



MEETING NOTES HARBOUR TRUST COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CAC MEETING – 27 FEBRUARY 2019

Time: 6:00 – 7:45pm
Venue: Harbour Trust offices, Mosman

Present:

Matthew Rafferty
Mathew Bradley
Sarah Dinning
Paul Forward
Kate Eccles
Adele Rancan
Beth Lawsen
Geoffrey Lambert
Rob Crawford
Jill L'Estrange
Susan Moylan-Coombs

Mary Darwell (Harbour Trust)
Rebecca Hage (Harbour Trust)
Eve Le Gall (Harbour Trust)
Kathryn Roberts (Harbour Trust)
Daniel Sealey (Harbour Trust)

Apologies:

Trent Zimmerman MP
Roy MacLeod
Flynn McDermott
Tony Abbott MP
Michael Regan
Mayor Jilly Gibson
Mayor Carolyn Corrigan
Bob Smith
Colleen Godsell
Julie Goodsir
Peta Lewis

Executive Update

Mary Darwell (MD) welcomed attendees to the meeting and acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land and elders past and present.

MD provided an update on recent, current and upcoming events. In particular, she noted the success of SailGP (a new international sailing competition) - Cockatoo Island was used as a technical base from 3 January until 28 February; the T5 Tank Sound Project, a Sydney Festival Event in conjunction with Mosman Art Gallery held in the T5 Camouflage Fuel Tank from 20 to 27 January; and NSW Seniors Festival at Cockatoo Island, a series of Accessible Tours on Cockatoo Island, from 15 to 20 February.

The Committee enquired about proposed telecommunications tower at North Head and the status of the DA. The Harbour Trust reiterated the telecommunication tower was proposed for installation behind Artillery Drive at North Head and a temporary signal station has now been installed near the entrance archway. The Harbour Trust advised it is currently awaiting a DA from the telecommunications company, progress is pending.

MD provided an update on the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

Snapper Island

The Harbour Trust provided an update on Snapper Island, noting that the site is administered by the Department of Finance, and at this time, remains under their custodianship.

Before any transfer, MD noted the Harbour Trust would require the Department of Finance to deliver decontamination, remediation, infrastructure and heritage reports. A transfer would also require the provision of adequate funding for the required remediation and decontamination works, as has occurred with other Harbour Trust sites. MD indicated that ongoing discussions are underway with the Department of Finance.

The Department of Finance will commence demolition of a toilet block structure on the Island on or about 15 March 2019. The works should take about 2 weeks.

MD noted that The Harbour Trust is not involved in these works.

Seagull Management Plan

Daniel Sealey (DS) informed that a consultant has been engaged by the Harbour Trust to conduct an expert assessment across three Harbour Trust sites: Cockatoo Island, Sub Base Platypus, Snapper Island.

The committee agreed that Seagulls continue to be a problem endangering visitors to the sites and residents at neighbouring residential areas.

DS informed the Committee that expert assessment will involve three stages of evaluation which will monitor the seagulls during nesting season.

DS noted that we are in the process of procuring a consultant who will provide preliminary advice, followed by a more detailed plan.

Macquarie Lightstation – Draft Management Plan

DS advised that a Draft Management plan prepared under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 to ensure the site's Commonwealth Heritage Values are protected, is on exhibition from 30 January until 28 February.

The Harbour Trust will again nominate Macquarie Lightstation for a place on the National Heritage list in 2019. If successful, this would provide opportunities for applying for Commonwealth government grants for restoration, interpretation and improvement of the visitor experience.

Next steps are to review community feedback, request endorsement from the Harbour Trust Board and consult with Minister for the Environment as well as Australian Heritage Council.

ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

Torpedo Factory Design Concept

The Harbour Trust provided the Committee with an overview of the proposed design concept for the Torpedo Factory.

Committee feedback:

- New space will allow for protection against the elements; both wind and shade
- The new concept takes advantage of the harbour facing views
- The addition of parking to the area alleviates the pressure on local residential parking
- Additional parking and proposed concept will result in higher visitation to the site and will be vast improvement to the bay area
- Accessible parking will make it easier to access the site
- Protected bay area may result in maritime activities such as sailing and kayaking
- Allow for higher community engagement at the site
- Provide shade in an otherwise open site
- Community space along with food and beverage operators will attract families to the site

MD noted that the proposed concept design is currently unfunded. Torpedo Factory community consultation will take place between 12 Feb to 26 March. Drop-in sessions will take place on 28 Feb and 2 March.

Also outside the current scope of funding is the Coal Stores, Exhauster House and Retort House buildings.

Furthermore, the Committee enquired about tenancy interest at the site, noting that strong food and beverage operators will attract people to the site. The business informed the committee that tenancy negotiations are ongoing. The Harbour Trust noted Sub Base Platypus is on track to be opened to the public in August-September of 2019.

Cockatoo Island Refresh Process

MD provided an overview of the Cockatoo Island vision refresh.

The Cockatoo Island Refresh process will involve extensive consultation with key stakeholders as well as community interest groups and visionaries and will evaluate the uses of Cockatoo Island and how the spaces can be adaptively re-used to build on the cultural landscape of Sydney.

The Harbour Trust noted the business will engage external consultants to carry out community consultation for the project.

The Harbour Trust recommended that further research is required on First Nations History. The business advised it will also engage an indigenous consultant on how best to engage Indigenous communities and groups in the consultation process.

The Committee also enquired about the possibility of aligning Cockatoo Island with broader visions for Western Sydney.

Other Business

The Committee suggested the Harbour Trust engage with volunteer tour operators such as Sydney Greeters to help broaden awareness of all of the Harbour Trust Sites including Headland Park.