



Hawkesbury City Council

ordinary
meeting
business
paper
supplementary

date of meeting: 9 September 2003

location: Council Chambers

time: 7.00pm

ORDINARY MEETING

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Metro Pride Award

Last week Council was awarded the "NSW Heritage Office Award for Best Heritage Management by Metropolitan Council" in a competition conducted by the Keep Australia Beautiful Council entitled Metro Pride. The award was for "projects or programs that aim to educate, promote and better manage and physically conserve heritage items".

The annual Metro Pride Awards acknowledge outstanding environmental initiatives by urban local government, business and the general community. Successful projects must not only enhance the environment but also improve the standard of living and quality of life for urban communities.

The award was made as a result of a number of submissions, which detailed Council's record of heritage management, communication programs including the Heritage Communication Strategy and restoration of heritage buildings, particularly the former hospital building.

This prestigious award has recognised Council's strong commitment to promoting better management and physical restoration of heritage items and the work of the Heritage Advisory Committee.

The Awards have attracted media attention and Council has received a number of letters and e-mails congratulating it.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

oooO END OF MAYORAL MINUTES Oooo



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ITEM: 159 Board Representation - Hawkesbury Leisure Centres Incorporated**FILE NUMBER:** 73685/CSV/ORI09LBX.C18**PREVIOUS ITEM:** 62, Ordinary (09.07.2002)**PREVIOUS ITEM:** 27, Ordinary (09.04.2002)**PREVIOUS ITEM:** 220, Ordinary (11.07.2000)**PREVIOUS ITEM:** 113, Ordinary (14.12.1999)

REPORT:

Hawkesbury Leisure Centres Inc. (HLC) have advised Council that new representation on their Board is required due to the resignation of Dr Warwick MacKay and Pat Clerke.

At the HLC Board meeting of 28 August 2003, formal nominations were put forward for Ms Virginia Chandler and Mr Eric Petracco.

Ms Virginia Chandler was the Program Coordinator at HLC for over 5 (five) years and is a frequent user of both the Indoor Stadium and the Hawkesbury Oasis. She currently holds the position of Program Manager Recreation Services at Parramatta City Council. Virginia has a keen interest in a diversified range of recreation, sports and leisure activities and is keen to contribute to the local community by working with the community, the Board and the Leisure Co management group.

Mr Petracco is a long term employee of Hawkesbury City Council and a user of both the Indoor Stadium and the Hawkesbury Oasis. He is current president of Hawkesbury District Basketball Association, a member of the Colo Heights Hall and Reserve Committee and has been an active participant in local sporting and community organisations for many years.

The acceptance of the new members to the Board will maintain the membership level of seven, represented by:

- 2 (two) Councillors (Councillor Conolly and Councillor Calvert, with Councillor Sheather as the alternate representative);
- 1 (one) Council Staff Member (Geoff Banting); and
- 4 (four) Community Representatives (Stuart Lowe, Adam Baczynskyj, Eric Petracco and Virginia Chandler).

It is recommended that the nominations of Eric Petracco and Virginia Chandler be approved.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. Council approve the nominations of Ms Virginia Chandler and MR Eric Petracco

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2. A letter of appreciation be forwarded to Mr Pat Clerke and Dr Warwick MacKay for their contribution and service to Hawkesbury Leisure Centres Inc.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 159 Oooo

ITEM: 160**McQuade Park****FILE NUMBER:** 79354, 79342/ENG/ORI09LBX.E19**REPORT:**

Council has recently received complaints regarding the activities of a homeless person who is currently 'squatting' in the McQuade Park Grandstand.

In May 2002, Council formally adopted the Local Government & Shires Association (LGSA) Local Government Model Policy on Homelessness. This policy outlines the framework for Local Government responses to the issue of homelessness. The Model Policy recognises that Council's role is to work in partnership with community agencies and Government Departments to identify and implement strategies to respond to those broad structural factors that contribute to homelessness, i.e. factors such as domestic violence, mental health and family conflict. To this end Council is currently delivering, funding or providing accommodation for a range of youth and family support services and is participating in partnership projects aimed at dealing with issues of violence and access to health services. The Model Policy also identifies a role for Council to provide information to homeless people about where they can access support service and information. Council has provided funds to the Hawkesbury Housing Forum to produce a Homeless Persons Information Card, which is widely available and has been distributed to agencies across the Hawkesbury.

The Model Policy does not deal with the provision of intervention and casework services to individuals who are homeless, the Model Policy recognises that the funding of casework support and accommodation services are primarily the responsibility of State and Federal Governments. Council's may choose to provide these services, but such strategies would need to be included in Council's Management Plan and funds specifically allocated to establish and operate these services.

Council staff have contacted support agencies in the Hawkesbury to request that they undertake an assessment of the circumstances of the homeless person squatting in McQuade Park. It would appear that this person is unwilling to avail himself of the services that could be made available to him to address the issues which are causing his homelessness. Unfortunately, it is not possible to impose a service on an involuntary client, the onus rests with the individual concerned. They need to be willing to participate in achieving a solution to their circumstances.

More recently the activities of the homeless person in McQuade Park has given rise to increasing concern by residents and groups who utilise McQuade Park. Patrons of the park are feeling increasingly unsafe due to some of the behaviours of the homeless person, but more particularly because of the potential for injury as it would appear that used syringes have been left in the vicinity of the grandstand. In view of the reluctance of the homeless person concerned to accept offers of assistance and alternate accommodation, the only practical way of reducing the level of risk to residents and patrons is to remove the homeless person from McQuade Park.

Currently, there are no statutory or legislative provisions which prevent people from 'sleeping rough' in public places. The Police do not have the power to remove a person from a public place

unless they are causing an immediate and direct threat or nuisance to the safety of other people, or to their own safety (in which case they may be subject to the provisions of the Mental Health Act).

Council staff have met with the Hawkesbury Area Local Command to identify an appropriate response to this situation. While the preference of both the police and Council staff would be to assist the homeless person to find alternate emergency accommodation and to assist him to access available support services, this appears increasingly unlikely. Unfortunately, the risk posed by the activities of the homeless man cannot realistically be ignored. Accordingly, it will be necessary to undertake a course of action to prevent the homeless person from continuing his occupation of the McQuade Park grandstand.

The only viable solution at this time is for a sign to be erected in McQuade Park prohibiting people from camping in the Park. This will then enable the police to take action to remove a person who is acting contrary to the provisions of this ordinance.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Camping in McQuade Park be prohibited and appropriate signage be erected.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

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Item: **161****ITEM: 161** **Ferry Interruption Report - August 2003****FILE NUMBER:** 79338/ENG/ORI09LCX.E20

REPORT:

Date	Ferry Location
Tuesday, 5 August 2003	Sackville Ferry - 1.15pm-3.15pm - drive cable off drive wheel. 2 (two) hours interruption.
Monday, 18 August 2003	Sackville Ferry - 8.00pm-9.15pm - testing Hydraulic Pump. 1 (one) hour and 15 (fifteen) minutes interruption.
Tuesday, 19 August 2003	Sackville Ferry - 8.00pm-9.30pm - Starter Problems / Ferry beached. 1 (one) hour and 30 (thirty) minutes interruption.
Wednesday, 20 August 2003	Sackville Ferry - 8.00pm-9.30pm - replace Hydraulic Pump. 1 (one) hour and 30 (thirty) minute interruption. Sackville Ferry - 11.00pm-12.00pm - starter problems - 1 (one) hour interruption.
Wednesday, 27 August 2003	Sackville Ferry - 2.15am-3.50am - tree across cables. 1 (one) hour and 35 (thirty five) minute interruption.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

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