

SPEARWOOD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Minutes

6.30pm - 8pm Tuesday, 6th April 2021

Venue: Spearwood Primary School

[6.30pm] Introduction

- **Welcome** – Acknowledgement of Country performed by Antony Svilicich:
“The Spearwood Progress Association acknowledges the Beeliar - Nyungar people as the traditional custodians of this land. We wish to acknowledge the strength of their continuing culture and offer our respects to Elders past and present”
- **Attendees:** Antony, Cr Phoebe Cork, , Belinda, Monique, Karen, Kevin, Liz, Elly, Michelle.
- **Apologies:**, Pam, Carol, Simone, Anne, Ashley, Len, Garth, Scott, Carol and John.
- Acceptance and signing of previous meeting Minutes (2nd March). Accepted: Michelle Cohen, Seconded: Belinda Cotton

[6.35pm – 6.45pm] – Election Day Review

- How did we go - SPA raised around \$222 from the sale of raffle tickets.
- 50/50 Profit split between SPA and P&C.
- Winner of Raffle. John from Goldsmith Street

[6.45pm – 7.10pm] – Movie Night Review

How did it go what worked, what didn't?

- Excellent night, around 200 attendees.

Any Issues

- Need to turn popcorn machine on earlier, need to credit sponsors, need to apply for grant 3 months early. Perhaps need a grant template kept in a jointly accessible google docs drive.

Proposal to have a movie night every 6 months. Get some generic banners and signs made.

Next Movie Night:

- Halloween Theme, Saturday October 30. The City of Cockburn Teddy Bears Picnic is the week before, could be a good opportunity to drum up publicity. To be held at Spearwood Primary School in the same location as the last one, with a contingency to move to the Undercroft if it rains, or the oval if it's too big.

Contact Cockburn Ice Arena again for sponsorship of door prizes. Contact local businesses to see if they'd like to supply prizes. Perhaps next meeting brainstorm some local businesses and assign everyone a business or two to contact. Have a fancy dress parade with prizes for best dressed. Maye have one for the children, and one for the adults. It was floated to charge \$1 for popcorn, but the decision was made to keep it free.

- **Action - Belinda to contact Newton Primary School to see if they'd be interested in collaborating with us in the future.**

[7.10pm – 7.25pm] – Update on Complaint re: Cr Separovich - For Information Purposes Only

- At its meeting on the 21st August 2020 the Local Government Standards Panel found that Councillor Michael Separovich committed one minor breach under the Local Government Act 1995 (WA) and regulation 7(1) (b) of the Local Government (Rules of Conduct) Regulations 2007 when he replied to a Facebook post by the Spearwood Progress Assoc. and suggested they might struggle to obtain council funding if they engaged in political action.
- In its findings the Panel stated that, *“Councillors do not have the authority to act or make decisions as individuals. They are members of an elected body that makes decisions on behalf of a local government through a formal meeting process”*.
- The Panel stated that *“Cr Separovich did not take the opportunity to respond to how the Panel should deal with the matter. However, it is clear that Cr Separovich needs to reacquaint himself with his duty and responsibility as an elected member to communicate in an appropriate manner with the community in order to be able to lead and support it effectively”*. The Panel finds that training will be of use to him and is an appropriate penalty.
- The Panel also *“finds it fair and reasonable that Cr Separovich makes a public apology to the party that he had been found to have had intended to cause detriment to. The standards of behaviour expected of elected members are of a generally higher standard than a member of the public, due to their prominent positions in the community”*. Making a public apology is a significant sanction, being a personal admission by the individual of wrongdoing.
- Apology is expected to be made at the next Council meeting on Thursday April 8. If any SPA members wish to attend they need to register for the meeting due to Covid reasons.

[7.25pm – 7.40pm] - Actions from previous meeting (16th February)

- Spearwood Voice Update (Michelle) - Going very well with 556 members a variety of different posts from different people. One member banned for misconduct.
- Bank Account –\$ 631.70 balance. **Action - Karen to investigate getting a “square” payment method for SPA so people can buy things like raffle tickets with eftpos.**
- Beale Park Update - 58 trees that are home to roosting Black Carnaby Cockatoos were slated for removal. After community outcry the council is revisiting it's Beale Park plans. SPA will voice it's concern in writing if the removal of the trees remains in the new plan. Karen raised the issue of lighting at Beale Park remaining on too late at night under the new plan, would like to see that reviewed.
- Old St Jerome's Church – Antony spoke to Lyn Levy earlier in the day regarding the status of the Old Church. Lyn Levy stated that they would be applying for a new Lotteries West Grant, but would also be speaking with Council to see what type of service could be run from the old Church.

[7.40pm – 8.00pm] - Standing items & New Business

- NHW Watch update – Nothing to report, next NHW Meeting 7th April 2021.
- Easter Egg Hunt in Eliza Ponds: Liz says Cr Separovich, organised the hunt this year and found it too much for one person. He asked if we would like to get involved. Belinda mentioned she hadn't even heard of the event despite living in Spearwood.
- It was questioned whether a second Easter Egg hunt for the rest of Spearwood would be a nice idea, perhaps catering to the lower socioeconomic side of Spearwood and McFall Park was suggested as a venue.
- Karen mentioned we need a way to contact committee members easily, suggested an email list. Michelle countered with the suggestion of a Whatsapp group, which she promptly made on the spot.

[8.00pm] Next meeting – 4th May 2021