

GREATER MANLY RESIDENTS' FORUM – MINUTES

Meeting: 5 June 2017

Venue: Diggers on the Park, Raglan Street, Manly NSW 2095.
Meeting commenced 7:00pm

Attendance 28.

1. Welcome (*Denise Keen*)

3. Reports

- Treasurer's Report – As the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer were away the report was deferred to the July meeting.

Matters for Discussion | Action:

1. **Growing GMRF** – how you may be able to help.

The meeting was asked to consider ways we can grow GMRF to assist the areas of Balgowlah, North Balgowlah, North Manly, Manly Vale and Seaforth. Further discussion is needed and will continue at the next meeting.

2. **Your thoughts on the future use of Manly Town Hall.**

Attendees provided their feedback on possible use of Manly Town Hall now that it will no longer be utilized for Council business and meetings.

Suggestions included:

- Move Manly Library to the building.
- Arts and Culture including films, live theatre, art shows, musical events, and much more.

GMRF agreed to add this to the “watch it list”.

3. **Friends' of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden + Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden Masterplan progress.**

- Joseph Tramonte from Northern Beaches Council presented on the Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden master plan. The presentation was well received and the plan fully endorsed by the meeting.
- The meeting requested that Northern Beaches Council move quickly following the close of the exhibition period to implement the plan prior to going into caretaker mode pre-election.
- The public exhibition of the plan had received 348 visitors, 159 downloads and 23 submissions at the time of the GMRF meeting, which Mr Tramonte advised are very good numbers showing a great deal of interest.
- The Chair thanked Mr. Tramonte for his attendance and the information provided.
- The meeting attendees were asked to go onto the council website and make submissions regarding the master plan.

GMRF fully support the master plan.

Friends' of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden –

Denise Keen advised that James Griffin, MP for Manly had contacted her during the month to discuss putting Friends' of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden forward for a grant from the State Government. The necessary information was provided and the application was put forward by Mr Griffin. The Friends' was also mentioned in Parliament and attracted the interest of the Honorable Gabrielle Upton, Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Subsequently the Friends' was awarded a grant of \$3000.00 to assist with funding to promote conservation projects and develop conservation skills across the Manly area.

The meeting was advised the process of forming the group will now commence.

GMRF thanked Mr Griffin for his consideration in applying for this grant and for his offer to continue to support and work with the Friends' to ensure the future of the Botanic Garden for future generations.

4. Manly Hospital Site.

Denise Keen advised that the Manly Hospital Site Project Steering Group has stalled as a result of the resignation of former Premier Mike Baird and the replacement of Anthony Manning as Director of Projects, NSW Health. She further advised that the community members of the Steering Group have requested a meeting with Mr James Griffin the new MP for Manly to seek assistance in pushing forward with this important project.

5. Tunnel Connection from the Northern Beaches

There is a great deal of interest in this project which will have major impacts for the entire Northern Beaches. Various views were expressed and concerns raised. It is apparent there is a need for more detailed information to be provided by the authorities.

Michelle Washington provided the meeting with a paper "Congestion isn't just a supply-side problem" produced by the Committee for Sydney (issues paper 12) appended hereto, and proposed a number of questions and thought provokers:

1. Don't rush – let's get this important investment right – it is good to make evidenced based decisions and relook at promises made in the heat of elections.
2. Let's talk about the problem we are trying to solve – where do people want to travel, when and how – would they prefer to use public transport if it was convenient, fast and comfortable.
3. Let's consider options – work with people and users of transport to develop options not start with one solution.
4. Evidence shows that building new road capacity encourages more people to drive = congestion.
5. Publish reports that examine options and evidence of time savings quoted on website.
6. If tourists and visitors come to Manly by car we will need more parking and experience more congestion.

7. We need to remember we can do better than build new motorways in a 21st century city.

6. Northern Beaches Council Vision 2028 – workshop update.

Lloyd Keen updated the meeting on progress with our Northern Beaches Council Vision 2028, noting that final community consultation sessions were being held with a view to finalizing outcomes, and bedding down the vision prior to going into caretaker mode in August.

7. Sydney Water – North Head Sewage Treatment Works Committee.

Lloyd Keen provided an update on the latest meeting of the committee.

8. AOB

Former Manly Council Street Tree Plan.

Gary O’Brien asked for an update on the former Manly Council Street Tree Plan.

Following discussion it was agreed Michelle Washington and Gary O’Brien would investigate where this plan now stands following amalgamation and report back to the July meeting.

Queenscliff Reserve “off leash” park under threat.

Susan Robertson advised the meeting that the “off leash” dog area at Queenscliff Reserve is now under threat due to complaints by one or two residents on the opposite side of the lagoon to the park. Northern Beaches Council have asked for input via a survey on the NBC website. Attendees at the meeting were asked to go to the website to record their views. It is felt that the closure of this “off leash” area would be extremely detrimental to a vast number of residents who currently utilize the area to provide recreation for their dogs and themselves.

GMRF fully support the continued use of Queenscliff Reserve as an “off-leash” dog area.

The meeting finished at 8.35pm

Next Meeting: Monday 3rd July 2017