



HARBOUR TRUST COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES OUT OF SESSION 11 JUNE 2020

Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm
Venue: Zoom Video Conference

Present

Cr Carolyn Corrigan - Mayor of Mosman Council
Cr Michael Regan - Mayor of Northern Beaches Council
Cr Mark Bennett - Mayor of Hunters Hill Council
Melina Rohan (*Representing Trent Zimmerman MP*)
Peta Garrett (*Representing Zali Steggall MP*)
Sue Heath (*Representing The Hon Anthony Albanese MP*)
Colleen Godsell
Geoff Lambert
Jill L'Estrange
John Tropman
Julie Goodsir
Kate Eccles
Kate Evers
Ken Williams
Malcolm Moir
Matthew Rafferty
Paul Forward
Phil Burford
Robert Crawford
Robyn Lewis
Sarah Dinning
Stuart Sprott
Tammy Dodd

Apologies

Cr Jilly Gibson - Mayor of North Sydney Council
Cdr Bernadette Alexander – HMAS Penguin
Beth Lawsen
Matthew Lorrimer
Neil Schafer
Rita Chowdhury
Romi Hoffenberg

In Attendance

Mary Darwell, *Executive Director*
Kathryn Roberts, *Director, Marketing & Visitor Experience*
Daniel Sealey, *Director, Planning*
Justin Bock, *Director, Strategy, Finance and Commercial*
Rebecca Hill, *Head of Marketing and Engagement*
Rebecca Hage, *Media & Stakeholder Engagement Officer*

MEETING OUTCOMES

The Harbour Trust engaged the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) in an Out of Session meeting to discuss CAC Governance, the Draft Harbour Trust Corporate Plan and provided an update on North Head.

1. CAC Governance

Mary Darwell (MD) provided an overview of the operating environment of the Harbour Trust, noting the Harbour Trust is governed by the PGPA Act as well as the Sydney Harbour Federation Act of 2001 (SHFT Act). The CAC was established under Section 57 of the SHFT Act. MD highlighted this governing structure outlines the parameters of consultation and ensuring there is balance between confidential cabinet matters and information that can be made public.

MD also provided an overview of key Harbour Trust stakeholders, highlighting statutory obligations surrounding consultation and role of the CAC.

The Harbour Trust presented key outcomes and actions of the survey and agreed on areas of improvement.

Committee comments:

- *The proposed framework for CAC meetings is supported and covers all key areas of the Harbour Trust. Members are pleased the Harbour Trust want the views of the CAC in relation to these key subject areas.*
- *The Harbour Trust should provide adequate time to provide feedback to key policy areas ie Draft Harbour Trust Leasing Policy, given their detail and proposed changes.*
- *The Harbour Trust does not utilise the expertise of the CAC to its fullest extent; Harbour Trust presents concepts in final stages rather than earlier on in process.*
- *The CAC would like a clearer understanding of their role.*
- *The CAC charter does not provide clarity around confidentiality; it is important the CAC are able to engage freely with the community as well as abide by the requirements in the CAC Charter.*
- *Information sessions: CAC agree these sessions will be useful in understanding Harbour Trust business, but 45 minutes does not provide enough time to enable constructive engagement.*
- *CAC papers should be provided prior to meeting with little emphasis on presentation material during the meeting.*
- *The Committee requested enhanced engagement between First Nations Advisory Group and CAC.*
- *The Committee asked for improved communication and social interactions between Members of the Trust and CAC.*

Outcomes:

- Combine First Nations and CAC meetings to enhance engagement for project focused discussions
- Meeting structure and consultation:
 - Circulation of agenda and papers 1 week prior. To allow effective preparation and discussion
 - Less emphasis on a digital presentation at meetings, papers to be the sole source of discussion

- Address overloaded agenda
 - Focus on three key subject areas at each meeting; Corporate Strategy and Initiative Updates, Community Sentiment, Statutory Plans and Policies
 - Committee to provide questions/agenda items prior to meeting
 - Out of Session/information meetings to focus on key projects and topics and allow for time flexibility.
- Clarity to be provided on confidentiality of items discussed
- The Committee identified opportunity to engage smaller groups of CAC members with expertise. Requested contact details of each member to be circulated.
- Monthly Information Sessions
 - The Committee agree with these in principle
 - Information sessions should act in two ways; as an opportunity to utilise CAC expertise and knowledge as well as an opportunity for the Harbour Trust to educate the CAC on Harbour Trust subject areas.
- Use technology better, face to face discussions important to keep

2. DRAFT Harbour Trust Corporate Plan 2020-2024

The Harbour Trust provided a brief overview of the Draft Harbour Trust Corporate Plan, highlighting the draft will be presented to the Members of the Trust at the 16 June Board Meeting. The Corporate Plan outlines the Harbour Trust response to Covid-19 and allows for amendments following the release of the report gathered from the *Independent Review of the Harbour Trust*.

Committee comments:

- *The Harbour Trust should apply greater emphasis to marketing Harbour Trust sites*
- *Greater connectivity between Corporate Plan and Annual Report*
- *Due to the nature of issues facing the economy, the CAC acknowledge the pressure to ensure survival of Harbour Trust business.*
- *While the Harbour Trust are assessing the impact of Covid-19 and the bushfire crisis on the business, there should be consideration/provisions made for Harbour Trust staff from a human resource perspective.*

Outcomes:

- Harbour Trust to follow up with Phil Burfurd to utilise marketing services
- Harbour Trust should utilise the expertise of the CAC members due to strain on resourcing
- Corporate Plan to acknowledge impact of current climate on Harbour Trust staff

3. North Head

Agenda item from Sarah Dinning

The Committee requested updated advice from the Harbour Trust on future plans and vision. The Harbour Trust provided an update on the status of North Head. Under current Harbour Trust legislation, North Head is to return to the NSW Government in 2032. We are waiting on the outcomes of the Harbour Trust Review to determine next steps.

Committee comments:

- *The Harbour Trust need to find the balance between commercial and community investment. An example put forward by Northern Beaches Council, was a unsolicited proposal to the Trust Members in late 2019 which outlined plans for an environmental sustainability centre at North Head Sanctuary. As the Harbour Trust had not conducted a formal EOI process for the site, the proposal was rejected by the Trust Members.*
- *The CAC should act in a proactive manner to activate North Head and not wait for the outcomes of the Review.*
- *Northern Beaches Council can assist with marketing and communications efforts to activate North Head and are able to assist with the management of some of the buildings at the site.*
- *The Harbour Trust needs to identify the characteristics of North Head and what potential uses of the site could be.*

Outcomes:

- Harbour Trust to continue conversations with the CAC regarding North Head Sanctuary following the outcomes of the Review