

**The Millers Point Community  
Resident Action Group (MPCRAG)**



---

## MINUTES

### DATE

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020

6.30pm

Meeting held via ZOOM, in line with current  
COVID-19 restrictions

### COMMITTEE

President Anne Warr

Vice President John McInerney

Public Officer John Dunn

Treasurer Jim Warren

Secretary Yasmina Bonnet

Committee Margaret Bishop  
Bernard Kelly  
Anne Crabb  
Heather Smith

### APOLOGIES

Suzan Clear, John Brown, Margaret Bishop, Ling Yoong

### ATTENDEES

#### Visitors

Katherine Bushnell – Social sustainability Manager – Lend Lease

Anne Diwell - City of Sydney

#### Residents

John Dunn, Anne Warr, Yasmina Bonnet, Bernard Kelly, John McInerney, Jim Warren, Jan Powell, Anne Crabb, Caroline Pidcock, Heather Smith, Ashley Yields, Mary Moloney, Helen Meddings, Candice Murphy, Nicholas Wolff, Robert Hansen, Anthony Beker, Jaz Stephens, Stuart Murray, Eddie Cockrell, Jane Keneally, Kazuko Nelson, Margaret Wright, Ross Styles

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	
<b>Meeting Opening</b> Anne Warr	Acknowledgement of Country
<b>Vale Jack Munday</b> John McInerney John Dunn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A friend to many in the area, union leader, environmentalist and green bans leader Jack Munday led the charge alongside Nita McCrae in Save The Rocks</li> <li>• Our area would now be a soulless commercial building precinct if wasn't for the years-long battle and green bans put into place to save it.</li> <li>• He was a true activist to the very end, joining the fight to Save Sirius</li> <li>• MP Crag sent flowers and condolences to his widow Judy Munday on behalf of the group</li> </ul>
<b>Previous Minutes</b> April 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That previous minutes be adopted: <b>Moved:</b> Bernard Kelly <b>Seconded:</b> Jaz Stephens</li> </ul>
<b>Barangaroo Metro Station Design Update</b> Anne Warr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caroline St Clair from Sydney Metro has been invited several times to speak to the group on Barangaroo Metro Station's design including its retail precinct</li> <li>• She has confirmed she will speak at our July meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Local Updates</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Local Businesses</b> - Yasmina Bonnet Local businesses are still struggling with the loss of both the tourist and CBD worker trade. They will be able to have 10 people seated at their establishments commencing Monday. The 4sqm social distancing requirement still stands. Update: This restriction has been eased to 50 people per establishment as of 1<sup>st</sup> June</li> <li>2. <b>Community Garden</b> - Ling Yoong (via YB) We are trying to get more garden beds. Geoff Wannan is drawing up the plans for submission and we are also trying to apply to plant some fruit trees near the fence of Harry Jensen Centre. City of Sydney has given us access to the back garden every Saturday morning for an hour while the place is in lockdown.</li> <li>3. <b>Parking/ Pigeon issues</b> - Bernard Kelly Parking in the area has been frustrating for all residents. Many are unable to park in manfront of their homes, local businesses or the local daycare centre. Bernard counted 50% of cars in Argyle Place didn't have a resident parking permit. Update: The City of Sydney recommenced metered parking and enforcement, and the area's parking issues have eased. Thankyou Anne Diwell for following up the City of Sydney on behalf of our community.</li> </ol>

	<p>Bernard also mentioned pigeons have been a real nuisance in Argyle Place Park and at the community centre. They are also nesting in party walls of his neighbour. He contacted Anne Diwell from City of Sydney who has organised several ‘do not feed the birds’ signs for Argyle Place Park. Thank you Bernard and Anne Diwell.</p>
<p><b>Development Applications Submitted by MPCRAG in past month:</b></p> <p><b>Former Older Women’s Building (Submitted 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020)</b></p> <p>John McInerney</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed demolishing of current building on site, clearing of most vegetation on site, subdivision of site into two blocks and amalgamation of the existing laneway beside 64 Argyle Place into the western most block.</li> <li>• Key community concerns include close proximity to the many neighbours surrounding this site; no indicative development with envelopes was submitted as part of the DA documents, as required; important state significant archaeology on site; the importance of retaining buildings from our community’s past and restoring, instead of just demolishing – this building served as a baby centre as well as the older women’s network building; and privatisation of the now public laneway (which contravenes City of Sydney’s laneway policy to prohibit further laneway amalgamations). A possible use could be a café with garden or men’s shed for our community; future significant privacy issues if new development was to take place.</li> <li>• Anthony Bekker contacted NSW State Premier, Alex Greenwich and various other Ministers on his concerns</li> <li>• MP CRAG submitted an objection raising the said community concerns and cc Planning Minister Rob Stokes, Clover Moore and Alex Greenwich</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mod 10 Barangaroo (Submitted 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020)</b></p> <p>Anne Crabb</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anne Crabb attended the zoom meeting on behalf of MP CRAG. There were 15 attendees with 12 of these from Infrastructure NSW.</li> <li>• Mod 10 concerns a 8,000sqm increase to the existing approved building and an additional height of 25metres</li> <li>• Key concerns include the development not being orderly or sustainable, creation of wind tunnels, no respect to adjacent historic area, no increase in key worker accommodation or open space, being visually unacceptable</li> <li>• Thank you to Martin Crabb who summarised the concept plan’s modification and Anne Crabb for taking notes at the meeting</li> <li>• MP CRAG submitted an objection covering the above concerns</li> <li>• Ross Styles, chairman of The Bond Apartments Body Corporate has been fighting against Barangaroo for 10-15 years with no avail. Didn’t see any point in submitting an objection against Mod 10 due previous experiences</li> </ul>

<p><b>Harbourview Hotel</b> (Submitted 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020) John Dunn</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Harbourview Hotel’s DA includes new operational hours (to midnight on Sunday) and increased capacity which is a concern to neighbouring properties</li> <li>• MP CRAG submitted an objection outlining the above concerns</li> </ul>
<p><b>State Significant Development (SSD) Submission:</b></p> <p><b>Fort Street Public school redevelopment Due 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020</b> John McInerney/ Anne Warr</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The many concerns around our local primary school’s redevelopment in: it seems an overdevelopment on such a small historic site; when at capacity (550 students) the play area per child will be dramatically reduced; having one point of entry on Upper Fort Street for 550 students will lead to much traffic congestion at peak drop off/ pick times; the planned new school hall is only for 220 students whilst project numbers are for 550 students</li> <li>• Community members have grave safety concerns about the Sydney Harbour Bridge cycle way’s temporary route during the two-three year construction period – 2,000 cyclists per day would be directed down Watson Rd and then Kent Street during the two-three year construction period</li> <li>• There was good collaboration between the strata committees of the various Kent Street apartment buildings in regards to objecting against the proposed temp cycleway</li> <li>• MP CRAG included these community concerns in our submission to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure due 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020.</li> <li>• Alex Greenwich has been very supportive, contacting both the Minister of Education and Minister of Transport about the community key concerns</li> <li>• Update: John Mc, Anne Warr and Caroline Pidcock in contact with Clive Lucas from the National Trust about proposed new Fort Street PS masterplan. Trying to set up a meeting.</li> <li>• Yasmina spoke of reaching out to key cycling groups in relation to the temporary Sydney Harbour Bridge Cycleway’s proposed route, which the community is very concerned about and ask them to join the fight/ make their own representations to Alex Greenwich/ Andrew Constance/ Clover Moore. John Dunn has contacted the relevant contacts on behalf of MP CRAG. This includes Fiona Campbell, the City of Sydney’s cycling representative on its Traffic Committee; Philip Thalys, Chair of City of Sydney’s Traffic Committee; Graham Seers, CEO of Cycling NSW and Bike North cycling group (who are advocating for a separate cycling lane on the Sydney Harbour Bridge – story in SMH 20.05.20).</li> </ul>

<p><b>New Planning Controls for Central Sydney Due 10<sup>th</sup> July</b></p> <p>John McInerney</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John McInerney and Martin Crabb attended the City of Sydney’s community consultation, on behalf of the community</li> <li>• There is concern that the new planning controls are very pro-office development rather than allowing more residential apartment buildings in the area.</li> <li>• John Mc is putting together a working group to review the planning controls which any interested resident can join. Nick Woolf and Margaret Wright are currently involved</li> <li>• The impact of COVID-19 on the CBD office market is yet to be seen. Flexible working from home may very well continue for many CBD corporations which will impact the demand for office space/ buildings.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Reports</b></p>	<p><b>Treasurer’s Report – Jim Warren</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member’s funds, represented by cash at bank, at the end of April were \$3624.42.</li> <li>• Income for the month comprised bank interest of 29 cents.</li> <li>• Year-to-date income is \$1074.34 and year-to-date expenditure is \$2291.44.</li> </ul> <p><b>Traffic Committee Report – Mary Moloney/ Margaret Wright</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have been working on objectives and purpose</li> <li>• Will commence meeting fortnightly again</li> <li>• Will make new meeting with urban planner, Spackman Mossop Michaels, Landscape Architects, about urban design/traffic issues in Millers Point</li> <li>• Natalie Stoianoff from the committee is contacting UTS on how they can help</li> </ul> <p><b>Farmers Market Report – Heather Smith</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Millers Point Farmers Market continues to go from strength to strength with new stall holders joining every week</li> <li>• The support from the community has been amazing</li> <li>• It’s been a true team effort. Thank you to everyone</li> </ul> <p><b>Lend Lease Grant – Heather Smith</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant was unsuccessful this time round. Not sure why. Heather has left several messages trying to find out</li> </ul> <p><b>After-Hours Activities Committee – Heather Smith</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing a grant to the City of Sydney for the community to use the Harry Jensen Centre every Thursday night 6-10pm. Work needed to find out which activities the community would like</li> </ul> <p><b>Website Report – John Dunn</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has received a very affordable quotation to create the MP CRAG website, which John is working through</li> </ul> <p><b>Billabong Committee – Jazz Stephens</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A few community members had a dip at Barangaroo Reserve Cove recently, which was a lovely community activity</li> <li>• It would be wonderful if we could get this area netted off so the community can enjoy regular swims</li> </ul> <p><b>Anzac Day Report – Jazz Stephens</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On Anzac Day, several members of the community gathered on Observatory Hill at sunrise to remember and honour our returned servicemen and women. We were fortunate to listen to the official ceremony and the last post via radio</li> </ul>
<b>Update from City of Sydney</b> Anne Diwell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No update on Palisades Hotel.</li> </ul>

#### OTHER BUSINESS

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caroline Pidcock mentioned there was a documentary on architect Richard Leplastrier playing on the ABC tonight</li> <li>Anne Crabb mentioned there was still rubbish being dumped on Kent Street. Nick Woolf said best to photograph and log it on the City of Sydney website. Anne Diwell from City of Sydney is happy to follow up with the City if rubbish hasn't been taken away once logged</li> </ul>
--	--

<b>Meeting closed</b>	8.30 pm
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 6.30pm, via ZOOM</b>
<b>Corrections to Minutes</b>	Send corrections to: Yasmina Bonnet <a href="mailto:yasmina@ybconsulting.com.au">yasmina@ybconsulting.com.au</a>
<b>Items for next meeting's Agenda</b>	Send agenda items to Anne Warr warr.anne@gmail.com