

Chair: Bill Cook
Timekeeper:

----- Minutes -----

Welcome and apologies

Present: Bill Cook, Alba Gatto, Alan Ashley, Verena Augusti, Kevin Chamberlin, Michael Horscroft, Lorraine Siska, Gabrielle Stannus, Celeste Nicholson, Denys Harraway, Patricia Patterson, Ingrid Hardie, Jacques Peril, Margaret Peril, Kevin Wong Hoy, Elizabeth English, Margaret Fried, Dick Standish and Mary Kehoe

Apologies: Madeleine Scully, Brett Millot, Janet Graham and Valerie Gerrand

2. Committee Report

Annual General Meeting Saturday April the 18th (venue to be confirmed)

- The Chairperson reported that a number of committee members have served the maximum time allowed by the constitution.
- There is an urgent need for new people to volunteer their services so as the Association can continue to serve the needs of the community.

Meeting Dates for 2009

- Meetings will be held on third the Wednesday of month at 7.30pm except for March (fourth Wednesday at 8.00pm) and May (second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. These changes are due to Sustainability Street seminars being held on the fourth Wednesday of those months. (see below)

NMSS(North Melbourne Sustainability Street)

- Gabby spoke briefly about the seminars and full details will be circulated in due course. The seminars are being supported by the City of Melbourne, NWMA and Alternative Technology Association (ATA)

Seminar No 1 'Renters & Sustainability'- 18th March,

Seminar No 2 Working together to create greener Flats & Apartments - May 20th

Seminar No3 'Making a 'Heritage' home more sustainable'- July 22nd

Proposed toilets for Errol Street

- Alba gave an outline with the meeting with Council staff and thanked all the members who provided their input via email to the Secretary.
- Issues that were covered included the question of location, .Exeloo versus the Cast Iron Replica. Accessibility/traffic, configuration, operating hours and the greening of the centre median in

front of the Town Hall. The feeling of the meeting was that we were not favourably disposed to the provision of an Exeloo. There seemed to be stronger support for a Cast Iron Replica. The emailed responses received before the meeting, were supportive of this position.

Action: Alba to seek further clarification on these matters and members advised.

The question of a strategic plan for Errol Street and its environs to be followed up with Council. This relates to optimizing the location. While members were not strongly against the Leveson Street location, neither were they strongly in favour.

Graffiti

- Concern was again expressed about the increase in occurrence of Graffiti in the area. There seems to be a lack of awareness of homeowners, persons who rent and businesses of their responsibility to report and respond to graffiti events.
- Issues discussed included tagging versus graffiti 'ärt', the ineffectiveness of Council policy, lack of clarity of purpose of the Police in dealing with Graffiti.

Actions discussed

- The setting up of a special NWMA workgroup to deal with the Graffiti issue.
- To explore a more cooperative approach between the Police, the Council and the community - an approach that is workable.
- . Promote the issue in the North & West Melbourne News.
- .To explore the legal basis of the new legislation with the Department of Justice.

Printing School (603 Queensberry St)

- Mary Kehoe reported on the progress of the demolition of the rear of the building.
- The major outstanding issue is the rezoning of the rear section of the site (facing Elm Street) which is to be sold off.
- Discussion ensued as to how the land should be rezoned, 'mixed use' or residential, or other community needs.

Action: Mary to draft a letter to the local member (Bronwyn Pike) seeking further information about the further use and the rezoning of the site.

Kevin C- to seek the advice of Council on their view on how it should be developed.

North Melbourne Station Redevelopment

Denys presented a report on the progress of the development and advised that a report from Department of Transport and the Council will be included in the next edition of the North and West Melbourne News

No progress has been made on the retention of the pedestrian footbridge which links West Melbourne to the Docklands. Two follow up letters have been sent to Lynne Kosky's office (acknowledgements received but no formal response as yet)

3. Correspondence

Inward

- Melbourne .Planning Scheme Amendment C141 Licensed Premises that require a planning permit. It applies only to the Capital City Zone and Docklands
- Health Policy-Municipal Public Health Plan
- VCAT Notification re: 52-60 Chetwynd St West Melbourne - developer v COM –against the conditions of permit (education centre – Council approved 60 students at any one time NOT 140 as the developer requested) NWMA party to appeal.
- Confirmation from Council re NWMA objection to TP 2008-690 (Arden Lodge)

Outward

- 2nd request for a response on North Melbourne Station Footbridge letter to the Minister for Transport Lynn Kosky

4. Work Group Reports

Planning

127 Leveson St –approved development-heritage concerns-

Kevin Wong Hoy to draft a letter to Mgr Building and Planning COM regarding

- i. how the approved development mentioned above was not required to respect more closely the heritage context in which it is to be situated.(Cnr Arden & Leveson Sts)
- ii. advise the status of the Heritage Precincts and Policy Review and whether the Association and other resident groups are to be consulted before the Review proceeds to exhibition.

145 Chetwynd St -TP-2008-1031...Student Housing Development-134Units X Six Storeys

Margaret Fried to draft a letter to the City of Melbourne requesting a review of the location of Student Housing within existing residential areas and zones

NMRR (North Melbourne Recreation Reserve)

Concern was raised by an advertised amendment to the Football Club/Community Facility plans for the NMRR – where there was a mention of car parking. Further investigation revealed that there is still to be no parking on the Reserve and that the amendments related to some relatively minor changes to the plans. The removal of trees from the Reserve raised concerns about the lack of consultation with the community involved in the decision making. The Landscape Planning Advisory Committee has failed badly to ensure people are clear about what the plans are for the Reserve and how and when they will be implemented.

Arden Lodge

Strong concern has been expressed in relation to this planning application. It was felt that this application requires a broader social planning approach to any decision, rather than a narrow view of the planning process. The secretary has collated a list of objectors and the NWMA is the only objection from North & West Melbourne. This is disappointing in view of the number of traders and others in the community who had expressed concern. We congratulate the work done by residents and others from South Kensington for their objections and involvement in the process.

Plans have been called in for the Council planning meeting on 3rd March 09

- **Social** No report
- **business** No report
- **environment** No report

5.CoRBA Report (Coalition of Residents and Businesses Association)

- Kevin and Bill spoke about CoRBA and the issues of Council reform. The Lord Mayor reported to CoRBA about funding the Council may procure through the Stimulus Package. The major objective must be to support the Council motion in favour of a review of the electoral structure and processes of the Council. The Minister of Local Government and the State Government must be persuaded in relation to this.

6.Transport

- **Victorian Transport Plan**

Transport issues are to be the focus of our next monthly meeting on the 25th March 2009

- **Yarra Trams** Meeting held 21st January 2009

Association members and interested persons attended.

re: 2 proposed tram superstops in Abbotsford St, at the intersection of Haines St and intersection of Arden St. A lively discussion ensued.

Issues to be followed up by Yarra Trams include

- i. the bus/truck turning movements from Arden Street into Abbotsford Street
- ii. number of shelters on each platform
- iii. number of advertising panels and if these will be illuminated panels
- iv. Loss of on street car parking

Once the abovementioned issues have been investigated Yarra Trams will send project brochures to residents and traders in the area for their feedback. The Association will also receive the same.

7. New Business

Nil

8. Meeting close 9.30pm

It was agreed to speak to Daniel Pilbean and Joanne Davis about their objection to the development at 283–289 Flemington Road.

Ray Cowling has been asked to consult with Loki Lockwood re an application at 182-194 Capel Street North Melbourne