

PEARL BEACH PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Saturday 5 September 2020 at 5:00 PM

WELCOME

(The first General Meeting held since March 2020 when COVID 19 restrictions were introduced)

Peter Romey (in the Chair), Lynne Lillico, Donna Higgins, Gary Phillips, Malcolm Davison, Libby Nelson, John Haymes, Bev Lapacek, Heather Brown, Vic Brown, John Hill, Stephen Parsons, Di Swalwell, Mary Knaggs, Victoria Crawford, Klaas Woldring, Kay Williams, Scott Hohne, Paul Blinkhorn

Attendance online: Alison Philips, Paul Toohey, Ann Parsons, Russell Grove, Jane Borton, Amanda Davies, Diane Orton, Vic Clarke, Nicola Simpson, Erwin Eslemann, Barbara Hastings

APOLOGIES

Bev Kingston, Rebecca Jacobs

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The President acknowledged the original owners of the land, the Guringai people and their elders, past, present and emerging.

MINUTES OF 3 MARCH MEETING

The Minutes of the 3 March General Meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting (Moved Heather Brown, Seconded Victoria Crawford).

ITEMS

1. COVID19 situation

Donna Higgins has prepared the mandatory Safety Plan for the Hall. This is displayed in the Hall and is also available on our website. Any group wishing to use the Hall must comply with this plan.

2. Hall Upgrade Project

The pergola over the back deck is now complete and the Hall Building and Maintenance Subcommittee is in the final stages of negotiations with a contractor to carry out the works, assisted by PBPA volunteers. A contribution of PBPA voluntary labour is a requirement of the CCC grant.

Engineering plans have been prepared and submitted to CCC to comply with a condition of the DA approval to demonstrate that the sewer line will not be damaged during construction.

3. PBPA Website Upgrade

The members noted that the new look PBPA website was a great achievement, and expressed their appreciation and applause for Rebecca Jacobs who led the project, assisted by Vic Clarke.

4. 2019-2020 Budget Review & 2020-21 Budget

The Treasurer advised that, due to the shutting down of the Hall in March with the onset of COVID 19, the Association's finances were impacted for the final quarter of 2019-2020, but

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that despite this the budget will be close to break even. However, three months into the 2020-21 financial year, with no end in sight to COVID 19 restrictions conditions currently impacting fundraising/events such as the Book Fair and reduced Hall bookings, the situation is likely to deteriorate significantly. We also have had a substantial increase in insurance costs, plus costs associated with maintaining the defibrillators among other costs.

The Treasurer confirmed that the Auditors Thomas Davis and Co have delivered the PBPA audit report for 2019-20 in time for the AGM.

The Finance committee is currently working on the budget for 2020-21 and this will be presented at the November General Meeting.

5. AGM & Executive Committee 2020-21

At the AGM there will be a spill of all Executive positions, and all PBPA financial members are eligible to stand for any of these positions.

An AGM pack will be sent out 14 days before the AGM, and will include a notice of the meeting and nomination form, the Minutes of the 2019 AGM and the audited Financial Report for 2019-20.

It appears that an election will be required as several nominations have already been received for some positions on the executive Committee. In accordance with the Constitution, nominations will close seven days prior to the AGM. Following this, a list of nominees will be sent to members but ballot papers will only be available in the Hall. Nominees will have the opportunity to write up to 100 words in support of their nomination.

Due to COVID 19 restrictions on numbers allowed in the Hall for the AGM, voting will take place in the Hall in the afternoon of the day of the AGM, with votes counted by scrutineers before the meeting.

REPORTS

Executive

All issues were covered in Standing Items.

Treasurer

The Treasurer presented the report on Income, Expenditure and Accounts Balances for July 2020.

Events and Publicity

The Wine and Food Fair has been cancelled this year because of COVID 19. The Olive Man, who has a stall each year, has suggested that each regular stall holders donates an item for a raffle. The raffle will be held on Saturday 3 October outside the café with the proceeds going to the Hall upkeep and renovations.

The annual Community Christmas Dinner is planned to be held on the reserve near the Tennis Courts on 6 December. The cost would be \$40, BYO drinks, plates, cutlery and glasses. Tables will seat 6-10. Bookings will be essential.

The Community Christmas Carols will also be held at the reserve with taped music and a visit from Santa.

Finance Working Group

The Finance Working Group is preparing a budget for the coming year, which will be presented to the new Executive committee following the AGM in October.

Policies and Procedures

These are currently under review.

The Gem

The Spring Gem has now been published, with thanks to Margaret Westcott.

Hall Storage

No report

Hall Building and Maintenance

Refer to ITEM 2.

PBSAG

Street contacts will be visiting neighbours to update the names on the Neighbour Alert system. There are currently 493 names recorded. As the Bushfire danger period officially started on 1 September, residents are encouraged to clean up around houses and complete or update their Bush Fire Survival Plans. The local RFS has compiled a list of recommended equipment and plant acquisitions using the \$15,000 donations and submitted them to Kariong District Area Control Centre for approval.

Aboriginal History Group/ Guringai People Working Group

The Bungaree Weekend will not take place this year due to COVID 19. The group is very concerned that State Tourism is promoting bike riding on trails in PB. This has led to bike riding damaging or destroying Aboriginal etchings.

Community Groups

The Arboretum

The Arboretum has launched its own website which was built by volunteers as well as a new logo designed by Mary Knaggs. The new email address is: contact@pearlbeacharboretum.org.au.

Monthly working bees are still being held with a limit of 20. The propagation shed has been refurbished with money from a Federal government grant, along with a grant of \$20,000 towards the Koala Project.

Rural Fire Service

The RFS is acting under strict COVID 19 requirements. There are currently no training sessions but this will be reviewed at the AGM in September. There are volunteers waiting to join the Brigade.

No reduction burns are currently planned for the PB area, and it was suggested that local residents pursue this matter with National Parks and Wildlife. Residents are urged to prepare or update Bush Fire Survival Plans now. The primary threat is from embers on or adjacent to houses, and leaf filled gutters or properties with woodchips pose the greatest risk.

Bush Care

Bushcare has been meeting for 3 months under COVID 19 conditions. This month they worked at north Coral Crescent, removing Mother of Millions and planting Pigface. They also removed Bitou from the headland track to clear the path. The regular rain has been very good for new plantings.

Dune Care

The new Dune care coordinator is Scott Hohne. He reported that during the COVID 19 lockdown CCC did some planting and spraying in the dune area. He has requested a Council supervisor and that CCC requires two members of Dunecare to hold a current first aid certificate.

Water Watch

No report

Tennis and Bowls

Tennis Club President Paul Blinkhorn club briefed the members about the upcoming AGM, to be held on Sunday in the Hall. The club is currently open under COVID 19 regulations. The membership is currently 155 with a strong growth in bowling. Improvements during the year have included resurfacing the Worrall Court and repairing the court fences. CCC have replaced the damaged roller door, and the plans for a BBQ area have now been presented to CCC.

Plodders

28 Plodders will be travelling to Soldiers Point for 4 nights, staying in villas. Walks, whale watching, dinners and more are being organised. Monthly walks may resume in February.

Art and Craft

The knitters are currently meeting in Bev Lapacek's home for a knit and natter. They want to collect more knitted teddies for charity.

The Art Trail planned for 3 October will show the work of over 15 artists across 10 locations.

Pearl Beach Singers

The singers are unable to rehearse under current COVID 19 19 rules.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The President advised that CCC Mayor has accepted a PBPA invitation to visit PB. A tour has been organised to show and discuss the state of the track around the headland, and some recent examples of over development including excessive tree removal. It is also proposed to show the Mayor the state of the lagoon. The visit is planned for 22 September at 2pm.

The meeting was also advised that Klaas and Aafke Woldring had generously donated a large painting to the association, to be either hung in the Hall or sold/auctioned/raffled to raise funds for the Hall.

NEW MEMBERS

There are 8 new members: Melinda Stewart, Barry Kay, Dawn Mclean, Mark Burton, Scott and Janet Hohne, Coby Klauser, David Russell-Jones.

NEXT MEETINGS

Executive Committee Meeting at 4:00 PM Friday 9 October 2020

AGM at 5:00 PM Saturday 10 October 2020

General Meeting at 5pm Saturday 7 November 2020

At the General Meeting of 7 November 2020 at the request of Peter Romey, the following amendment to the these minutes of the 5 September 2020 General Meeting, was added –

The President advised the members that the Executive had asked the Hall B&C S/C to obtain quotes for lopping of a number of trees, including the overhanging Jacaranda branch on the neighbour's property, the Apple Gum in the rear yard and the Casuarinas along the side of the Hall. The advice from two arborists was that the Casuarinas were failing and should be removed completely. The Executive proposed to proceed with removal, but in the first instance any members who had concerns about this should contact the Executive.

These amended minutes of the 5 September 2020 General Meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting at the 7 November 2020 General Meeting.