

**Hackett Community Association
Committee meeting
10 May 2016**

Present – James Walker, Greg Haughey, Marion Williams, Lorraine Mason, Chris Mobbs, John Carty, and Bruce Smith

Apologies: Terry de Luca and Kay Murphy

Minutes: The minutes for 12 April were accepted.

Treasurers report. Lorraine reported that the balance in our account is \$3244.33. We had an increase in funding of \$60, consisting of \$25 from new memberships and \$45 from the BBQ.

Contact Day report back: James reported that we did pretty well. There were well over 1000 people over the period (some for short periods). There were 9 tables, with 3 other groups. There was positive feedback – a lot of people were thrilled by the opportunity to meet and talk. The political parties were well represented (one would-be politician commented that it was better than door knocking). The shops did variably – some were the same as normal while others did well (including the Hairdresser, and coffee and tea at Siam Twist). The Friends of Mt Majura display of feral weeds was effective, and the SES got quite a bit of interest. Tucker Box also did well (a lot of people didn't know about it). The Preschool did brilliantly – they sold lot of cakes. We gained 7-9 new members and Neighbourhood Watch got a new member. The new table cover worked well (the Committee thanked Alison).

Things that could be improved:

- Folk dance didn't do very well – they were a bit tucked away
- Transport Canberra were less busy than in the past – they were not well staffed
- We need people there to help other tables set up. Need to have 2 people wandering around helping people setting up.
- We should have vests to help identify ourselves. Someone could get orange vests in Fyshwick?
- We should get ourselves a box to put small things in, such as name tags.
- Blue Gum have said that they would be willing to participate in future, but will need more notice.

James thanked everyone for their hard work. The next Contact Day will be held on 27 August.

North Canberra Community Council (NCCC) funding bid: Greg has had discussions about how the NCCC website could be improved, and has met with Mike Hettinger and others. He will be meeting with Lance (Webmaster) on Thursday to scope the work. There was a brief discussion about things HCA could do with additional funding, including funding for activities at the next Party at the Shop and also printing new brochures.

Names for streets and open spaces: Chris circulated a written report on progress on this issue (Attachment A). Chris reported that he had met with ACT Place Names. There are a number of advantages to giving names to parks, including that if accidents happen, the place can be easily identified. It would probably be best to start with one part – perhaps the one in Brennan Street.

Chris offered to prepare a one page flyer canvassing possible names for the park and seeking interest in enhancements. Names could include local residents who have made a contribution to Hackett, Canberra or more widely. One possibility, for example, could be Jack Smart, a prominent philosopher who lived near Brennan Street. It would also be possible to have a naming competition.

Chris's discussions with Place Names also covered VC symbols on signs where that is appropriate. The Committee agreed that French Street should have a VC symbol, and they agreed to do that.

Hackett Oval Precinct: Chris reported that he has talked to politicians about the Hackett oval precinct. He will prepare a letter to seek the development of a plan for long term management. Issues that need to be addressed include:

- the need to address people parking near trees resulting in compacting soil
- the installation of a children's playground (something for kids to go on while parents watch sport) or a bike riding thing facility similar to the one at North Ainslie school
- a long term plan for the replacement of trees.
- we should also clarify what the sign at the oval (regarding future development) means.

It was agreed that we should seek a meeting to discuss issues and get a precinct approach.

Planning for AGM:

- Greg reported that the meeting room we need for the second Tuesday in September has been booked. It was agreed to move the AGM to Wednesday 14 September
- We could have one speaker and a film. James is continuing to search for appropriate films.

Party at the shops: Greg led a discussion about planning for the Party. The discussed covered:

- it will need to have a Budget of around \$1000 – we could aim to have the NCCC pay \$500.
- We can also raise money through a raffle – Kay and Lorraine will ask shops about donating prizes
- Funding could cover the cost of clowns and decorations. Professional clowns will cost around \$400
- We need to start lobbying schools - Greg will approach schools
- We need to have a strong focus on kids (the Contact Days are focused on adults)
- We could sell hotdogs?

Signage: There was a general discussion about the need to improve our approach to signage for events. The current signs are expensive and don't last well. Possibilities included:

- plastic printed signs (speaking to John Murray?)
- a canvass banner, tied to a tree. What would be the cost to make a canvass sign?
- We could have a large sign saying something like “Party at the Shops this Saturday” so that it doesn't date

Other business:

- There was a short discussion about Mr Fluffy houses in Hackett, and the ways in which the ACT Government is attempting to recoup funding by changing zoning
- Lorraine proposed that photos be taken of number of people at events to document attendance and provide evidence about effectiveness.

Meeting finished 9.00pm

Hackett Community Association Report on names for public spaces in Hackett

1. On 5 May 2016, Chris Mobbs met Peter Phillips and Sharon Priestly from the ACT Place Names to inspect the Bragg/Brennan St park, in relation to the proposal to develop a name for this park. Peter and Sharon then visited the other open spaces in Hackett (see table below).
2. Formally naming an area does not mean that the Government will commit any additional funds/resources to the area other than what is currently allocated ie it does not change the classification of the site, e.g. a neighbourhood park, and the maintenance standards remain the same.
3. A formal request for naming of a park must be supported by a demonstrated need e.g. naming open spaces can be beneficial to guiding emergency services to an incident in these areas.
4. Rather than trying to name all five open spaces at the same time, the Surveyor-General prefers that any park naming proposals be limited at this stage to one park only. This will enable the activity to be managed within the ACT Place names area existing workload, and provide an opportunity for the HCA to scope and consult on the proposal.
5. Priority would be to start with the Bragg/Brennan St Park, as a pilot before tackling the other open spaces.
6. The park may be named to accord with the nomenclature theme for Hackett (notable deceased Australian scientists); or the name of a deceased person/family who made a significant contribution to the local community; or a word or characteristic associated with the history of the local area. As example, Peter advised that Newton St was also named after Dr Sue Newton who lived in 12 Bragg St some years back – such a name would require endorsement from the family.

Block/Section	Location	Area	Zone (as at 9/5/16)
1/41	Bragg St/Brennan St/Mackenzie St	8900 sq m	PRZ1 Urban Open Space
10/37	Madigan through to Mackenzie St	15868 sq m	PRZ1 UOS
10/23	Harris St/Gilbert St/ French St	5500 sq m	PRZ1 UOS
1/14	27 Calwell St/40 Stanley St	2538 sq m	PRZ1 UOS
1/5	26 Maitland St/cnr Gilruth St	1344 sq m	PRZ1 UOS

French St

French Street commemorates three individuals with the name of French. One is Corporal John Alexander French who was awarded the Victoria Cross (VC).

Mr Phillips will request Roads ACT to replace the existing signs with VC style road signs.

Canberra Suburb and St Names book

Mr Phillips provided two copies of this book. A copy is provided to the HCA.

Next steps

Chris Mobbs, in consultation with other HCA members in Bragg/Brennan St Park area, to prepare a one page flier:

1. canvassing the idea of a name for the park; and
2. seeking interest for undertaking enhancements in this park that will improve the tree and shrub cover and increase the recreation and amenities for park users.

This flier to be put in letter boxes in homes in the area boarded by Grayson, Mackenzie and Maitland Sts inviting people to an on-site community meeting in the Park in the coming months (subject to weather).