

Sydney Local Health District Yaralla Community Advisory Committee

Date: Monday, 14 April 2014 Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm
Venue: City of Canada Bay Museum
1 Bent Street, Concord
Chair: Dr Teresa Anderson, Chief Executive

1. Present & Apologies

Present

Dr Teresa Anderson	Chief Executive
Professor Roger Garsia	Senior Clinician, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, SLHD
Ms Madeleine Kitchener	Graduate Health Management Trainee
Mr Norm Buckley	Local Resident / Neighbour
Ms Lois Michel	City of Canada Bay Heritage Society
Mr Guy Pinkerton	Local Resident / Neighbour
Professor Robert Lusby	Senior Clinician, Concord Repatriation General Hospital
Mr Alan Marsh	CEO, Sydney Olympic Park Authority
Mr Robert Hussey	Local Resident / Neighbour
Ms Corryn McKay	Director, Strategic Relations and Communications

Apologies

Dr Tim Sinclair	General Manager, Concord Repatriation General Hospital
Ms Sue Riley	Local Resident / Neighbour
Mr Stuart Read	Heritage Division, NSW Office of Environment & Heritage
Mr Stephen Saldatos	Head Gardener, Concord Repatriation General Hospital
Mr Jeremy Roper-Tyler	Local Resident / Neighbour

Minutes

2. Confirmation of previous minutes

The minutes from 24 March 2014 were endorsed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. Actions arising from previous minutes

Conservation and Utilisation

Capital Insight have been contracted to assess the front cottage for use by patient families. The current lease expired six months ago.

SLHD is progressing with the installation of the bollards to prevent people parking on tree roots and causing compaction of the soil. Consultation is occurring with the Department of Heritage and Environment. Designated areas for parking will be determined, Bluevision are working on the parking options paper.

Communication Strategy

It was requested the SLHD Yaralla website be linked to the City of Canada Bay Heritage Society Website and the City of Canada Bay Council. The communications plan was discussed and a further brainstorm of the key messages and ideas to be included in the plan occurred. These included:

- For the health and wellbeing of all the community
- The importance of the unique history and heritage
- Community and cultural significance
- Maintain the integrity of a working farm
- Gift to the Community of NSW with specific purpose
- Ongoing role for health and patients
- Flora & Fauna could be added to the website
- Conservation Program
- The Estate has constraints
- Maintenance of the current natural and built environment
- Create an open space for people to use during the day

Action: Lois to describe how the Yaralla Estate was left to NSW Health

Vision for the Estate:

- Intend to maintain the intent of the walker family
- Reiterate it was a gift and how we can translate this operationally

Action: Corryn to amend communication strategy for comment prior to next meeting

Workplan

Walking tracks

- An environmentally sensitive pathway and boardwalks through turpentine forest and mangroves. The new boardwalk on Parramatta River is a good example.
- Area around the hospital needs to be enhanced
- Link other walks and create loops
- Mark length of walks and have brochures for them
- Possible development of an App for smart phones

- Develop signage similar to that of the Kokoda track (dark with light writing)

Action: Guy to work with SLHD to recommend where path will go for traffic direction and to exhibit areas of historical importance
Lois to work on signage priorities with SLHD

The Committee wants to embed the message that we are not starting from scratch. Some great restorative and maintenance work has already been performed on the Estate and by the City of Canada Bay Heritage Society and the District. It was mentioned that the City of Canada Bay Heritage society is looking for more members. Men Sheds are doing some commissioned work could be an avenue for the society and the Estate.

The committee supported linking the Yaralla Website to the City of Canada Bay Heritage Society website, as well as the City of Canada Bay Council Website and Sydney Olympic Park Authority Website.

Action: Pictures of the restorative work that has been done to be collated and put on Website

Parking at Yaralla remains an issue as people continue to park on tree roots which damages them. It was noted that the RSL car park is very busy when sporting events are on, but relatively quiet when not. The area closest to this car park has been identified as a possible enclosed off leash dog area. Parking within the Estate needs to be marked clearly and displayed on the Yaralla Website.

Discussion regarding the fencing took place. Possibly identifying areas where temporary gates could be installed to encourage people to walk through the Estate during the day. Banners should go up on the fences around the same time as the gates are installed. The message should be one of welcoming people to the Estate, but asking them to also respect its heritage.

Action: Corryn to show draft banner to the next meeting

The area should be advertised as a place for passive activity and recreation, therefore picnics should be encouraged but not barbecues which require significant infrastructure. Some controls need to be put in place around the grotto to preserve it. Wardens, volunteers or park rangers could be an option for compliance. If a full time ranger was employed they could also have an educational role. There was strong support for a ranger to be on the site as a point of contact and to encourage compliance with rules and regulations.

Action: Rules and Regulations to be drafted

It was requested at the Concord Hospital and Yaralla Advisory Committee that a community gardens project officer come and speak to the Yaralla Estate Community Advisory Committee at the next meeting. Possible revenue could be generated by sponsorship from gardening shows or bunnings. The committee agreed and supported that a glass house for the purpose of therapy for Mental Health patients to encourage

Minutes

physical activity should be investigated.

Action: Tim to investigate glasshouse

4. Rappoport Conservation Management Plan (CMP)

The CMP was distributed to the members present. It was suggested that a copy of the CMP be placed in the City of Canada Bay Museum and the local library for public viewing. The spreadsheet of priorities from Rappoport report was reviewed at the meeting. Comments on the CMP to be forwarded to the Secretariat before 30 April. The report is prioritised in terms of the urgent works that need to occur. The urgent (1's) will be prioritised so the committee can focus on the most important issues for the Estate.

Soil conservation management and landscaping of the paddocks needs to be reviewed where appropriate. Planting bushes to reduce/stabilise soil run off. A local fauna group would like to present to the committee.

Actions: Secretariat to distribute CMP to absent members
Lois and heritage society to review the number 1 priorities from the report and prioritise those. Director, Capital Assets and Contract Services to draft up costings for these
Teresa to organise landscape architect and soil expert person to attend a future meeting regarding options

A decision needs to be made regarding the agistment of horses. According to the guidelines and the University professor the paddocks could only be correctly managed in the interest of the land and the horses with 7-13 horses. A significant amount of money would need to be spent renovating the fences for the purpose of safe horse agistment for the benefit of a small number of people. The view of the committee is that private horse agistment is high risk and is not conducive with the vision for the Estate. It is noted that Centennial Park does not have horses roaming free in paddocks unsupervised with access to the general public. The plan is to open up the paddocks for use by the community to enjoy the open space vista that is the Yaralla Estate. A case study of horses on the Estate to be included as an appendix in the Yaralla Management Plan including the rationale for the decision to not have agistment on the Estate.

Action: Media release from SLHD and Committee advising of decision based on scientific evidence
Bob Lusby to assist with wording of case study

5. Information for Noting and discussion

1.1 Canada Bay fauna study and opportunities

1.2 Yaralla Management Plan

- Draft to be developed and distributed for comment by next meeting. Then will go out for further consultation.
- Statement of objectives to be included at beginning of Plan.
- Evaluation Criteria, policies and principles to be contained within the management plan. This will be based on consistency with the vision of the

Committee, value for money and the number of people who will benefit etc.

- Running page of proposals of use.
- Proposals need to comply with the guidelines and vision of the Advisory Committee and the District. Not pose any significant risks to the health service or its patients.
- Commercial uses needs to be controlled.
- There needs to be a person to contact and facilitate for wedding photo bookings. Could possibly develop an online system for bookings and link to the Yaralla Website.
- Stress that the area is to be used as a passive environment. No rough sports or anything that could possibly damage the environmental surround.
- No significant capital development.
- Focus on noise minimisation so it doesn't impact on the health services.
- Maintenance costs

6. Other Business

The Yaralla Open day held by the City of Canada Bay Heritage Society (CCBHS) was held in early April approximately 180 people attended and \$3000 raised. It was noted that the CCBHS needs more guides to increase fund raising capacity, the District will provide assistance with advertising for guides through the Yaralla Website. The next CCBHS open day will be held in October.

SLHD will run an open day in June or July. Currently applying for the date for Rivendell. Maybe include a visit through the Yaralla House main foyer and an opportunity for photographs of inside. Fundraising dinner in August, investigate with Concord Marketing.

Action: Dr Garsia to discuss Open Yaralla House with staff.

7. Next Meeting

Monday, 12 May 2014, 6-7pm. City of Canada Bay Museum, 1 Bent St, Concord

Action List

Action items arising from Yaralla Estate Community Advisory Committee meetings

No.	ISSUE	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMEFRAME	OUTCOME
1.	Communication strategy	Document how the Yaralla Estate was left to NSW Health. Corryn to amend communication strategy for comment prior to next meeting	Lois Michel Corryn McKay	May May	
2.	Work plan	Guy to work with SLHD to recommend where path will go for traffic direction and to exhibit areas of historical importance. Lois to work on signage priorities with SLHD Pictures of the restorative work that has been done to be collated and put on Website. Corryn to show draft banner to the next meeting Rules and Regulations to be drafted Tim to investigate glasshouse	Guy Pinkerton Lois Michel Madeleine Kitchener Lois Michel Corryn McKay SLHD Tim Sinclair	May May/June May/June May May May	
3.	Conservation Management Plan	Secretariat to distribute CMP to absent members. Lois and heritage society to review the number 1 priorities from the report and prioritise those. Director, Capital Assets and Contract Services to draft up costings for these. Teresa to organise landscape architect and soil expert to attend a future meeting regarding options. Media release from SLHD and Committee advising of decision based on scientific evidence. Bob Lusby to assist with wording of case study.	Madeleine Kitchener Lois Michel Deb Flood Teresa Anderson Committee Bob Lusby	May May/June May/June June June May	
4.	Other	Dr Garsia to discuss Open Yaralla House with staff. An options paper for parking areas is to be developed	Roger Garsia Committee	May May/June	Ongoing
5.	Workplan and Goals planning session	Investigate where Dame Edith Walker used to have her gardens. Request the Canada Bay Council gardens project officer come	Stephen Soldatos Madeleine Kitchener	April April	Ongoing Ongoing

No.	ISSUE	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMEFRAME	OUTCOME
		and present to the committee. Draft workplan to be developed by end of April 2014.	Teresa Anderson	April	Ongoing
6.	Conservation and utilisation	SLHD to progress bollards and use of the front cottage for burns patient's families.	SLHD		Progressed
7.	Other	All committee members to review the final Conservation Management Plan (CMP) before it is uploaded to the Yaralla website in due course	Committee	April	Complete
8.	Communication Strategy	Committee to review the communications plan and make comment/provide suggestions at next meeting.	Committee	April	
9.	Workplan and Goals planning session	Distribute community gardening benefits paper. Distribute final Conservation Management Plan by Rappoport. Update priorities of signage Identify the Yaralla Estate boundary areas and the Council areas. Contact Fauna Surveyors to perform a night time survey. Committee to review spreadsheet of priorities from Rappoport report	Madeleine Kitchener Madeleine Kitchener Committee Madeleine Kitchener Sue Riley Committee	April April April April April	