

Minutes of the 2009-10 Annual General Meeting

6 October 2010

Welcome and Apologies

1. The Chair, Dr Jenny Stewart, welcomed attendees. Apologies were received from Robert Carson, Shona Phillips, Tom Lithgow, Mark Kulasingham, Jeremy Hanson MLA, Steve Doszpot MLA, Bill Smith and Thea Smith.

Expert Reference Group on Draft Variations 301 and 303

2. Kevin Gill, President of the Inner South Canberra Community Council (ISCCC) and Austin Lynch (committee member) spoke about the formation of the ISCCC and its priorities. Mr Gill explained that as a member of the Planning Minister's Expert Reference Group on Draft Variations 301 and 303 to the Territory Plan, he was keen to hear Woden residents' views on the draft variation. The ISCCC, like the WVCC, wanted DV303 to be withdrawn.

3. Concerns raised at the meeting about DV303 included:

- increased plot ratios;
- reduced setbacks rules;
- reduced private and community open space;
- reduced minimum block size for standard single dwelling blocks and for multi unit development;
- allowing secondary dwellings in backyards where none were previously allowed;
- removal of existing provisions for public notification for lease variations and certain other types of development, thereby removing residents' rights to object and appeal against developments; and
- not ensuring minimum passive solar provisions for living areas as currently mandated.

Minutes of the 2008-09 Annual General Meeting

4. In paragraph 9 of the Draft Minutes of the 2008-09 Annual General Meeting held on 7 October 2009, the bank balance of \$2,185.25 was corrected to read

\$22,185.25. The Minutes of the 2008-2009 Annual General Meeting, as amended, were accepted and carried by the meeting.

Chair's report

5. In presenting the Chair's report, Jenny Stewart said 2009-2010 had been another eventful year for WVCC. With so much redevelopment taking place in Woden, and a government and planning system that too often seemed indifferent to community concerns, the committee had been kept exceptionally busy.

Thanks to Hellenic Club

6. Dr Stewart expressed the WVCC's thanks and appreciation to the Hellenic Club for generously providing such congenial premises for the Council's monthly meetings.

Key issues

7. Dr Stewart said WVCC's agenda for 2009-2010 featured (among many others) presentations relating to Woden Green; to Bellerive (Lyons); the redevelopment of Borrowdale House; the Greens' Planning and Development Amendment Bill; the redevelopment of Lyons shops; and the ACT Government's Sustainable Futures Program. WVCC also hosted and chaired the inaugural meeting of the Combined Community Councils.

8. The Council made submissions to ACTPLA on: proposed lease changes in the rezoned area to the north of Launceston Street that would have further reduced community sport and recreational facilities; the Mandir Ashram age care development in Farrer; the redevelopment of Borrowdale House and of Alexander and Albermarle buildings in the Town Centre; the draft variation concerning the community facility zone; the proposed southern cemetery; and the proposal to deconcessionalise the Tradesmen's Union Club in Woden. Committee members also attended ACTPLA briefings relating to a number of planning issues, and participated in the meetings of the ACT Government's Planning and Development Forum.

Publicity and communication

9. Dr Stewart thanked *The Chronicle* for publicising throughout the year WVCC meetings and covering WVCC's important planning and community issues. WVCC activities were also publicised in Woden Voice, a newsletter published jointly by the Council and the Woden Community Service. Many thanks to David Menzel for his invaluable work on both Woden Voice and the Woden Community Festival, also jointly hosted by WVCC and Woden Community Service. Minutes of meetings and other information were distributed regularly via the Council's growing email list.

Thanks

10. Dr Stewart thanked the members of the Committee—Shirley Lithgow, Henry Hatch, Martin Miller, Gina Pinkas, David Menzel, Chris Erett and Mike Reddy—for all their work and support for the WVCC. She recorded the Council's thanks and

appreciation to: the Council's former Chair, Bill O'Brien, who had done so much work for the Council, but had to withdraw from active involvement this year as he would be overseas; and to Gina Pinkas who would not be continuing on the committee in the coming year. Gina's detailed knowledge of planning matters ensured that the Council was kept well informed of development applications and their implications.

11. Dr Stewart moved that her report be accepted; seconded by Chris Erett. Carried.

Treasurer's report

12. The Treasurer, Henry Hatch, reported that the Council finished the 2009-10 financial year with a bank balance of \$16,168.15. However, as the financial statements were still with the auditor (who was currently overseas), the audited statements would need to be formally accepted at the WVCC general meeting on 3 November 2010—a motion to that effect was moved by Henry Hatch, seconded by David Menzel and carried.

Election of office bearers

13. Kevin Gill, ISCCC President, took the Chair as Returning Officer. After declaring all positions vacant and taking nominations from the floor in addition to the written and signed nominations received, Mr Gill declared that the following were elected as office bearers of the WVCC:

President:	Jenny Stewart
Vice-President:	vacant
Secretary:	Shirley Lithgow
Minute Secretary:	Bernard Philbrick (did not take up position)
Treasurer:	Henry Hatch
Public Officer:	Henry Hatch
Planning Officer:	vacant
Publicity Officer:	vacant
Committee Members:	Chris Erett Martin Miller Michael Reddy Harmander Singh David Menzel

14. Mr Gill then handed the meeting over to the incoming President, Jenny Stewart. As there was no further business, Dr Stewart closed the Annual General Meeting.