



NWMA Annual General Meeting Minutes

19 April 2008
2:00 PM
Dining Room
Miami Hotel
Hawke Street, West Melbourne

1. Welcome

Madeleine Scully Bill Cook Jenny Cook Wal Nankervis Gabrielle Stannus Ray Cowling Jan Lacey Nancy Nankervis Lydia Carmichael Dick Standish Kevin Wong Hoy Pat Lightfoot Paul Stuart Gina Stuart Geoff Leach Janet C Graham Kevin Chamberlin Valerie Gerrand Jennie Newman Alba Gatto George Tyler Julianne Bell Lorraine Siska and Alan Martin

2. Apologies

Alan Ashley, Mary Kehoe

3. Minutes

The minutes from the 2007 AGM were read and accepted.

<u>Motion</u>	That the 2007 AGM Minutes be accepted		
<u>Moved</u>	Janet Graham	<u>Seconded</u>	Kevin Chamberlin <u>Passed</u>

4. Reports

The Treasurer's report was received as tabled.

<u>Motion</u>	That the Treasurer's Report be adopted		
<u>Moved</u>	Michael Horscroft	<u>Seconded</u>	Kevin Wong Hoy <u>Passed</u>

5. Reports as tabled:

Chairperson's Report

Bill Cook outlined key features of his report as tabled and some developments since:

- Coalition of Residents' Associations has now become the Coalition of Residents and Business Association
- An announcement is expected on 603 Queensberry Street; the site may become a centre for teacher professional development, possibly with demolition of five storey building
- The Victoria Market kitchen shop will be allowed to continue trading operating in its present arrangement – thanks to Councillor Peter Clarke for pursuing this matter
- The first LPAC meeting for 2008 was advised funding for NMRR is now available totaling \$14m, of which approximately \$9.7m is government funding. It is expected a planning permit will be sought in May 2008, for consideration in June
- There are clear opportunities for NWMA and Sustainability Street to combine their efforts on several key issues and a partnership proposal is being further developed.

Val Gerrand requested information on the progress of the City of Melbourne Bowls Club building in the Flagstaff Gardens, which Madeleine Scully was able to provide – the project is due for completion in November 2008.

Dick Standish advised that work is underway for new lighting in Gardiner's Reserve.

In closing the Chair reminded members the NWMA needs more volunteers to be effective.

Planning

Geoff Leach spoke on some key planning issues:

- Dealing with major applications requires a significant time commitment
- The Association has limited capacity to challenge effectively, even on major strategic issues
- We need more people to get involved if we are to continue the excellent work done in the past
- We also hope that people given assistance on particular issues will join the Association

Social Issues

Nan Nankervis outlined the work of the group that has been meeting on Wednesday mornings. Key current issues include forming a network to consult with agencies responsible for people in supported accommodation in the areas as well as looking at strategies to combat the increase in graffiti. Those interested in discussing issues or joining the group should contact Nan.

Environment

Michael Horscroft spoke briefly about changes in Royal Park, particularly the excellent initiative of harvesting stormwater, continuing upgrades, street plantings, median strips and pocket parks.

Gabrielle Stannus spoke about the work of Sustainability Street in helping people reduce energy consumption and waste in their homes and businesses and the mutual benefits of the proposed partnership between Sustainability Street and the North and West Melbourne Association. The next step in this very positive association is to establish clear agreements about the purpose of the partnership and how the two groups will work together

Motion That the Chairperson's and Work Groups Reports be adopted.
Moved Jennie Newman **Seconded** Lorraine Siska **Passed**

6. Election

The following nominations were received seven days prior to the meeting:

Secretary	Alba Gatto
Treasurer	Michael Horscroft
Ordinary Member	Kevin Chamberlin

As the number of candidates did not exceed the number of vacancies defined by the constitution, all were duly declared elected to the Committee.

The following members were co-opted to the Committee:

Chairperson	Bill Cook
Ordinary Member	Denys Harraway, Madeleine Scully

It was noted that in line with the Constitutional limit this must be Bill Cook's final term as Chair.

The following Workgroup Convenors were included as Committee Members:

Margaret Fried, Planning Workgroup
George Tyler, Business Workgroup
Nan Nankervis, Social Issues Workgroup

The positions of Vice Chairperson and Assistant Secretary are currently vacant.

7. Guest Speaker

Allan Martin gave a powerful presentation on rooming houses in our neighborhood, including photographs and financial estimates. *Lowering the Bar – A Study of Boarding House Conditions and Environments* was funded by the Homeless Action Group in 2006. The Chair thanked Allan for his presentation, which was warmly applauded.

8. Constitutional Amendments

The meeting considered two amendments to the Constitution proposed by Ray Cowling, to be effective for a period of one year:

- Amend s26(3): All Committee meetings shall be open to any interested person to attend with all present possessing speaking rights, but voting rights not extending beyond members of the Committee.

to read

All Committee meetings shall be open to any interested person to attend with all present possessing speaking rights, and any member of the Association entitled to propose a motion, but voting rights not extending beyond members of the Committee

Moved Ray Cowling **Seconded** Lorraine Siska **Passed**

- Amend s37(1): The Association shall not endorse candidates for elective public office.

to read

The committee has a responsibility to actively involve itself in all Council elections to ensure that people who live/work in the city are appropriately represented

This amendment was debated at length, with Ray Cowling accepting an alternative motion being put to the meeting:

Delete s37(1) from the Constitution.

Moved Ray Cowling **Seconded** Lorraine Siska **Passed**

9. Conclusion

The Chairperson concluded by encouraging participation in and membership of the Association, a reminder for the payment of subscriptions and thanks to George Tyler and his staff at the Miami for their generosity in hosting the event.