

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



MINUTES

DATE

Tuesday 14th July 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, Candice Murphy, Jaz Stephens, Antony Bekker, Ling Yoong

ATTENDEES

Visitors

Councillor Kerry Phelps

Susan Lee and Miriam Stacey - Place Management NSW

Darren Tan - Lend Lease

Sage Saegenschnitter - City of Sydney

Residents

John Dunn, Anne Warr, Yasmina Bonnet, Bernard Kelly, John McInerney, Jim Warren, Bernard Kelly, Charley Kelly, Jan Powell, Anne Crabb, Caroline Pidcock, Heather Smith, Ashley Yields, Mary Moloney, Helen Meddings, Karen Freyer, Nicholas Wolff, Robert Hansen, Stuart Murray, John Brown, Natalie Stoianoff, Margaret Wright, John Brown, Jo Marchese, John Sidoti, Maureen Sidoti, Tony Steel, Alison Steel, Alexander Weilsman

AGENDA ITEMS

<p>Meeting Opening Anne Warr</p>	<p>Acknowledgement of Country</p>
<p>Previous Minutes June 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That previous minutes be adopted: Moved: Bernard Kelly Seconded: Jim Warren
<p>Councillor Kerryn Phelps City of Sydney</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Firm focus on the City’s live-ability, access to health services, and community Kerryn is opposed to the Moore Park Rd / Alexandria pop up cycle way and thought the Sirius building was always going to be sold by the State Govt. The City of Sydney’s Central Sydney Planning Framework was discussed. It was asked if the Heritage Floor Space Scheme is being scrapped in the proposed changes to Central Sydney Planning Controls. Kerryn’s office contacted Graham Jahn, Director, City Planning Development & Transport, and he replied as follows: “No. There is no proposed change to Heritage Floor Space scheme as part of the Central Sydney Planning Framework, it will continue to apply to accommodation floor space. It is not proposed to be applied to bonus floor space available in the Tower Cluster Areas.” Kerryn mentioned there will be different Airbnb rules for terraces than for apartments
<p>Susan Lee Miram Stacey Place Management NSW</p>	<p>The Rocks Heritage Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This new 10 year plan will be completed in the next four months and residents still have an opportunity to have their say on the current plan: : https://www.property.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/The%20Rocks%20Heritage%20Management%20Plan.pdf PMNSW is also currently writing a plan on the natural environment in addition to an aboriginal management plan, which they are consulting with the relevant parties/ stakeholders on <p>George Street partial Road Closure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was communicated very clearly that we were disappointed that Place Management NSW could partially close George Street, The Rocks with associated impacts without any community notification nor consultation. Whilst we wholeheartedly agree with supporting their 126 retailers and local businesses, our community of over 2,000 residents needs to be notified of any changes which may impact them, traffic or otherwise. John Dunn said our key concern was in the future when the coaches, taxis and associated cruise traffic recommencing – how that will impact our heritage area John emphasised that our community would like to work together with Place Management NSW as an ally, to ensure the best outcomes are achieved for everyone involved.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan mentioned that the changes are reversible and that the Rocks Markets footprint is changing • Bernard suggested the markets could be relocated to Cumberland Street as an idea
Darren Tan Lend Lease Barangaroo Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darren showed the group a presentation of renders for the Barangaroo South's public domain • The Domain is progressing well and is due to be completed in September 2020 • The slab for Hickson Park has been poured. It was asked if Hickson Park was the final name for the park. Darren has since been in touch to confirm that yes it is. • John Brown asked about shadow diagrams, which are being sent out with the minutes.
Development Application Updates:	<p>Former Older Women's Building – 87 Lower Fort Street -Yasmina Bonnet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Sydney planner Harry Hoi is still waiting on requested information from applicant, Property NSW. Their development application for subdivision (submitted in May) has neither been rejected nor withdrawn <p>Fort Street Public School redevelopment – Anne Warr</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nigel Dickson, Anne Warr, John McInerney met with MP Greenwich and Roy Bishop on Observatory Hill to discuss a proposed masterplan for Observatory Hill to be Sydney's premier Education Precinct. Alex has since written to MP Sarah Mitchell, Minister of Education to put forward the idea. <p>22-24 High Street – Anne Warr</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An application to change to the block of 4 units to 4 Torrens Title was recently submitted, indicating what could be a trend for more High Street properties to be strata-ed as more manageable 2 bedroom units rather than the more cumbersome 4 flats within one title, which has inevitably led to the flats being used for short-term rentals. <p>New Planning Controls for Central Sydney – John McInerney</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRAG submission went in on Monday. Key concern is the proposed office clusters which was get 50% additional floorspace
Sirius Update John McInerney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John is now the new Chair of the Save Our Sirius committee, with Shaun Carter now sitting on DIPA committee to review the development's design
Local Updates	<p>Farmers Market - Heather Smith and Sage Saegenschmitter (City of Sydney)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather would like to thank the community for its continuous support and emails of support for the markets which residents that have been sent to the City of Sydney

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sage has been on the journey with Heather since mid-2019 to ensure the Farmers Markets are up and running for our community, and continue operating • The City of Sydney agreement for the farmers market covers the Harry Jensen Centre and the land above the palisade fence. The lower area, formerly the bus/tram turning circle, is not owned by the City of Sydney, but by Transport NSW. This is where Heather would like to ideally hold the markets long-term and is in contact with Transport NSW to see if they can accommodate the markets on their land. • Navigating food safety, liquor compliance and appropriate social distancing requirements is what the City needs to ensure takes place • Mary Moloney asked how many people had complained against the markets. Sage replied it was only one. <p>Community Garden update - Yasmina Bonnet on behalf of Ling Yoong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community garden has approval (verbal) for 3 more garden beds beside Abraham Mott Hall. They will be applying for grants once that is open for application. • The garden is doing well and there are more new members joining. • John Brown asked if rainwater was used in the garden, and the answer was ,yes, rainwater is collected off the roofs of the community centre, stored in tanks, and used in the garden. <p>Windmill Street Bridge update– Anne Warr</p> <p>Anne relayed the following update from Gwendy Arnot regarding the opening of the Windmill Street bridge,:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The easement for access across the bridge has now been registered. • The Walsh Bay Precinct Committee are working with the City of Sydney to finalise outstanding maintenance, lighting, wayfinding etc. • There is no firm date for the opening of the Bridge, but progress is being made, and it will open hopefully in the next 3 months. • Anne Crabb mentioned this could be a perfect location for the Farmers Market. • However, at present, the arrangement in place is only for the bridge to be used for access, and not for other activities.
<p>Reports</p>	<p>Treasurer’s Report - Jim Warren</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member’s funds at the end of June represented by cash at bank, were \$3495.60. • Income for the month comprised bank interest of 30 cents. • Income for the year ended 30 June 2020 was \$1074.62 expenditure was \$2420.84. • We had no liabilities at the end of the financial year and our member’s funds, as noted above, totalled \$3495.60. <p>Traffic Working Group Report - Mary Moloney</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have commenced meeting on a fortnightly basis

- Spackman Mossop Michaels, Landscape Architects are preparing a fee quotation to provide an urban design/ traffic plan for the area, which will be presented at upcoming meeting with Traffic group

After Hours Activities Working Group - Heather Smith

- After hours activities at the Harry Jensen Community Centre will take place on Thursdays 6-10 pm when the community centre opens again
- Potential for movie nights, poetry slams etc.
- Additional ideas for afterhours activities are encouraged and can be sent to Margaret Bishop or Heather

Sustainability Working Group - John Brown

- Caroline Pidcock, Heather Smith, Anne Warr and John Brown met with Steve Audet, Technical Services Manager, City Infrastructure and Traffic Operations, City of Sydney, to look at the feasibility of introducing rain gardens in Millers Point.

This is what Steve Audet has written to the Working Group regarding raingardens:

For many years now the City has installed raingarden within the streetscape with the aim of encouraging infiltration and improving the quality of water being transported to our waterways. We look to incorporate raingardens in projects however we also have a modest budget for constructing raingardens on their own in the right circumstances and based on meeting the required level of performance.

Not all locations are suitable for a variety of reasons such as the size of the catchment upstream, ground conditions, utility services, terrain, parking, pedestrian and cycling amenity, trees, built environment, heritage, budget and traffic. When we are considering raingardens we need to look at these factors in the site investigation and design phases before confirming that the project can be issued for construction.

- During the walk-around, Steve let the group know about 5 Gross Pollutant Traps which are located along the Walsh Bay Board Walk. These large traps collect rubbish and sediment from the stormwater coming from Millers Point and filter it before it goes into the harbour. They are cleaned out every week, and the sand and glass collected is recycled for use in bitumen paving.

Billabong Group – Yasmina Bonnet

- Alex Greenwich has written to Premier Gladys Berejiklian on our behalf requesting a feasibility study to be undertaken for a new swimming area at Marrinawi Cove, Barangaroo

Website Update

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gavin, the Whisky Guy from the Farmers Markets who is also a Kent Street resident is working with John Dunn to provide our community website. Estimated completion time is October 2020
Kent Street Footpath Upgrade Anne Warr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been resident concerns about the safety of Kent Street's footpath for some time, with many holes evident and trip hazards as a result of the recent NBN work undertaken in the area. Annie Crabb had prepared a letter on behalf of Kent Street residents. If any resident notices any trip hazards on the footpath in front of their homes, please log the issue using the below link and the City of Sydney footpath maintenance team will promptly attend to them. <p>https://online.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/ReportIssue/FootpathHazard</p> <p>UPDATE: The Kent Street footpath trip hazards have now been repaired, leaving Kent Street looking like a patchwork quilt, like many in our suburb. An opportunity to have our streets re-ashpalted or repaved by council is very much welcomed, and is scheduled for 2024/25. Residents of Lower Fort Street received a letter from Council on the 5th August stating the asphalt footpath is being renewed in a section of Lower Fort Street, and that the stone kerb and gutter is to be raised.</p>

OTHER BUSINESS

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Meeting closed	9.00 pm
Next Meeting	Tuesday 11th August 2020, 6.30pm, via ZOOM
Amendments to Minutes	Send amendments to: Yasmina Bonnet yasmina@ybconsulting.com.au
Items for next meeting's Agenda	Send agenda items to Anne Warr warr.anne@gmail.com