

Fremantle Park Association

Notes of the Association Meeting held at 6 pm on 12 May 2011
at the Fremantle Leisure Centre

Present: Don Whittington, Chair
David Earl, Notes
Paula Amaral
Ruth Belben
Robert Bodkin
Audrey Bolger
Simon Booth
Adele Gaskin
David Johnston & Marjorie
Alexandra Ludewig
Glenda Marshall
Noel Rogers
Murray Slavin
Barbara Strudwick
Ross Walker
Bruce Wilson

Apologies: Malcolm Allbrook
Graeme Evans
Theresa Evans
Jane Inglis
Bill Quinn
Jo Taylor
Kate Takacs
Donagh Tierney
Marie Wilson

Guest: Jennifer Valesini, City of Fremantle

The meeting opened at 6.05 pm

1 Precinct Action Plan – Implementation Update

(See also letter dated 11 March 2011 from Director of Development, CoF to Precinct Convenors.)
Jennifer Valesini provided an update report on the Action Plan. The Plan had been presented by a Precinct Working Group arising from a precinct review in 2009. It contained fifteen action items and had been endorsed by the City or Fremantle's (CoF) senior management in May 2010. The Precinct Working Group Report is available on the CoF website.

The Update covered the following items from the Report:

- (i) Precinct Charter (Plan item 3)
The Charter has been replaced by Guidelines intended to give precincts flexibility of operation. The Guidelines are presently in draft form.
- (ii) Statement of Intent and Purpose (Plan item 4)
The Statement has been simplified and is now:
The purpose of precincts is to work in partnership with the City of Fremantle to get things done for the good of the community.
- (iii) Rename the System (Plan item 5)
Consideration of renaming the precinct system has been deferred until after the roll-out of *Freospace* and the new Guidelines accepted.
- (iv) Promotion (Plan item 6)
CoF will promote *Freospace* and this will coincide with the launch of the City's new Customer Request Management system. This system is intended to facilitate better communications between the residents and the CoF.
- (v) Plain language (Plan item 11)
The draft Guidelines are written in plain language.

- (vi) Community representation – *Freospace*
(See also Notes of a meeting held on 29 March 2011 at which *Freospace* was discussed.)
- Each Precinct will have its own area within the *Freospace* site, which is intended to be an ‘online collaborative environment’. While developed and supported by the CoF the success of *Freospace* will depend on the Precincts using the site and engaging in online discussions (blogs) and by providing up-to-date information about the precinct.
 - CoF will provide training for up to two persons from each precinct to be the *Freospace* administrators for that precinct.
 - CoF will have overall responsibility for the *Freospace* site and its contents and will monitor/moderate all online comments.
 - *Freospace* has provision for sections for Home, About, Minutes and Agendas, Calendar of Events, Surveys, Useful Links, Blog, and Contact.

During a questions session several matters arose, including:

- The take-up of *Freospace* was excellent but the Samson precinct has chosen not to use the Blog facility.
- *Freospace* is due to be launched in June 2011.
- Two persons were needed from the Fremantle Park Association (FPA) to undertake training – which will be provided on 25 and 26 May 2011 with three sessions each day - 1 – 3 pm, 3 – 5 pm, and 6 – 8 pm.

The Chair and meeting expressed appreciation to Jennifer Valesini by acclamation. She left the meeting at 6.35 pm. The meeting then considered the issue of forming a precinct in the East End of Fremantle, participating in *Freospace* and the training of volunteers to maintain a blog.

During the discussion of this item, several issues arose:

- the role and nature of precincts versus the role and nature of the FPA (which is an unincorporated organisation)
- the potential for a precinct in the FPA area to be reactivated, and if this happens, the future of the FPA and its relationship to the area precinct
- the potential for the FPA to continue but within the area precinct
- the name for the precinct (if it happens).

Outcomes

At the conclusion of the discussion, the meeting agreed on the following:

- To reactivate the Fremantle Arts Centre precinct and to participate in Freo Space;
- The precinct would remain the Fremantle Arts Centre precinct rather than take on a new name;
- The area covered by the precinct would be similar to the area covered by the precinct formerly;
- The Fremantle Park Association will continue as a separate organisation with links to the precinct;
- Bruce Wilson would be trained as an administrator and be responsible for maintaining the precinct’s FreoSpace blog along with one other volunteer;
- Ruth will write to the FPA email list to find out whether anyone else is interested in being trained as an administrator;
- The two people trained as administrators could train others who are interested in the role

2 Bushy Hill

The Bushy Hill site, adjacent to the John Curtin College of the Arts and owned by the WA Department of Education, has been cleared (for reasons of safety). Consideration is now being given to what happens to it as it is devoid of protecting vegetation, dusty, and in danger of being eroded and further

degraded. There is a view that the site should be transferred from the Department to the CoF, particularly as it appeared the Department had no building plans for the site.

The meeting noted an email to the FPA from the Principal of the College which indicated they “are currently working on a plan to help with some revegetation and weed control” and are “waiting at this stage for a response to a funding request to the Department”. This outcome of this will determine how they manage the area in the future.

Several issues were discussed, including

- a path to link the Arts Centre to Samson House (proposed by Professor George Seddon several years ago)
- discussing with the CoF the future of the site
- the types of vegetation that should be planted (that is, native, introduced, or a combination)
- offering volunteer assistance to help with the revegetation.

There was broad agreement to invite the College Principal to attend a meeting of the FPA to discuss whether the FPA can help/facilitate revegetation etc of the area.

3 Clubs Feasibility Study

The Chair reported on developments relating to the bowling and tennis clubs and their longer term merged futures. The next stage is a feasibility study to support a joint facility capable of providing for both clubs and community needs.

Don reported that the study will cost approximately \$30,000. Some time ago the City of Fremantle committed \$10,000 to this study. Recently the Fremantle Park Working Group made a submission to the Department of Sport and Recreation for \$10,000 funding contribution to the study. This application has been supported by the City of Fremantle. Fundraising by the clubs for the remaining \$10,000 is ongoing and FPA members are encouraged to support this.

4 West Coast Blues n Roots Festival on Fremantle Park Sunday 17 April 2011

Feedback from residents about the event was varied:

- The advice provided by the event organisers about free tickets (last year) and no free tickets but 2-for-1 tickets (this year) for affected residents varied from what happened. Some residents were given free tickets even though the event organisers said this would not happen.
A number of residents did not get a letter-dropped letter from the event organisers about event arrangements.
Better organisation, accuracy, and clarity of arrangements is needed next year.
- At least one resident's homes in Barnett St, adjacent to the Park, was very close to the event audience and should have had additional security.
Better and frequent security patrols are needed next year at the front of Barnett St
- The Park grass was less affected this than last year.
- By and large, and given the 20,000 reported attendance at the event, it seemed to go relatively smoothly and without major issues.

The Chair noted it was 7.30 pm and closed the meeting but advised that Festival item would be listed on the next meeting Agenda for further discussion.

Date of next meeting – to be advised.

Meeting closed at 7.30 pm

16 May 2011/de