



SYDNEY HARBOUR FEDERATION TRUST

149th MEETING OF THE TRUST (EXTRAORDINARY)

Via videoconference

Meeting in Private

23 August 2021 at 1.00pm – 1.45pm

MINUTES

True & Correct Record of the 149th Meeting of the Trust

Chair

Minutes of the 149th meeting of the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust held on Monday 23 August 2021.

Present

Mr Joseph Carrozzi AM	Chair
Ms Sandra Hook	Member
Mr Tim James	Member
Mr Bradley Manera	Member
Ms Carolyn McNally	Member

In Attendance

Ms Linda Ward	Interim Executive Director
Mr Graham Izod	Director Assets & Parklands
Mr Patrick Lee (<i>partial attendance</i>)	Project Manager – Sub Base Platypus
Mr Michael Pender (<i>partial attendance</i>)	Development Advisor
Mr Daniel Sealey	Director Planning
Ms Rosemary Southcombe	Secretariat
Mr Benjamin Treble (<i>partial attendance</i>)	Program Manager

Apologies

Mr Michael Rose AM	Member
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1. Meeting Opening (Agenda Item 1)

The Chair opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of the Traditional Custodians and Owners of the Harbour Trust lands and paid respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Attendees were welcomed.

The Chair:-

- NOTED a quorum of Members of the Trust were in attendance.

a) Apologies: Mr Michael Rose AM

b) Declarations of Interest

A current list of Declarations of Interest was circulated prior to the meeting. Members of the Trust were requested to advise if any declarations of interest are required during the meeting.

2. Sub Base Platypus Stage 2 Project (Agenda Item 5)

Mr Michael Pender, Development Advisor; Mr Patrick Lee, Project Manager; and Mr Benjamin Treble, Program Manager, joined the meeting for this agenda item.

Mr Izod spoke to the report prepared for this agenda item.

The recent COVID-19 restrictions in NSW have severely impacted the construction industry and will have an impact on the Sub Base Platypus Stage 2 project.

The community and stakeholders were advised earlier this year that the Torpedo Factory construction works would begin in September 2021, with demolition occurring in October 2021 through to Christmas. However, although the Project team is ready to go to tender for the work, it is recommended to defer this until October 2021 given volatility in the market.

Mr Pender spoke to the presentation prepared for this agenda item which gave an overview of the current project position, including a proposed adjusted timeline for the project.

The proposed new timeline is as follows –

- The Project will go to market for tender in early October 2021 (this timing assumes stability returning in September and confirmed capacity of selected tenderers)
- Tender process complete in December 2021
- Target works commencement in March 2022
- Heavy demolition works in May/June 2022
- Anticipated completion of works in November 2022

This timeline would result in a four-month delay. The delay will free up staff to direct their focus on the backlog program and R&M program.

There was discussion about the community being unlikely to be surprised by the delay given the COVID-19 restrictions currently in place in Sydney.

If there is a need for a further delay, this will need to come back to the Trust Members for approval.

The Members of the Trust -

- APPROVED deferral of the tender process and subsequent start date of the project.
- APPROVED the communication of the deferral to the Sub Base Platypus Community Advisory Committee and broader community.
- ACKNOWLEDGED, in principle, the current construction industry market disruption of approximately four months caused by COVID-19 lockdown orders by NSW Health and that there could be ongoing setbacks in upcoming months.
- NOTED current projection is to target works to commence March 2022, with Target Completion of Nov 2022. This is an estimated four-month delay.
- AGREED that the Chair communicate the deferral to the Federal Member for North Sydney, Mr Trent Zimmerman MP, before any announcement is made to the Sub Base Platypus Community Advisory Committee or broader community.

Moved: Mr Joseph Carrozzi

Seconded: Ms Carolyn McNally

Mr Pender, Mr Lee and Mr Treble left the meeting.

3. Trust Member representation on committees/sub-committees (Agenda Item 2)

At the Trust Meeting on 2 August 2021, it was agreed that a list of the committees/sub-committees that require Trust Member representation be prepared and any vacancies highlighted. A list was emailed to Trust Members on 9 August 2021.

The current status in relation to vacancies is as follows:

- Mr Tim James has offered to fill the vacancies on the Portfolio Audit Committee and the Financial Statements Sub Committee.
- Ms Carolyn McNally has offered to fill the vacancy on the Reform Steering Committee.
- The roles of Chair of the Tenant Selection Committee (TSC) and member of the Tenant Assistance Sub-Committee remain vacant.

The Harbour Trust's Leasing Policy states that the Chair of the TSC must be a Trust Member or such other person approved and appointed by the Trust Members.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Chair would contact Ms Jean Hay AM to ask if she would temporarily resume the role as Chair of the TSC and re-join the Tenant Assistance Sub-Committee, if the sub-committee needs to re-convene.

When the two vacant Trust Member positions are filled, Trust Member representation on these two meeting groups will be reviewed.

The Members of the Trust:

- APPROVED Mr Tim James as the Trust Member representative on the Portfolio Audit Committee and the Financial Statements Sub-Committee
- APPROVED Ms Carolyn McNally to join the Reform Steering Committee
- AGREED that the Chair ask Ms Jean Hay AM to temporarily resume the role as Chair of the Tenant Selection Committee (TSC) and to re-join the Tenant Assistance Sub-Committee if required.

4. Unauthorised Activity On Informal Track At Georges Heights (Agenda Item 3)

Mr Daniel Sealey spoke to the report prepared for this agenda item.

An informal track linking Rawson Park and Georges Heights Oval has been the subject of unauthorised modifications (involving works to form shallow ditches and low mounds) by local children to create a stunt track for bicycles.

The track traverses land managed by the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS), Mosman Council and the Harbour Trust. The unauthorised modifications are located largely on NPWS land.

Following discussion, it was agreed that a meeting be held with NPWS, Mosman Council and the Harbour Trust to consider this matter.

In the meantime it was agreed to confirm with Harbour Trust Rangers that they are clear about land tenure in the area, and they should only act in relation to activities on Harbour Trust land.

The Members of the Trust:

- NOTED that an informal track has been formed over time by a pedestrian 'desire line' linking Rawson Park and Georges Heights Oval. There are other informal tracks which lead into the adjoining National Park.
- NOTED that the informal track is used by pedestrians and cyclists, and is the ongoing subject of unauthorised modifications (involving works to form shallow ditches and low mounds) by local youths to create a stunt track for bicycles.
- NOTED that the track traverses land managed by NPWS, Council and the Harbour Trust, but the unauthorised modifications are located largely on NPWS land.
- NOTED that immediately adjacent to the track, on Harbour Trust land, is a large capped mound containing contaminated material, which should not be disturbed.
- NOTED that NPWS's cycling policy and regulations prohibit cycling in areas that are not specifically set aside for cycling. Under the policy NPWS may consider permitting cycling but only where it will not degrade natural or cultural values. It is understood that to permit cycling in this location NPWS may need to amend its Plan of Management.
- NOTED that unless otherwise authorised, the *Sydney Harbour Federation Trust Regulations 2001* prohibit: the carrying out of works or excavation; damage to the environment; and the riding of a bicycle on Trust land that is not a road (or 'a path for the use of cyclists' under the draft 2021 Regulations).

- AGREED that Management write to NPWS and Mosman Council requesting that all three authorities coordinate their consideration of a potential joint project to formalise the track as a shared pedestrian/bicycle path, but where the ad hoc modification of the land by third parties would not be permitted. In addition, request Mosman Council consider establishing a formal BMX-style facility on Council land, for the benefit of local youth.
- AGREED that in the meantime any unauthorised works on Harbour Trust land be repaired to the extent required to prevent environmental degradation and ensure safe access for the general public.
- AGREED that the Harbour Trust understands that during these COVID-19 restrictions, the use of our lands by the community will be more intense and less predictable than in typical times. Accordingly the Harbour Trust is conscious of the need to support community recreation and exercise and in some cases will accommodate community users such as bike riders. However this accommodation should be balanced against the need to preserve and protect the environment, to protect the safety of all community users of our lands.

5. Sub Base Platypus - Temporary Basketball Hoops Proposal (Agenda Item 4)

Mr Izod spoke to the report prepared for this agenda item.

The Federal Minister for North Sydney, Mr Trent Zimmerman MP, forwarded a request to the Harbour Trust from North Sydney Councillor, Ms Kathy Brodie, requesting the installation of two basketball hoops at Sub Base Platypus to support the health and wellbeing of residents whilst Sydney is in current COVID-19 lockdown.

After considering the request and suitable locations at Sub Base Platypus, it is proposed that a maximum of two mobile basketball hoops be made available at Sub Base Platypus for a temporary/trial period and that the impacts be monitored.

During the current COVID-19 restrictions there has been an increase in Harbour Trust Rangers being challenged by members of the public. There have also been instances of local residents asking Rangers to intervene with members of the public who are not complying with public health orders.

It was agreed that Rangers should call the police if they have concerns about public behaviour or non-compliance with public health orders as Rangers not law enforcement officers. They are engaged to act as ambassadors for the Harbour Trust and engage with the community for the well being of our lands and users.

Mr Izod indicated that a budget of \$4000 was proposed to purchase the mobile basketball hoops, the creation and installation of signage; and any protection measures required to preserve building fabric.

The Members of the Trust:

- APPROVED the trial of two mobile basketball hoops at Sub Base Platypus

Moved: Mr Joseph Carrozzi

Seconded: Mr Tim James

6. Executive Monthly WHS Snapshot – July 2021

The monthly WHS 'snapshot' prepared by the WHS Manager for the Executive team was provided to the Members of the Trust for their information.

The Members of the Trust:

- NOTED the Executive Monthly WHS Snapshot – July 2021

Meeting closed 2.05pm