

Newtown Resident's Association

7.30pm, 15 March 2004

Newtown Community Centre

Present: Nick Jennings (Chairperson), Graham Howell (Minute Secretary), Sue Piper, Don McDonald, Stephen Day, Tom Law, Keith Lethbridge, Peter Frater, Vic Marks, Patrick O'Rourke, Russell Taylor, Celia Wade-Brown, Tom Law, Evelyn Hughes, Warwick Taylor

Apologies: Martin Hanley

Minutes: February 2004 Meeting approved as read (Graham/Patrick)

Treasurers Report: Nothing to report

- **Festival Report** This was highly successful, as were the events during the rest of the week. Over 40,000 estimated to have attended the Fair on Sunday, and while the Pacific community did not have stalls, the retailers appreciated the event not intruding on their Saturday trade. The technical/logistical matters went off without any hitches. The finances will be reported on in due course. March 6 was set as the Fair Day for 2005.

Matters Arising

- **Suburban Design Character:** no progress to report
- **Rosier sites** the Library was seen as the preferred option with others being the lane to Regent Park Flats from Daniell Street, the bus-turnaround at Newtown Park, the Wilson-Daniel Street corner.
- **Bollard sites** -issue lapsed
- **Riddiford Street Design guide** - work still needs to be done to ensure facades maintained irrespective of redevelopment and to ensure consistent interpretations of the guide when buildings are modified / upgraded..
- **Krupp Gun plaque** - some progress has taken place on the design and wording.
- **Bus shelters** - issue lapsed
- **Bus Fares** - submission made, most fares remained unchanged but notice seems to have been taken of some of the submissions.
- **Emergency Management** - Kevin to attend a presentation on Friday, 19 March
- **Walking tracks** - submission made
- **NRA Public Relations Report** - to be circulated

Correspondence

- **WCC Public Places bylaw** Concern over limitations on free speech and assembly as well as over-zealous restrictions on camping on public places. Graham and Warwick to prepare a draft submission that would be circulated to the virtual committee for approval prior to being submitted to the WCC.
- **Newtown Park improvements** it was appreciated both soccer and athletics had significant investment needs for additional secure storage space and facilities for competitors and officials and the meeting supported plans for these to be provided. The meeting also noted that the park caters for large numbers of informal recreational users, particularly on the upper field. Peter agreed to prepare a submission.
- **Mayoral visit** - Nick to invite her to May meeting
- **Inner City bypass** - the meeting choose not to change its policy which is to oppose the bypass.

General Business

- **Winter Show Building** Ice skating and Ten Pin Bowling - it was agreed that this development would be valuable but some regretted the fact that it was a commercial venture not a WCC one. Concerns were also expressed about traffic. The meeting asked Councillors to keep the NRA up to date on matters.
- **Newtown History Project** - while no further progress was reported some concern was expressed that the scope might grow beyond the capacity of short-term resolution. However, the basic work on the data collected still needs to be completed.
- **Justices of the Peace** - in response to concerns raised about the lack of JPs in Newtown the NRA endorsed Nick Jennings nomination. Roger and Santi Beaker were also suggested.
- **WCC Transport strategy**- Warwick to prepare a submission noting concerns about volume/safety on Constable Street and the John Street/Riddiford Street corner. It was noted that at the last WCC Annual Plan consultation, a request was made for the Jon Street Traffic Group to be re-activated. Peter to discuss with Warwick his concerns about traffic safety in Berhampore.
- **NZAA Championships** These were held over the last weekend and were hugely successful. The next two years' championships may also be held at Newtown Park.

Meeting closed 9pm.