

**Hackett Community Association
Meeting at ACT Sports House, Hackett
Tuesday 18 October 2011**

Present: Greg Haughey, Max Huntington, Laura Turnbull; Terry de Luca; Freddie Turnbull; Marion Williams, Bruce Smith,

Apologies: Barbara Inglis, Dorothy Mackenzie, Lorraine Mason, James Walker, Len Crossfield

Greg opened the meeting and welcomed new committee members.

Minutes: accepted

Matters arising

- Honorary membership was addressed at the AGM
- Greg will give the new words for the Constitution to Lance to incorporate in the constitution on the website
- Greg will pick up the table and A-Frame from James and store them at his house

Increasing membership

Greg introduced and led a discussion on the need to increase the membership of HCA.

Greg argued that a key priority for the HCA should be to increase membership numbers. The near lack of a quorum at the AGM was a sad indictment for HCA for relevance and level of involvement with local community. 150 members out of a population of 3,000 amounts to 5%. We need to do much better - 25% at a bare minimum. This amounts to a 5 fold increase in members. Michael and Jenny McReynolds told Greg after the AGM that lots of residents in Hackett aren't aware of HCA.

More should be done to make residents aware of HCA. Ideas include:

- making better use of Neighbourhood Watch
- making meetings more topical
- advertising meetings on the Billboard in the *Canberra Chronicle*.
- Putting articles in the *Chronicle* discussing issues in Hackett. This could be used to advertise how vital the shops are and also to increase support for the pharmacy.
- Developing a brochure which would summarise key info about HCA (McReynolds offered to include a brochure on HCA in material given to new home purchasers)

Discussion included the following points:

- People will not get involved unless there is something which catches their attention
- Its not the total number of members which is important, but how active and involved they are
- It would be good to get younger people involved
- The 2013 celebrations could be a good focus for getting people involved

Treasurer's report

Terry reported that we banked \$85 from AGM. Costs for the AGM were \$132. There is around \$1500 in our account at the moment.

Terry is organising additional signatories for the cheque account.

Upgrading the HCA website

Greg introduced and led a discussion on ideas for upgrading the HCA web presence. Key points included:

- We should have photos and short bios of committee members on the website (photos JPEG or GIFF 600dpi (150 x 150 mm))
- We can also put an electronic membership form on, which will have membership rates, which can be paid through PayPal. Charge will be 2.5% plus 30 cents. The forms can go directly to the Secretary and Treasurer.
- We can set up a comment form. Key issues (shops, traffic etc) can be in drop down boxes. This will provide an opportunity for people to give feedback. Comments can then be automatically routed to the right person on the Committee. Can also set up RSS (Rich Site Summary) feeds to keep readers up to date on new content without readers visiting the site to see if there have been any updates
- We could also have our own domain name - possibly www.hackett.org.au
- We should have minutes up on website. All open to public scrutiny. Bruce to provide Lance with 2010 and 2011 minutes
- We should also have news articles – with pictures if possible - on the site
- We can also add analytics to measure traffic etc

Meeting agreed to proceed with revamping the website.

Hackett 50th birthday

There was a general discussion around the need to begin work leading up to the 50th birthday celebrations:

- Laura said she is keen to take a role and wants to get young people involved.
- We should put a whole page up on the website about the birthday bash
- We should be getting a list together of people and activities and start booking things in now. Need to lock people in asap
- Greg will check with James to see if there are particular issues to do with specific dates

Other business

Community garden – Max proposed getting someone to come along to the meeting and talk about the idea of a community garden in Hackett:

- There have been past plans, but nothing has come to fruition
- We would need to get government agreement
- Would be good to get Samaritan House people involved

- We could ask people at the tables if they were interested in a community garden.
- We could also use the website

The meeting agreed to put this on future agendas and explore ideas.

Future table at shops – it was agreed to hold one in late November.

Traffic : there was discussion about why the delay in the work on Phillip Ave/ Majura Ave, and also why the traffic lights on Antill Street were not at the intersection with Knox Street.

Shops: Greg reported that he had had conversations with Sam and Avi from Little Bean, and he had also spoken with Steve, who is looking for support for the establishment of the pharmacy

Christmas dinner it was agreed to hold a dinner on 13 December or nearby – Greg will see what can be booked.