

**Hackett Community Association
Meeting at ACT Sports House, Hackett
18 February 2013.**

Present: Marian Williams, James Walker, Terry de Luca, Lorraine Mason, Kaye Murphy, Greg Haughey, Dorothy Mackenzie, John Carty, Waltraud Pix, Bruce Smith.

Visitor: Barry Price.

Apologies: Max Huntington

Hackett's 50 Year Book -

Mr Barry Price, a Watson resident who is writing a history of Watson, was invited to address the meeting on the processes that he is going through and that are working well for him. He has spent 9 months on his research and writing drafts and is 85% through the task.

Documentary evidence allows questions to be asked and important to get dates correct.

- Govt files in ACT Archives – ask for Mark Dawson to assist
- Restrictions on years that materials become available to be viewed
- Commonwealth Archives- material since 1985 available
- Most ACT documents have transferred to the ACT Archives
- When you order files allow a time lapse of 3 to 4 weeks.

Second most useful sources- time consuming unless you have precise dates

- Canberra District Historical Society
- Newspaper clippings – good resource for early sources
- Canberra Times – microfilm
- National Library
- Map collection a very good source
- N.C.Planning Authority – NCDC in the bunker by Lake- not easy to access
- ACT Heritage Library – next to ACT Archives. In Woden Library.

The process that Barry found worked for him:

- He made notes by hand and then put them into a draft – “a blended draft” He has written 45,000 words and 85% finished. There is a lot of editing to fit into the complete work. He finds that topics appear that he can start to develop.
- Original occupants _ Interviews -you can't rely on individuals memory. Time consuming, use a tape recorder for an accurate account
- Early residences – Mostly Government houses in the beginning. Some original inhabitants.
- Department Interior – Housing tenancy residences-records date construction finished and date first occupied.
- Who to select for interview – TV stations, Channel, institutions – people who were connected to them
- Barry is hoping to finish his notes in the next month.

After that:

- Look at the Downer Book. Find illustrations. Public School texts.

Hackett's book may take a similar course. Barry will offer guidance when his Watson book is complete. It becomes a joint effort by a number of people. We don't have enough material at present and need to identify task and stocktake what we have so far.

Overview of Development of Watson”

- 1906 resumed - Block and Section Numbers have changed up to 3 times
- 1920 Soldier Settlement blocks. Hector Hamilton was a share farmer in 20s until 1960.
- O'Sullivan's, Piggery.
- 1970s gradually divided up.
- Dickson Experimental farm in 1940-60
- Aboriginal pre-history
- Old Watson 60 onwards – Shopping Centre, Canberra Technology Park

- North Watson – Entertainment/Tourist – Drive In, Carotel
- Institutions – Seminary, Religious – Catholic Uni, YWAM

Chair Greg Haughey thanked Barry Price for giving up his time to speak to us and for offering his help in the future.

Minutes: The Minutes of 19 November, 2012 were accepted by the meeting. Moved Dorothy Mackenzie and Seconded by James Walker

Correspondence: None received

Treasurer's Report:

- Terry de Luca, Treasurer tabled 2012 Financial Report (he was away at the time of AGM) when total Balance of Funds stood at \$304.57. Current balance is now \$1,399.84. Therefore we have improved our financial position by \$1,095.27. Incoming amounts include \$1,000 from NCCC to pay for brochures in full. Rest of money came from fund raising, donations and membership. Membership renewals are due on 1 July, 2013. Terry thanked John Carty for kindly auditing the books for us.
Motion: Financial Report be accepted. Moved - Terry de Luca and Seconded - James Walker.
- Public Officer to lodge Annual Return to Office of Regulatory Services for a late fee of \$69.00

Issues and updates:

Centenary of Canberra. Birthday Party. ACT Gov't has given HCA a grant of \$500 to fund a Hackett celebration.

- **Date:** 12 March
- **Time:** 10-12 Seniors Morning Tea near the shops. Little Bean and Wilbur's will be open for people to buy their lunch if they wish.
- **Program:** 11.00- 11.20 Canberra Folk Dance to demonstrate participatory dances
- 3.00 – 4.40 Parents and chn. Erica appearing as Rat. Two bands, to play.
- Evening Wilburs to provide Pizza and alcoholic drinks.
- Publicity: Banner, pamphlets, NHW Newsletters, Greg to deliver pamphlets to schools.
- **Table at the shops- 2 March 10.00 am to 2 pm.**
9-10am Greg and Lorraine, 10-11 Terry and John, 11-12 Dorothy and Marion, 12-1pm Kaye.
- **Clean Up Australia on March 3.** Terry de Luca is organising a Hackett Clean Up. Time 10 am to 1pm. People will be asked if they'd like to clean up Mt Majura.

Hackett's Birthday Party developments.

- Friends of Blue Gum will be having an open day. Invitations to schools have resulted in some positive responses.
- Waterford Band will be asked to play.
- Action Bus – vintage model is in Action's Heritage Fleet. Fire Engine – Queanbeyan has special insurance.
- Constable Kenny – Bruce has sent an invitation
- SES and Canberra City Band still to be approached.
- FoMM – Arial image of Mt Majura 2012 available. Will organise a raffle and stall.
- Space for stalls- discussion of space available. Perhaps close part of car park. Toilets – we must get on to TAMS.
- James suggested that we invite Virginia Hausager to open our party.
- **Community Garden.** Terry reported that there may be developments in near future, but there are many processes to go through. We need to coordinate with Blue Gum.
- Website is back up on line. Can issue receipts.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm.