

SUFFOLK PARK PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Minutes

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, November 19, 2019 - 7pm

Attendees: Donald Maughan, Patsy Brosnan, Christine Guinand, Margaret Wiles, Philippe Soria, Helena Maughan, Peter Ormerod, Anne Mosey, Margaret van Kleef, Peter Brosnan, Liz Levy, Yan Hagen, Annabelle Sinclair, Liz Levy, Colin & Jeanette Beaton, Françoise Teclémariam, John Bassett, D. & L. Beardmore, Ron Huban, David & Kimberley Kyd, Douglas Rowley, Tony Christy, Anthony D'Orsogna, Charmian Bourne, Wendy & Marc Browne, Ron Huban

Apologies: Anne Mosey, Michelle & David Wallace

Acknowledgment of Country

Approval 2018 AGM minutes - moved by Patsy Brosnan, seconded by Helena Maughan, meeting approved.

Treasurer's report presented by Margaret Wiles (see below)

Move to accept Treasurer's report by Peter Brosnan, seconded by Peter Ormerod, meeting approved.

President's report presented by Donald Maughan (see below)

Move to accept President's report by Patsy Brosnan, seconded Christine Guinand, meeting approved.

Move to thank Donald Maughan for all his work over the past year - moved by Patsy Brosnan, seconded by Christine Guinand, meeting approved.

Nominations for the next term:

Ten nominations were elected unopposed. Peter Ormerod nominated to be a committee member from the floor, and was elected.

President	Donald Maughan
Vice President	Patsy Brosnan
Secretary	Christine Guinand
Treasurer	Margaret Wiles
Members	Philippe Soria
	Anne Mosey
	Margaret van Kleef
	Liz Levy
	Prue Regan
	Magdalena Gustafsson

Peter Ormerod

Other business

Douglas Rowley gave the attendance an update on the current dramatic bushfire situation. A possible second exit from beachside Suffolk Park was discussed.

IMPORTANT

TO REPORT A FIRE, DIAL 000.

SAFE PLACES IN SUFFOLK PARK ARE THE BEACH, AND THE GOLF CLUB.

Good apps to have on your mobile phone:

FIRES NEAR ME

EMERGENCY PLUS

GET PREPARED

Pedestrian crossings on Broken Head Road

The matter was discussed, and crossings will be requested again at the next Byron Shire Traffic meeting. A petition was suggested. Liz Levy is in favour of traffic lights to allow safe pedestrian crossing.

TREASURER'S REPORT

30.09.18. - 30.09.19

OPENING BALANCE	30.09.18		\$2634.10
INCOME			
Memberships/donations		\$300.00	
TOTAL INCOME			\$2934.10
EXPENSES			
Website		\$392.25	
BSRG membership		\$10.00	
Insurance for rotunda grant submission		\$455.98	
TOTAL EXPENSES			\$858.23
CLOSING BALANCE	30.09.19		\$2065.87

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2019

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to present the President's report for the 60th AGM of the Suffolk Park Progress Association. This year's report covers from November 2018 to Nov 2019

The year started with some frustrations in that it always seems to take forever to get anything done, but the committee persisted and kept positive and by the end of this year we have some good outcomes to report on.

Firstly I reported at last year's AGM that we had just applied for a significant government grant under "Community Building Partnership", this was for \$450,000 to help fund the masterplan for the sports field that included community gardens, exercise equipment, shelters, extended children playgrounds, landscaping, shading on the skate park and a pump track. Perhaps we were a bit too ambitious on this grant request, which was unsuccessful.

Another frustration has been the lack of pedestrian crossings on Broken Head Road, Clifford St and Beech Drive. This has been and continues to be a real problem for our community. Again, this year we have written to the Council Roads and Traffic committee several times seeking action on this dangerous situation with no outcome. We are now trying to get a seat on the actual Roads and Traffic meeting to personally present our community's concerns. This meeting is in Feb 2020 and will have representatives from police, the state, Roads and maritime services and council staff, so we might get a better outcome or at least a good hearing.

While on the subject of roads we all would have noticed the great improvement on the condition of Clifford St. and the other pot-holed streets on beach side. The SPPA committee have been talking to council on the poor conditions of our Suffolk village roads and council did put Suffolk Park on a priority list to have road Maintenance done as soon as a budget allocation allowed. Now we have possibly the best village roads in the shire. (Note that the roads were first bitumen sealed in 1967)

The Suffolk Park community Hall was opened in April 1993. The SPPA committee have supported the Suffolk Park Hall committee (Margaret Wiles team) in gaining acknowledgement of an important original community member who was responsible for much of the early infrastructure development of Suffolk Park village, Mr Sportsman J Denning. To this end the council has agreed to add the name of S J Denning to the Suffolk Park Community Hall sign, and that will be happening in the new year. (Note that this name change to acknowledge S J Denning was first proposed 51 Years ago. As I said at the start of this report, things sometimes take a bit of time to come to fruition.)

Renaming the Sports fields

While on the topic of acknowledging past residents, the SPPA committee has supported the Suffolk Park Football Club in petitioning the council to rename the Beech Drive sportsfield in honour of Aunty Linda Vidler, an Arakwal elder who with her family grew up in the Suffolk Park area and Linda was a significant driver in the successful first indigenous land title claims in the Byron shire.

This petition to rename the park goes before Council this month, and the park should be formally renamed early in 2020

Let's talk about Gaggin Park

This park was officially named in 1976 to acknowledge Ron Gaggin, the second fire captain of Suffolk Village RFS, and his wife Ailsa, who were both tireless workers in our community.

As you have seen Gaggin Park has had the old playground replaced with a new fire engine concept and some wonderful landscape improvements at a cost of approx. \$100,000. There is further plan to upgrade and relocate the toilet block in the park around April 2020 .

A sausage sizzle to celebrate the playground opening was held in October, organised by the RFS team and our VP Patsy Brosnan. It was an enjoyable community day. Thanks to the team members who made the day special. From all reports this playground redevelopment has been a big success with the young children and families.

I suppose the really big outcome for us this year is that the SPPA were successful with the My Community Project grant application. I must acknowledge the outstanding work done by our committee member Philippe Soria in pulling this application together. The SPPA were awarded \$157,000 for the building of a pump track. In addition to this we have applied for GST exemption on the project which will give us an additional \$15,000, and we were also successful in lobbying council to add an additional \$150,000 to the project out of our section 94 funds. This gives our community a total budget of approx. \$322,000 to bring this project to fruition.

Council have given us formal approval to build the pump track in the park, and Council will be holding a community meeting with stake holders in the Suffolk Park Hall in early December (possibly Tuesday Dec 3rd, to be confirmed) to discuss the final location of the track and its structure.

It is our plan and hope that this pump track will be operational by May 2020, however there are still a few issues and hurdles that we need to overcome to meet this timeline. This is a really exciting outcome for the community and when completed will enable us to develop a more formal plan on the future layout of the Parkland area

Some other projects that have been bubbling along in the background are:

Additional tree plantings in the Village, particularly on beach side streets. This project is being led by committee member Margaret Van Kleef. There have been site meetings with Council and arborists to discuss suitable tree types and locations, to date no outcome.

A grant application was submitted in September 2019 to fund the building of a shelter structure/rotunda in the new park area. This Community Building Partnerships grant application is for \$50,000, however we won't know the outcome until March 2020. This project is being headed up by Patsy Brosnan, Prue Regan and their subcommittee.

You have all seen the new bus shelter opposite SPAR, this was the first bus shelter in the Byron shire to be replaced, and it was prioritised due to significant lobbying from the SPPA committee.

SPPA Committee other interactions

As you may know the SPPA committee liaise with and have members working with many other Shire community groups, trying to build a broader community spirit and structure. Some of the groups we work with are Community Alliance for Byron Shire (CABS), May-

oral Roundtable committee, Byron Heritage Committee, Byron Residents Group, Byron Bay Historical Society, Suffolk Park Hall Committee, Old Byron Hospital Redevelopment committee, Byron Bay Town centre planning Committee, Bay FM, and Suffolk Park Dune care. These interactions can be very time consuming but are a good networking tool

On behalf of our Suffolk Park community I would like to acknowledge and thank some of the wonderful groups that work and contribute to our thriving little village.

The Byron Bay Football club headed up by President Tai Lonergan and his committee who contribute so much to the youth and families of our community.

Helen Brown and her Dunecare team who work to revegetate and protect our very important dunes environment.

Margaret Wiles and her team who coordinate the activity of our community hall which adds so much to the vitality of the village.

The Rural Fire Service, Doug Rowley, Rodney Halpin and their wonderful and selfless team who give their time and energy, every day, all year, not only in firefighting but in rescue and emergency support.

Also, we must acknowledge the shops and businesses of our village who help with donations: The Park Hotel, Suffolk Park Bakery, SPAR supermarket, Baz & Shaz general store, Trevor (Graham) Mead butcher, Artisan Press and Old Timber Mill Mullumbimby. We try not to over tax your generosity and we do appreciate your contribution and support.

Finally, I also acknowledge and thank our 2019 SPPA committee, Patsy Brosnan Vice President, Margaret Wiles Treasurer, Christine Guinand Secretary , and our committee members Margaret Van Kleef, Ann Mosey, Prue Regan, Liz Levy and Philippe Soria for their work and support in helping to build our little village community of Suffolk Park.

Let's support and acknowledge each other in our village, because that's how we grow our community.

Donald Maughan, SPPA President