



**North & West Melbourne Association Inc.  
Monthly General Meeting**

**Tuesday 21 August 2012  
Meeting room, first floor,  
North Melbourne Library, 66 Errol Street**

**Meeting Chairperson: Kevin Chamberlin**

**MINUTES**

**Speakers:**

**Dave Collins (a member of the Association) from Synergetics, Environment Engineering West Melbourne** made a presentation on his green building at 490 Spencer Street. He described the building as Australia's first positive energy commercial building. He has been in business in West Melbourne for 10 years and is a resident of Parkville. The company has converted a very minimalist concrete tilt slab building which had no insulation and leaked like a sieve, into a very green building where they have achieved a 50% reduction in power usage. This has been achieved through the use of solar photovoltaic panels, virtual double glazing and a focus on the people working in the space. He expressed an interest in exploring the possibility of powering North and West Melbourne with renewable energy noting an incredible reduction in the price of solar voltaic panels.

**Dianne King from City of Melbourne Arts and Culture Branch** spoke about the Public Art

Commissions 2013. With a town planning background, she is working in this area of public art which formerly focussed on laneway art commissions. The Council is opening up to art across the city from having a CBD focus with the aim of making places safer and more inviting. Errol Street has been selected this year for three projects of up to \$15000. The boundaries of the focus area are Victoria, Leveson, Queensberry and Curzon Streets and include laneways, supermarkets etc. There will be one major commission anywhere in the city for \$70,000. Dianne would like us to nominate a central space for something to happen.

The Council has established an advisory panel on public art. Other council departments are consulted. The guideline do set some parameters, including, what is appropriate and what is not, encouragement of controversial issues challenging the status quo and engagement with different cultural values. Works have to conform with the Victorian charter of human rights and responsibilities. Dianne then demonstrated previous works which had been funded, including the works behind the Town Hall hotel and others such as Aboriginal art at 82 Collins St which was intended to be displayed for 2 years but locals liked it so it has been kept and Neon Natives.

Expressions of interest are due by the end of August and Council would like us to suggest locations. Successful applicant will be selected in December and installations will be completed in first half of 2013. Contact [publicart@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:publicart@melbourne.vic.gov.au)

**1. Welcome and apologies**

Attendance Kevin Chamberlin, Jackie Watts, Gordon White, Verena Augusti, Mary Kehoe, Beverley Rodan, Gabrielle Stannus, Alba Gatto, Enid Hookey, John Widmer, Ray Cowling, Janet Graham, Stephen Farrugia, Chris Michaelides, John Shone, Srebrenka Kunek, Michael Horscroft, Jan Lacey, Dave Collins, Bill Cook, Craig Barry, Victoria

Apologies Paul McLeod, Kirsty Harvison, Nancy Nankervis, Mary Kelleher, Valerie Gerrard, Julianne Bell, Adam Bandt, Asha Rao, Denys Harraway, Rose Iser.

**2. Confirmation of minutes**

**That the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2012 be accepted**

Moved Jan Lacey

Seconded Geoff Leach

Carried

**3. Matters arising from the minutes of previous meeting not covered elsewhere on the Agenda... Nil**

**4. Committee Report ..Nil**

**5. Treasurer's Report was tabled and circulated**

**That the Treasurer's Report be accepted**

Moved Michael Horscroft

Seconded Jan Lacey

Carried

## **6. Correspondence**

Discussion of items not covered elsewhere on the Agenda. Correspondence circulated during the meeting to be considered under item 9.

Circulated

## **7. Workgroup Reports**

### **Community Engagement/Membership Communication**

Responsibilities are being shared between Gabby and Stephen. Chris Michaelides expressed interest in the group. Gabby is to be away till 15 October.

Nothing further to report.

#### **That the report be noted**

*M Gabby Stannus*

*S Stephen Farrugia*

*Carried*

### **Planning**

#### **The report was presented by Geoff Leach.**

1. Municipal Strategic Statement and Structure Plans (City North & Arden Macaulay)

At Council's 7 August Future Melbourne Committee meeting the MSS was ratified despite arguments from NWMA and others that serious omissions and errors needed to be addressed. Arden Macaulay Structure Plan is still to go to a panel. We need to make a submission to Panels Victoria. Industrial uses need to be supported by us as they were mischaracterised by Council. 20 m height limit should also be promoted. Woolworths development should be included in these parameters too.

The issue of communication with the Minister on these matters was referred to the Planning Group.

It was noted that the Arden Macaulay sites were too small for the scale of development proposed, and maybe are not necessary with the Minister's approval of changes to Fishermans Bend.

#### **Motion**

**That the NWMA continues to support a position with regard to planning in both the MSS and the Arden Macaulay Structure Plan, whereby:**

- The industrial zones and use are retained;
- The adoption of urban renewal in the Arden Macaulay Structure Plan area, should only occur if it is restricted to medium rise, that is a 20m height limit of no more than 5-6 storeys;
- The 20m height limit is mandatory.

Moved Geoff Leach

Seconded Bill Cook

Carried

2. Baptist Church site (former Caltex Service Station, King Street)

3. Woolworths, 101-117 Canning Street

Alba to follow up on what we need to do to become a party to this issue at VCAT

4. 132-134 Roden Street, West Melbourne – VCAT Appeal

5. 81-83 Peel Street

Ray has had a win on 81 83 Peel St at VCAT. The decision was immediate

6. Armstrong Motors, 243-251 Flemington Road (Cnr Abbotsford Street)

7. 371-379 Spencer Street and 83-113 Batman Street, West Melbourne – Development of two residential buildings of 31 and 41 storeys respectively – Awaiting Ministers decision

8. 14-18 & 20 Anderson Street, West Melbourne

Council has decided that 14-20 Anderson should be limited to 6 storeys. It is likely to now go to VCAT

9. Railway Hotel, 118-126 Ireland Street, West Melbourne

10. 7/Eleven Store – Cnr King and Hawke Streets

11. 68-82 Leveson Street

Councillors have issued a Notice of Decision to grant a Permit. However, due to Association and widespread community concern, the issue of the tree removal from the street is still being considered.

12. 1-5 Courtney Street (also known as 181-189 Capel St)

13. 26 Erskine Street

14. 451 & 453 Dryburgh Street

15. Fighting Fund proposal

16. 2011 Census Data – report by John Widmer. The Association and John are working on this material. RMIT University has expressed interest in the work being done and intend to meet with the Association.

17. 437-439 Spencer St West Melbourne - 7 storey development and demolition of existing building

**New ITEM 33-39 and 15-19 Racecourse Road**, 15 and 9 storeys respectively. We maintain that the classification of this area as an urban renewal zone in the MSS and the Arden Macaulay Structure Plan is a mistake. It was also noted

that it was a slender site. These concerns have been raised by the Association with the Council and rejected. The Association has a number of concerns about these developments.

Whilst a formal application has not been made, the Association has been monitoring the 500 unit proposal in Alfred Street near to the above developments. The Association understands that some councillors have been consulted about this development.

**Motion**

**That the meeting space/time at Dewey Common on the first Tuesday of the month will be shared between the Planning Group and a Committee meeting. The Committee will include only those persons defined for the Committee in the constitution.**

Moved Ray Cowling

Seconded Michael Horscroft

Carried

**Motion**

**That the Planning Report be noted.**

Moved Geoff Leach

Seconded Alba Gatto

Carried

**Business No Report**

**Social Events No Report**

**Environment**

1. Report from Melbourne City Council Parks Advisory Committee deferred

2. Removal of seat at Errol St/Queensberry St tram stop

Jan reported on her attempt to try the Equal Opportunity Commission conciliation process to resolve this matter at a hearing that lasted from 9.30am till 1pm. The Council was represented by their solicitor and two other staff members. The Council made it a personal issue and an attack on Jan and did not consider the needs of disabled, injured or elderly people

The Council offered Jan a letter of apology for the shortcomings in the process but no ground on the issue of the seat. Her only remaining option is to take the issue to VCAT.

**Motion**

**That we should consult the Homeless Action Group about the matter**

Moved Alba Gatto

Seconded Janet Graham

Carried

3. **Queensberry Street Tree Planting Proposal** - Council is not installing toilet as previously agreed

4. **Erskine Street Tree Planting Proposal** - works complete - delete from agenda

5. **Errol/Courtney/Harcourt Streets Roundabout upgrade** - to be monitored by Gabrielle Stannus.

6. **Return to Royal Park Report** – of the area occupied by the old Royal Children's Hospital (Cnr Gatehouse St and Flemington Road) - members advised to access results of this process on the Council website.

**Motion**

**That Gabby Stannus be appointed the convenor of the Environment Group**

Moved Michael Horscroft

Seconded Janet Graham

Carried

**Motion**

**That the Environment Report be adopted**

Moved Ray Cowling

Seconded Geoff Leach

Carried

**Homelessness Action Group Report - No Report**

**Police Community Consultative Committee – Melbourne West Report**

Carolyn Fye provided a written report where she noted that crime stats have gone down apart from robberies and assaults

**Motion**

**That the report be noted**

Moved Jan Lacey

Seconded Ray Cowling

Carried

**Police Community Consultative Committee - Melbourne North Report**

Jan noted that the Group was still named the Carlton PCCC

She had attended her first meeting and found it to be quite useful.

One of the members reported on Arden Macaulay Structure Plan which was praised. Jan was also able to raise the Woolworths liquor licence. Concerns were raised about the effect of this licence on the North Melbourne flats. As a result the matter will be referred to a Licence Inspector. The Police will follow it up.

Next meeting scheduled for October

We need to facilitate communication between Jan and Carolyn to ensure coordination of issues.

**Motion**

**That the report be noted**

Moved Jan Lacey

Seconded Alba Gatto

carried

**Transport**

**1. Westlink / East-West Link tunnel/road**

There have been no briefings allowed for the reason that they are preparing a business plan. Please note the route emerging in Boundary Road to go along City Link and then through the Wholesale fruit and veg market. See map. It was felt that the raised area was not in the east but in the west.

2. Metro Rail nothing to report

3. Very Fast Train nothing to report

4. Opening old station entrance for station access nothing to report

**Regional rail Link**

The local group has arranged a meeting with Local member of Parliament.

Regional Rail are planning to door knock residents.

The residents have agreed to ask the RRL reps to provide written responses to their written queries.

Draft Noise Policy appears to be satisfactory in part, but it still excludes application in West Melbourne.

Submissions are due by 31 Aug and do allow for other issues to be raised.

NWMA's endorsed candidate for RRL community committee had an interview this morning (i.e the date of NWMA meeting). The group has sent letters to politicians and others on the RRL issue.

The Age published an article about a Railway Place couple on 8 August and two letters on 11 August headed 'Dereliction of duty' and 'Failure to protect'."

**Motion**

**That the Transport report be adopted**

M Janet Graham

S Jan Lacey

Carried

**CoRBA (Coalition of Residents and Business Associations)**

CoRBA is active in finalising their questionnaire for the Council Elections.

**8. Urgent Business (Matters that cannot be dealt with at the next monthly meeting or by one of the Association's workgroups)**

**9. Discussion of correspondence circulated at meeting under item 6 above**

City of Melbourne- Notice of MSS decision at FMC 26/7/12

DPCD Woolworths-Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit 27 July 2012 - **Follow up dates**

Regional Rail Link Authority Reference Group - Call for Nominations 1/8/12 – **in hand**

Kangaroos- Notice of works and temporary closures 2/8/12

City of Melbourne-14-18 and 20 Anderson St – Notice of Decision to Grant a permit 14/8/12

City of Melbourne- 468-70 Spencer St - Notice of receipt of objection. 15/8/12

Landcare- Winter 2012

East Melbourne Jolimont News- Winter 2012-08-22

**10. Venue, time and date of next meeting**

Tuesday 18 September 2012, 7.30pm, at a new venue - .Dewey Common, 603 Queensberry St, enter off Union St - in the old Queensberry St School, now the Bastow Institute.

Our need to follow certain rules was noted