

MINUTES

MANLY WARRINGAH WAR MEMORIAL STATE PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Held in the Flannel Flower Room, Northern Beaches Council
Civic Centre Dee Why on

MONDAY 6 MAY 2019

**Minutes of the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park
Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday 6 May 2019 in the
Flannel Flower Room, Civic Centre Dee Why, commencing at
5:00pm.**

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Cr Stuart Sprott

David Beharrell Environment Representative (Community member)

Geraldine Hall Recreational Representative (Community member)

Ann Collins Community Representative (Community member)

Chris Wright Property & Projects Regional Services, NSW
Department of Industry - Lands & Water

Peter Bergman Ranger Team Leader, Sydney North Area, Greater
Sydney Branch, NSW National Parks and Wildlife
Service

Mel Hall NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Office of
Environment & Heritage

Council Officers

Scot Hedge Executive Manager Parks & Recreation (Acting)

Damian Ham Manager Open Space & Recreation Planning

Jeremy Smith Manager Park Assets – Planning, Design & Delivery

Chris Buckley Coordinator Manly Dam

Jessica Currie Project Manager

Community Guest Speaker

Steve Smith Mountain Bike Riding Community

1.0 WELCOME

2.0 APOLOGIES

Mayor Cr Michael Regan

Steven Lawler

Executive Manager Parks & Recreation

Chris Wright

Property & Projects Regional Services, NSW

Department of Industry - Lands & Water

3.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

- There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflicts of interest.

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- **MINUTES OF THE MANLY WARRINGAH WAR MEMORIAL STATE PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 11 FEBRUARY 2019**

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted.

5.0 UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

- Indigenous representation on the committee - contact made with NSW Aboriginal Land Council about indigenous representation on this committee. Council to complete the arrangements for representation.
- New amenities building in picnic area 1 - Project completed before the 2019 ANZAC day ceremony and the doors are electronically controlled.
- Mountain Biking - presentation by Steve Smith from the mountain bike riding community (see 6.3).
- Mountain bike meeting at Ku-ring-gai Council - key outcome, that a regional approach be re-established involving State and local government and key stakeholders. Northern Beaches Council to be involved.
- Mexican Water Lily - Chris Buckley has developed a program for managing the water lily and will seek more Council budget funds if required during the year. General discussion held about the management of invasive species.
- Land Categorisation and new Crown Land Management Act (2016) - presentation by Jessica Currie (Project Manager), see attached report and 6.2.

- Suggested agenda items from committee members, actions arising and a timeline - see attached report and 7.0.
- Draft budget 2019/20 - presentations by Jeremy Smith (Manager Park Assets) and Damian Ham (Manager Open Space and Recreation Planning), see attached presentation document and 6.1.
- Provide a timeline for discussion of key themes - see 6.4.

6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM

DISCUSSION

- Capital Works Program (presentation by Jeremy Smith, Manager Park Assets)
 - Jeremy provided an overview of the proposed capital works program for Manly Dam including for the; remembrance shelter for picnic area 1 playground, amenity buildings, tracks and trails, boardwalk. Council would continue to seek grant funding for projects.
 - Request for more detailed information about the design, particularly the footprint, of the playground in picnic area 1. Suggestion that an on-site meeting be held.
 - The committee reiterated that consideration be given to upgrading the toilets in sections 3 and 4 and walking trails.
 - Discussion about funding for the upgrade of walking trails throughout the park including signage. The committee requested to have earlier opportunities to participate in developing future capital works budgets.
 - Chris informed the committee that a walking trail audit was completed a few years ago and would be supplied to the committee for their information. This would assist in discussing future priorities for upgrading trails.
- Operational Budget (presentation by Damian Ham, Manager Open Space and Recreation Planning, see attached presentation document)
 - Damian provided an overview of the proposed 2019/20 operational budget for Manly Dam including for the; operations at Manly Dam, bush regeneration and water quality activities.
 - Discussion about increased funding for maintenance, bush regeneration and for early opportunities for the committee to participate in developing operational budgets and more detail.

ACTIONS

- That the:
 - Committee be invited to an on-site meeting to discuss the draft design and footprint of the playground in picnic area 1.
 - State Park walking trail audit be provided to the committee for their information and further discussions, including on-site, about trail upgrade priorities be held prior to November 2019.
 - Committee be given early opportunities to participate in developing future capital works and operational budgets and a planning workshop be held prior to November 2019.
 - Committee be provided with a report that compares the council budgets, resources and visitation for Narrabeen Lagoon open spaces and the State Park.

6.2 LAND CATEGORISATION

DISCUSSION

- Jessica Currie (Project Manager) gave a presentation about land categorisation and the new Crown Land Management Act 2016 (see attached report and maps). Jessica outlined that:
 - The new Crown Land Management (CLM) Act 2016 legislates for the management of Crown Land by Council as community land in line with the Local Government Act 1993.
 - The Crown requested that Council provide advice on preferred land categories for 169 reserves. The options for land categories in line with the LG Act are:
 - General Community Use,
 - Park,
 - Natural Area (sub-categories of Bushland, Foreshore, Watercourse, Escarpment or Wetland),
 - Sportsground, and
 - Area of Cultural Significance.
 - At the Council meeting on 26 February 2019, Council resolved to endorse all categories with the exception of reserve 68892. Reserve 68892 was reserved for the purpose of public recreation and includes Manly Dam and Aquatic Reserve (the State Park).
 - Council staff have recommended the below categories for Reserve 68892 and are seeking feedback from the Committee.

Category Proposed	Feature Proposed
Natural Area	Bushland, Waterway
Park	Picnic areas, playground, Golf course
Sportsground	Sportsfields and related facilities
General Community Use	Warringah Aquatic Centre, car parks, Manly Dam office
Area of Cultural Significance	War Memorial, Dam Wall

- Damian provided an overview of the current use of the Aquatic Reserve Sportsground (located within Reserve 68892). This sportsground is the home of Manly Warringah District Baseball Association, the Forest Baseball Club and is also used by school and other community groups for sport and recreation.
- Jessica and Damian gave an overview of discussions that Council are having with the State regarding the future of the Aquatic Reserve Sportsground (located within Reserve 68892).
- There was a detailed and robust discussion about the Council's recommendations and agreed to the following actions.

ACTIONS

- If Council only be permitted to assign one initial category to Reserve 68892 then the preference is Natural Area.
- If Council be permitted to assign multiple (part) categorisations then the committee support the following categories for Reserve 68892: Sportsground for the sportsfields and related facilities at Aquatic Reserve; General Community Use for Warringah Aquatic Centre; Park for the golf course, picnic areas, carparks and Manly Dam office; Area of Cultural Significance for the dam wall and war memorial; and Natural Area for the surrounding bushland and watercourse.
- That an update on land categorisation be provided to the committee when information becomes available.

6.3 MOUNTAIN BIKING AT MANLY DAM (STATE PARK)

DISCUSSION

- Steve Smith, from the mountain bike riding community gave a presentation about the use of Manly Dam since the early 1990's, aspirations for more and higher quality trails throughout the Northern Beaches and issues and opportunities. Steve indicated that:
 - Manly Dam (State Park)
 - Is a 'treasured asset' for mountain biking and is very well used by locals and visitors from far afield.
 - There is a need to consider new trails and re-alignments of existing trails to improve the riding experience particularly linking to the north of the park. Riders would like to participate in any planning for improvements.
 - Riders would like to participate in more trail maintenance days. Chris will increase the number days (dependent on the budget).
 - The Beaches Link project will provide impacts and opportunities for mountain biking at Manly Dam and the Bantry Bay Gahnia and Serrata trails (which are well designed).

- Riding across the Northern Beaches
 - o The sport continues to grow across Sydney and particularly the Northern Beaches.
 - o Acknowledged that some riders are not doing the right thing and are using and building unauthorised tracks and trails (including at Manly Dam). However, generally riders and riding groups (such as Trail Care) want to and are respectful of the environment in which they ride and want to work with land-owners (such as Council and the National Parks and Wildlife Service) to; educate riders, reduce unauthorised use, reduce unauthorised building of trails, promote safe riding and assist in management and design.
 - o Supported the idea of re-establishing a regional management approach for mountain biking.
- Chris thanked Steve and gave an overview of mountain bike trail management and planning at Manly Dam. He informed the committee that a trail audit/plan was completed a few years ago and this audit informed the major trail upgrade (with new signage) that was completed in 2015. The audit, planning and the upgrade was completed in partnership with local riders and with local groups like Trail Care. A key outcome of this partnership was the development of a code of conduct for riders (to care for the trails and the bushland) that was/is promoted throughout the riding community.
- Chris said the audit/plan would be supplied to the committee for their information. This would assist in discussing future priorities for upgrading trails.
- The impact of riders on residents and parking was raised - Chris said there are not many (if any) complaints from residents about riders or where they park.
- Discussion held about funding for the upgrade of mountain bike trails throughout the park including signage and a workshop suggested.
- Peter Bergman gave an overview of mountain bike issues and management by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. There are increasing numbers of riders using their trails and also unfortunately more and more unauthorised trail building. Peter gave overview of their enforcement of compliance. They support the regional approach suggested at the Ku-ring-gai meeting.
- The committee were informed of the new 'downhill' mountain bike park being developed at the former landfill site at Bare Creek.
- Discussion held about the Beaches Link project and potential impacts for Manly Dam. Request for more information when available.
- The committee requested that invitations to guest speakers be included in the agenda, along with their presentation. Also, that guest speakers are to only be present for the duration of their presentation.

ACTIONS

- That the mountain bike trail audit be provided to the committee for their information and a further discussion about trail upgrade and priorities, including on-site, be held prior to November 2019.

- That an update on the Beaches Link project and potential impacts for the State Park be presented at a future meeting.

6.4 THEMES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

DISCUSSION

- This matter held over to the next meeting due to the time taken for discussions on other agenda items.

ACTIONS

- That a discussion about future meeting themes be held at the next meeting.

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

DISCUSSION

- Request for more detailed information be distributed prior to meetings and that; minutes of meeting, actions arising, timelines and details of suggested agenda items from committee members be distributed in a much timelier manner. Mention was made of the requirements in the Terms of Reference.
- Consider limiting the number of presentations to allow for more time to discuss agenda items.
- The need for environmental representation was discussed.

Action:

- That minutes of meeting, actions arising, timelines and details of suggested agenda items from committee members be distributed in a much timelier manner.

The meeting concluded at 8:30pm

This is the final page of the Minutes comprising 8 pages numbered 1 to 8 of the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday 6 May 2019.