

## Minutes

### Meeting of the SWMPF Our Davis Park Working Group

**Monday, 8 September 2014**

**9.00am – 11.00am**

**Dick Lawrence Oval, Lefroy Road, Beaconsfield**

**Chair:** Colin Alston (LAC Area Manager, Disability Services Commission)

**Participants:** Jayne Hickman (Housing Support Officer, Department of Housing); Rebecca Slavin (Manager, Fremantle PCYC); Alison Lawrie (Manager Accommodation Program, Fremantle Multicultural Centre); Karen Chalcraft (Manager, Parenting and Support Unit, UnitingCare West); Stephen Loo (Aboriginal Practice Leader, Department for Child Protection and Family Support); Kim Marshall (Coordinator, South Metro Community Drug Service); Mike Pforr (Coordinator, Community Development, City of Fremantle); Stephen Johnston (Assistant Director, WA Settlement and Multicultural Affairs, Department of Social Services); David Pigram (Aboriginal Health Promotion Officer, South Metropolitan Population Health Unit); Michael Carter (Perth Indigenous Coordination Centre, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet); Karin Mac Arthur (Community Partnership Broker, SWMPF)

**Davis Park resident:** Allira Bolton

**Visitors:** Sue Nickisson and Sparanda Birchenall (UnitingCare West); Danica Lynleigh (Department of Housing trainee)

**Apologies:** Sgt Brad Cooper (WA Police), Delia Parker (Behaviour and Attendance Officer, Department of Education); Bill Toon (Fremantle Foundation); Margaret McKenzie (Resident, Davis Park)

#### **1. Welcome**

#### **2. Approval of the minutes**

Minutes of 22 August 2014 were approved without change.

### **3. Update on actions arising from the minutes**

#### *City of Fremantle refurbishment plan*

Mike provided a plan for the refurbishment of the Park that the City of Fremantle has drafted for feedback from residents at Saturday's event. The plan incorporates all the key requests received from residents at the event on 26 July.

As regards lighting, Mike advised that this could alone use up the entire \$100,000 budget. The lighting requirements are to be assessed by a contractor and it may be that fewer lights are required/need fixing than expected. He noted that this could take approximately six months. The key issue is to make the environment safe and appealing – lights may not necessarily be the solution. Mike would be visiting the area shortly with the City's youth officer, Christine George. A landscape architect would also be assessing the Park.

Mike also provided options for a community notice board in Davis Park. As all risked being vandalized, the group agreed it would instead see whether the local IGA might provide a dedicated area for Davis Park notices; also the local café noticeboard might be used.

Events to which only Davis Park residents are invited would continue to be promoted by letterbox drop and, also, through the Residents' Association to be established (see item 7).

The meeting thanked Mike and his colleagues for all the work they have undertaken in relation to Davis Park.

#### *Additional suggestions to proposed refurbishment of Davis Park*

Following discussion, Mike included in the plan a proposed 'Davis Park' banner sign. It was suggested that the children in Davis Park could be involved in designing this. Allira offered to assist in this initiative. She also suggested that the banner include 'Welcome' in several different languages, reflecting the multicultural community that is Davis Park. Allira offered to work with the City of Fremantle in the design of the path (or whatever is agreed upon) so that it could include artwork depicting, for example, the six Nyoongar seasons.

Kim suggested that the redesign might also include residents' handprints (as has been done in Cottesloe) to increase the residents' sense of ownership.

#### *Sea container – WA Charity Direct*

Colin advised that he had contacted WA Charity Direct in relation to possible funding for a sea container or similar to be used as a meeting place. The organization advised that they provide funding to individuals only (ie not a group of individuals or organisation). The group noted this possible funding source for other initiatives.

**Actions:**

- Karin to follow up with local IGA and Fifth Avenue Café regarding placement of Davis Park notices.
- Mike to report to the next meeting on the feedback received to the proposed plan for Davis Park, including a Davis Park banner artwork project in which local children would be involved.

**4. Finalisation of preparations for National Child Protection Week event 13 September**

Stephen Loo reported that all is in hand, including purchase of 400 sausages! DCPFS are providing 13 staff on the day to run a host of activities.

Sue and Sparanda from UnitingCare West will once again be providing some great activities for the local children, as will the City of Fremantle's Buster the Fun Bus.

Fremantle PCYC and SMYL are once again kindly providing the barbecue and tables respectively.

Stephen advised a display table would be available for any agencies wanting to distribute material.

The working group would take advantage of the event on Saturday to encourage residents to join a Residents' Association. (See item 6)

It was noted that events undertaken by the working group should not promote individual agency logos on publicity material but that of the collective, ie the SWMPF; however, the flyer for this event was an exception as it was funded entirely by DCPFS.

**Actions:**

- Karin to send Stephen Loo food permit application and other material required to hold event in Fremantle.
- Karin to contact Natalie at the child care centre regarding power supply for Saturday's event and confirm with Stephen.
- Working group members to provide Stephen or Karin with any brochures they would like to display at Saturday's event.

**5. Action plan arising from 26 July event**

It was agreed that the action plan would be developed around the project indicators agreed at the last meeting. For ease of reference, the project's outcomes and indicators are set out below:

*Outcomes*

- Davis Park enjoys a positive image in the media and broader community
- Davis Park residents feel safe and supported in their community

- School-age children and young people attend school
- Children and young people are engaged in meaningful activities

#### *Indicators*

- Residents report increased sense of safety (qualitative)
- Reduction in number of disruptive behaviour reports (quantitative)
- Reduction in number of police call outs (quantitative)
- Increased school attendance (quantitative)
- Increased number of children and young people engaged in recreational activities (quantitative)

Members were asked to consider initiatives to respond to the issues raised by residents in the questionnaires in their capacity as members of the SWMPF working group, rather than from the perspective of their individual organisations. This would encourage a collective and innovative approach.

The working group agreed that they would hold a dedicated workshop to develop the Our Davis Park action plan. This would be held at 9.00am on Friday 10 October.

Alison noted that the Fremantle Multicultural Centre, with the support of the SWMPF, had put in an application to the Fremantle Foundation's Impact 100 Grant Scheme (which offers \$100,000 to one organization - \$1,000 from 100 donors) which would, among others, employ a community development worker in Davis Park. The application has been shortlisted and donors will be invited to come to Davis Park to learn more about the proposed project in late October.

#### **Actions**

- Members to consider initiatives the group could undertake (with or without existing funding) to respond to the issues raised by residents in the recent survey.
- Karin to send all meeting appointment for the workshop.

#### **6. Afternoon tea (or similar) with residents expressing interest in participating in the project**

Karin showed the group a draft flyer to be distributed at Saturday's event. This invites residents to attend an informal get-together to be held ideally at the Child Care Centre in the evening some time the following week. The meeting will aim to encourage residents to join the Davis Park Residents' Association.

Karin would also contact those residents who had indicated in the survey they would be interested in getting involved in the Our Davis Park project and invite them to come to the event.

It is of some considerable concern that the original 'community champions' of this project are no longer involved (for a variety of reasons). Margaret McKenzie, for example, who has been a stalwart of the residents' meetings, has advised she does not wish to continue in this role as she does not believe there is any interest from residents in making changes. Margaret was also very disappointed she had not received any calls about the proposed Over '55s walk (organized by the City of Fremantle); however, Karin suggested this may have been due to there being no contact details made available on the flyer (Karin had received some calls about the walk and had referred the callers to Margaret).

It is hoped that such initiatives as the Over '55s walk and, especially, the newsletter will continue.

The meeting with residents will also seek feedback on the Our Davis Park branding.

#### **Action**

- Karin to draft flyer for distribution on Saturday and lock in date – ideally with the child care centre - for an informal get-together with residents the following week. Colin, Stephen Johnston and Karin will run this event.

#### **7. Initiatives to support establishment of strong Residents' Association**

See item 6.

#### **8. Update of Davis Park newsletter**

As Margaret was not present, this item will be raised at the next meeting.

#### **9. Collection of base line data for measurement indicators**

This item was deferred to workshop on 10 October.

#### **10. Any other business**

- *Disruptive behaviour complaints*  
Allira noted the difficulties experienced by residents in lodging disruptive behaviour complaints because they are afraid of retributions from the tenants who are being complained about; also, because complainants are not always able to provide all the evidence required by the Department of Housing to act. Karin advised that this issue would be discussed further with the Department of Housing.

**Action:** Karin to follow up with DoH.

- *Support for Buster the Fun Bus*  
Mike provided the welcome news that Buster the Fun Bus would be visiting Davis Park on Thursday mornings – 9.30am – 11.30am - starting next term (16 October). In order to prevent the issues arising previously that led to the cessation of this program (unsupervised children being sent to Buster), Colin

proposed that we engage a parenting worker to support the program (for 2-3 hours a week). Angie Harper, formerly of Meerilinga, would be ideally placed to undertake this role.

**Action:** Stephen Loo to advise Colin asap if the working group can access DCPFS Parent Support funding for this purpose.

- *New funding sources*

Karin advised the group of two possible funding sources. These are the Crime Prevention Grants for up to \$25,000, which are open until 15 October. Also the ongoing Department of Sport and Recreation Grants (\$1,000 - \$5,000).

It was agreed that the working group would put in two applications for the Crime Prevention Grants – the City of Fremantle (for lighting) and PCYC (in conjunction with UnitingCare West) for diversionary activities.

Alison also asked whether there had been any follow up to the DOTAG grants she had raised at the last meeting (for \$200,000 – but requiring applicant organization to match this amount). Mike was not aware of this. Deadline is this month.

**Actions:**

- Karin to send Mike, Rebecca and Karen application form for Crime Prevention grants.
- Alison to send Mike information about the DOTAG grants.

## 11. Next meeting

The next meeting of the working group will be held at the Dick Lawrence Oval at 9.00am on Tuesday 23 September to follow up Saturday's event, receive the residents' feedback to the City of Fremantle's proposed refurbishment plan and the response to the invitation to join a residents' association.

The workshop to develop the group's action plan will be held at 9.00am on Friday 10 October.

Working group meetings will be held thereafter every three weeks, commencing Friday 31 October.