

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
17 March 2014**

**Present** - Greg Haughey, James Walker, John Carty, Lorraine Mason, Marian Williams, Terry de Luca

**Members** - Ruth Chapman

**Minutes** - accepted

**Treasurers report.** Terry reported that the account total is \$3319.17. He has written two cheques - for the band and PA hire. \$21 will be deposited from memberships and donations

**Membership:** Greg raised the issue of the low number (about 12) of members renewing recently. There was a discussion about this, including:

- Are subscriptions essential to our financial wellbeing?
- We do need the members - we need credibility. The original reason we decided to have paid membership was that it was some indication of commitment.
- Why the low numbers? It could be turnover of people in the suburb. It could also be that people are not aware that you can pay online.
- People will start to get more interested when there is a campaign.
- We should put a notice in the next newsletter that memberships are overdue.
- We could consider lowering the membership fee to a flat \$2.

It was agreed that the next meeting should have a two pronged attack - membership rates and strategy for going forward

**Canberra Day party at shops**

There was a discussion about the party at the shops - part of a wider series of parties sponsored by the ACT Government and facilitated, in Hackett, by the HCA. Greg was looking for views to communicate back to the Govt. Discussion included:

- Numbers were low but it was not a disaster. It was, however, a lot of effort for a small result.
- It may be better in future to start it in the morning - nights are difficult. Do not continue with dinners.
- It is a reasonable formula but there were too many other things on -
- But the kids games went well.
- Downer had interest groups at their party - that brought people in
- There should be earlier notice. It was in 2 newsletters, but the actual brochures were not circulated until late. The intention had been to get the brochures into the newsletter, but in the end Greg, Barbara and Dorothy delivered the brochures
- There was not enough public advertising.

## **Hawthorn trees in Walkways**

Bruce reported back on talking to TAMS about options for pruning or removing the trees. TAMS acknowledge the problem but are concerned about the resource implications of regularly pruning the trees or planting new ones. It was agreed that Bruce would write an article in the NW newsletter setting out the issue and options and seeking people's views.

## **Table at the shops**

Arrangements were made to staff a Table at the shops on Saturday 5 April from 9am to 1pm. It was agreed to put photos etc up to provide talking points to engage residents.

## **Upcoming events**

Terry talked about the need to have a follow-up to Clean up Australia. We could do a spring clean.

## **Other business**

Toilets and seats at shops - Greg contacted Steve Doszpot, who has written to

Greg also informed the Committee that each MP has \$125,000 for commemorating veterans - but that the veterans needed to be in the suburb. Greg has approached the Dept of Veterans Affairs to see if any lived here.

Another option is to have veterans who are connected to people in Hackett - such as parents and grandparents of people who live in Hackett.

Footpath at shops - James reported that a new member has complained about the lack of a footpath on the south side of the shops - a dirt area which gets wet and slushy. It was agreed that we should raise this should raise this. A better footpath would be an asset to the shops.

Meeting closed 8.50pm