

WPCA

Draft Minutes of Annual General Meeting Sunday 26 February 2006 Elvina Bay South

K. Lambert, President, opened the meeting at 10:30 am.

Apologies

R. Howe, Jackie Gruzka, A. Mills, S. Polonka, B. & S. Storey, A. & L. Turnure, R. Brown, T. & S. Wilson, M. & L. Clay, D. & G. Shirling, R. & R. Baxendale, H. & H. Macorison, B. Jobson, S. Andrews, N and A Reeves, S Andrews,

Correspondence

No correspondence received in relation to the AGM

Minutes of previous AGM

The meeting confirmed the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Sunday, 13 March 2005 read by K. Rogers, Secretary. (**Proposer, Nick Cowdery** **Seconder, Mary Beth Allen**).

Treasurer's Report

K. Newby, Treasurer, opened his report by thanking the previous treasurer, R. Croft, for his work in ordering accounting procedures, transferring the WPCA account to an interest bearing account and encouraging an increase in membership. He noted that membership had increased to 85 households and urged members to continue to encourage more people to join the Association. Significant expenditure would be incurred in setting up and maintaining the WPCA's proposed website (in the order of \$1700.00 in the first year. There had been a contribution to the setting up of the kindergarten (\$750,00) and a contribution to the Scotland Island Residents Association(\$750.00) in relation to joint SIRA/WPCA activities over Church Point car park matters. After taking account of expenditure and obligations, the WPCA account held \$4107. 87, which the Treasurer considered a healthy balance. The meeting accepted the Treasurer's report.
(Proposer, M. Didsbury. Seconder, R. Croft.)

President's Report

K. Lambert explained that, as a matter of procedure, she would be addressing the meeting on matters that she had managed on behalf of the committee and would be inviting other committee members to address any matter in which they had taken the lead role during the year. She also explained that the workload of the committee had grown to the point where it was no longer feasible or sensible for the work to be predominately handled by the president. The committee had adopted the policy of allocating tasks among committee members more so than had perhaps been done in the past. This practice was likely to continue. Moreover, the committee needed to draw on the expertise of WPCA members to take on some of the work of the committee. For example, the committee was very appreciative that Tanya Mottl had volunteered to be the editor of *Baywatch* during the coming year. Members who felt they had a contribution to make were invited to approach a committee member.

Mona Vale Hospital

K. Lambert addressed the recent announcement by Mayor McTaggart, that Pittwater Council had proposed an alternative to the retention of the current Mona Vale hospital. The alternative was the construction of a new hospital on a site in Narrabeen. The Save Mona Vale Hospital Committee was supporting the Narrabeen proposal. The shift in position had emerged when Mayor McTaggart had become convinced, after discussion with the State Government, that the Government had already

made up its mind that the retention of Mona vale hospital was not one of its options. The revised tactics were to try to prevent the hospital from being built outside the local area. Offering the government an alternative site within the area was regarded as presenting the best chance of doing so. K. Lambert informed the meeting that the committee had responded to a letter from Mayor McTaggart encouraging resolution of the matter in a way that would give the local area a hospital.

Some members, notably P. Akerman, vigorously opposed the shift in position. There were essentially two issues. The first issue was a matter of strategy. It was wrong to give up the fight when the State Government had never given a reason for not retaining Mona Vale hospital; and it was wrong to rely so heavily on the Narrabeen site which, as a former dump, might be found unsuitable for a hospital. The other issue was a criticism of the committee for not consulting the membership before replying to the Mayor's letter. (After making these points Mr Akerman left the meeting - 11:10am).

In response, K. Lambert made two points. One was that the WPCA had not taken an active role in campaigning for the retention of Mona Vale hospital because in recent years the fight had been well contested by the Save the Mona Vale Hospital Committee and Pittwater Council. So when both these bodies had shifted their position it seemed sensible to move with them. The second point, regarding the issue of consultation, was that it was not too late to convey to Council the views of the AGM if those views were different from those expressed in the letter of support.

After discussion, it was settled that the Association would not consider changing its position in support of the retention of Mona Vale hospital until and unless the State Government explained its policy on closing the hospital and until the feasibility of the Narrabeen was critically examined.

It was also settled that Stephen Burns should represent the association and its views at a 2pm meeting 26 Feb (that afternoon) and that Brigitte Mahler-Mills would attend the Council meeting later in the week and explain that the earlier letter had been overtaken by the association's views formed at the AGM. The issues were thus resolved to the meeting's satisfaction.

The WPCA website

M. Didsbury explained that on behalf of the WPCA he was in the process of setting up a website for the WPCA. Essentially, it would be a vehicle for communicating with the membership. The site would among other things, publish the agenda items for up-coming meetings, the minutes of meetings, and Baywatch. It would also have some historical and archived material. He expected it would be up and running by mid to late April. The website was taking some effort and expense to set up but it would be an important and effective communication tool and it was time the association bit the bullet. He thanked a number of people who had supplied material, especially images for the site - Michael Wiener, M. Doherty, J & B Jobson, N. Cowdery and Karen Lambert.

It was explained that *Baysnews* would continue to be published independently of the website. The meeting gave B. Mahler-Mills a round of applause in appreciation of the work she was continuing to do in publishing *Baysnews*.

Bush Regeneration

M. Anderson gave to the meeting an encouraging report of the coordination of local bush regeneration groups under a broad master plan supported by Pittwater Council. Any groups that had not yet been included in the master plan were invited to participate in the plan. There are a number of advantages in the master plan including providing a means of assessing the total resources available in the area, distributing new ecological information, keeping groups informed about grants that might be available to assist in funding some of the work, coordination of eradication programs and sorting out issues of ownership and authority particularly as to land held by Council and land held under the auspices of National Parks.

During 2005 there had been some impressive regeneration activities undertaken and the prospect is that progress will continue in 2006.

M Malloy, M Doherty and M Anderson agreed to volunteer to attend a meeting to be held with Council and National Parks on Wednesday 15 March at 9.30pm. L. Stevens would also attempt to attend the meeting and L Atkins would be asked to attend if interested.

The Scotland Island Preschool

Brigitte Mahler-Mills reported on the re-opening of the Scotland Island Pre-school by a newly formed community entity - Scotland Island & Offshore Children's Services (SIOCS). After notification in November 2005 that KU Children's Services would not conduct a preschool on Scotland Island in 2006 people from the offshore community put together a proposal for a community based organisation to run the preschool. There followed a hectic time in fundraising, getting support from Pittwater Council – support which had been enthusiastically provided - getting licenses, recruiting staff and accepting enrolments. The preschool opened on time at the beginning of the school year. A new Director had been appointed and it was hoped that SIOCS would eventually provide services for 0-12 year olds (After-school care would be available later in the year).

Brigitte thanked the community for their help with fundraising for the Centre. The Black and White Ball raised \$3500.

The meeting acknowledged the tremendous effort that people had put into the successful operation to reopen the preschool including Brigitte Mahler-Mills, K. Lambert and Anne Palmer.

Geographical Names Board

K. Rogers explained that there is an official process, open to the community, for allocating names to geographical sites. Nominations can be made through the local council to the Geographical Names Board and if accepted the new names are placed on the register of official names.

Some well-known and well-used local sites such as the park where the meeting was being held do not have names. Another example offered by K. Lambert is the small beach to the east of the public wharf at Hall's Wharf. One suggestion had been to name the beach after the daughter of Mrs Hall the person after whom Hall's Wharf had been named.

It was agreed that during 2006 the committee would invite suggestions (and circulate them) about names for unnamed sites along the western foreshores with a view to nominating the names to the Geographical Names Board.

Pasadena and Mini market D.A

A. Yuille updated the meeting on developments with the Pasadena DA. Essentially, Council had considered that the design submitted for approval had failed to meet guidelines to such an extent that the Council could not legally give approval.

Both WPCA and SIRA had opposed the building of flats or apartments on the site on the grounds that, among other things, it was against the interests of the community. Council had appointed an independent assessor but it was likely that the matter would end up in the Land and Environment Court.

It was agreed that the Committee would continue to monitor the situation and approach Council where a view on community interests needed to be represented.

R. Leplastrier warned that that the community interests could be overpowered by a combination of powerful developers taking over the project and decisions of the Land and Environment Court.

K. Lambert advised that she had spoken to Mary Romeo over the issue. Mrs Romeo had invited community representatives to meet her to discuss details of the Mini Market DA which had now been approved. This was a positive gesture by Mrs Romeo towards the offshore community and it was noted that Mrs Romeo had been very supportive of the efforts to reopen the preschool. The

meeting decided to take up the offer and M. Wiener, L. Eastwood and A. Yuille would represent the Association.

Church Point Master Plan

M. Wiener briefed the meeting on Church Point matters. He reminded the meeting that the Souter proposal that had been aired at several public meetings and presented to Council, involved, among other things, building an underground car park while retaining some above ground parking and reclaiming parts of the Point. The viability of the proposal will be considered by a consultant engaged by Council and funded by the Department of Lands.

It was noted that the consultancy might yet prove to be more costly than the budget provided by the Department of Lands. It was also noted that Council is aware that an underground car park is not the community's first choice and that the community was concerned that the estimated costs of constructing and maintaining an underground car park were rising significantly above the original estimate (approximately \$65,000/car space). The situation remained that the point of equilibrium in the whole issue was the policies and decision-making processes of the Department of Lands. As the matter progressed there would be a need for continuous consultation with the authorities and members were asked to volunteer to assist in that process. The meeting accepted the offers of R. Leplastrier, R. Anderson, L. Eastwood, and T. Mottl to assist M. Wiener.

Conclusion of President's Report

The meeting accepted the report from the President (Proposer, K. Newby. Seconder, J. Jobson). M. Molloy took the floor to thank the committee. She said that as a long term resident and former committee member she was proud of the professionalism that was developing in managing the affairs of the committee.

Formation of 2006 Committee

K. Lambert declared all positions open and invited nominations for the 2006 committee. She took the opportunity to formally thank L. Eastwood for his work as President over the past few years.

The results of the vote for committee members were as follows:

Vice Presidents:	M. Wiener (Proposer K. Lambert Seconder J. Jobson) R. Baxendale (Proposer K. Lambert Seconder J. Jobson)
Treasurer:	M. Anderson (Proposer K. Lambert Seconder J. Jobson)
Secretary:	T. Gill (Proposer K. Lambert Seconder J. Jobson)
Members:	I. James - Elvina Bay (Proposer L. Stevens Seconder K. Lambert) N. Cowdery - McCarr's Creek (Proposer K. Lambert Seconder K. Rogers) B. Mahler-Mills Lovett Bay (Proposer K. Lambert Seconder K. Rogers) M. Doherty Morning Bay (Proposer K. Lambert Seconder R. Anderson) K. Lambert Lovett Bay (Proposer K. Rogers Seconder R. Anderson)

There being no nominations for President, K. Lambert proposed the following motion (seconded by M. Didsbury) which was accepted by the meeting: No further action to formally fill the position of President would be taken at this time. The appointment of a chairman of committee and acting president from among existing committee members would be addressed at the first meeting of the

new committee and this situation would pertain until such time as a nomination was proposed and seconded at which time a formal election would be conducted.

The meeting accepted (Proposer, K. Lambert. Seconder, R. Anderson) M. Didsbury's offer to continue as web master of the WPCA website.

The meeting accepted L. Eastwood's offer (Proposer K. Lambert. Seconder M. Didsbury) to represent the association at the Pittwater Users Group chaired by Maritime. M Wiener agreed to be the WPCA representative on the Land, Water and Coastal Portfolio Committee.

K. Lambert thanked Warwick and Wilma Taylor, representatives from the Coasters Retreat Residents Association (CRA) for attending the meeting.

K. Lambert thanked K. Brown and the fire brigade for putting on the fund raising breakfast.

The meeting closed at 12.30.