

**Hackett Community Association  
Meeting at ACT Sports House, Hackett  
20 August 2012**

**Present:** Greg Haughey, Marian Williams, Lorraine Mason, James Walker, Maureen Hartung, Bruce Smith

**Visitors:** Angie Drake

**Apologies:** Laura and Freddie Turnbull, Max Huntington, Terry de Luca, Dorothy Mackenzie

**Minutes:** The Minutes were accepted

**Correspondence**

- We received an email from the Chief Ministers office accepting the invitation to the birthday bash
- We received a letter from Robyn Archer accept the invitation to the Birthday party – she will waive her appearance fee

**Blue Gum School**

Maureen gave a wide ranging talk about Blue Gum school – its past and also current issues and future plans. Points included:

- It was started 14 years ago in Dickson as a pre-school. The pre-school is still in Dickson – it is passive solar and a lovely site. There are two classes there. One of the classrooms has recently been refurbished.
- It then expanded to Watson high school as a short-term arrangement. It continued to look for space. The Montessori school was moving, so it moved into the Hackett site. Gradually took more and more space and now has the whole wing. The School spent \$1.5m in the latest project, involving refurbishing the building. They have also improved the outdoor environment.
- The school now goes up to year 10. A priority is tapping into people's passions and interests. And also getting students to engage with the natural world (eg. the school's involvement in National Tree Day planting on Mt Majura).
- The school now covers the ages up to 16 yr olds, with a smooth transition to college system after that. One possibility for the future could be looking at the possibility of a small program for year 11 and 12. This could happen under the umbrella of Dickson College.
- An ultimate ambition would be to be part of government system but be independent within it. Other countries have much greater diversity - Australia should go in same direction.
- Maureen also talked about the possibility of establishing a small special school – focussed on autism and aspergers, etc. They have found that these students respond positively to the environment. Students work really well with half class size.

**Pharmacy update:** Greg reported on his conversation with Rhonda Warne. He also reported on the establishment of a "Hackett needs a pharmacy" Facebook page – it looks really good. And Andrew Leigh will be meeting with the Commonwealth Health Minister soon to see what can be done.

**Website:** There have been 7 membership applicants through the website - so the money has gone to the PayPal account and now moved to our own account.

**Membership:** Membership numbers are increasing. We are holding at 200 members. A number of people are taking the brochures from the Little Bean.

**Hackett Shops:** A bike repair shop has taken over from dr and Devo. The people running the shop live in the suburb. They are now setting it up.

There was a meeting with TAMS about table and chairs at the shops. They wanted a rough plan for table and chairs - also signage and notice boards. They were very helpful.

**Birthday Party:** Points included:

- The sub committee will need to have a meeting again in the next week or so.
- Street parties could have one person being the contact - James volunteered.
- To trace descendents (of people who streets were named after) we may need to find ABD files - some didn't have children. The main thing is to get the message out there that it's happening.
- Angie will ask an historian about suburb names and descendents
- We should set up a Facebook page for the birthday. And make the link in that for street parties

**AGM:** - There was a discussion about nominations for the next year, and logistical preparations for the AGM.

**Community gardens:** Angie reported that there has been a new announcement that 10 new community gardens will be funded in established suburbs. There will be \$40,000 per garden. So there may be pressure to get one in Hackett. We should discuss further.

**Community issues:** Angie reported on the issues which have been raised in her door-knocking in Hackett. The main ones have been: parks, street lighting, speeding, lights too dim, pharmacy, bus shelter outside shops, footpaths, and noisy neighbours.

Next meeting: 15 October.