

BATTERY POINT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

2017 – 8 Annual General Meeting Report

Overview

The last twelve months have been very active for the Committee. The Committee has met monthly and undertaken a wide range of tasks between meetings. In doing so, Committee members have been cognisant of their responsibilities to preserve and enhance all that is special about Battery Point.

Finances

The Association is in a strong position financially, largely due to the income derived from the Community Hall and grants to undertake specific tasks. In the past two years, the Association has received grants of almost \$35,000.

Battery Point Community Hall and Henslowe Park

A Community Infrastructure Grant received in 2017 enabled us to upgrade the Community Hall and all work was completed in November. The Hall is now in excellent condition, but requires high level management and ongoing maintenance as bookings have significantly increased. The Hall is increasingly known as an excellent venue for a variety of purposes.

New shrubs and flowers donated by the Hobart City Council (HCC) were planted in Henslowe Park and the Committee will continue to seek ways to enhance the amenity of the garden.

In Bobby's Footsteps www.batterypointwalk.com.au This resource has proved to be highly successful and has been actively supported by the Association, HCC, Tourist Information Centre, Narryna, local businesses and residents. The site is ranked on the first page of Google results (frequently #1) for a wide range of searches. The Committee received a grant from the HCC to print an additional 10,000 copies of the booklet and these are now available for sale for a gold coin donation to cover future costs.

Website www.batterypointhall.org.au

The Association website continues to grow and is a highly valuable resource for the community and visitors. The website provides regular news updates, information about membership and hiring the Hall as well as promoting local businesses and facilitating communication with members. During the year, eight new stories about Battery Point people, places and events were added to the site.

Visions of Battery Point

The Association received a Community Small Grant of \$5000 from the Hobart City Council to develop a number of video stories about Battery Point. Planning is underway and the videos will be part of the Local Stories section of the Association website.

Community Events / Communication

The Committee has been committed to fostering a strong sense of community among members through regular communication posts, and social and cultural events. The Committee held / supported a number of events during the year:

- Community Christmas party.
- Community Meeting with Warwick Oakman on the National Trust's view of the Statewide Planning Scheme.
- Autumn gathering of community members.
- Forum with Denison candidates for the State election
- Community Meeting with Professor Richard Eccleston on the Tasmanian Housing situation, including the impact of visitor accommodation
- Two garage sales held in the Community Hall
- Support for events organised by community members
- St George's Church: The Committee promoted a number of events at St Georges Church through the Association website and list serve.

Planning

The Committee has spent a great deal of time and energy engaging with complex planning matters:

- Submitting objections to Development Applications (DAs) that do not meet the Aims and Planning Principles of the Association and supporting DAs that do so.
- Holding ongoing discussions with the Hobart City Council planners about Interim Planning Directive No 6 and the proposed Specific Area Plan for Battery Point.
- Presenting a submission to the Tasmanian Planning Commission on Interim Planning Directive 6.
- Presenting written and verbal submissions to the Legislative Council Committee on Short Stay Accommodation

Traffic

This issue continues to be an ongoing, challenging issue for the Association. The Committee presented a report to the HCC on traffic matters and members met with Angela Moore, HCC Manager Traffic Engineering to discuss priority issues. Traffic along Hampden Road was monitored by the HCC to assess volume and compare it with previous findings.

Council of Community Associations of Hobart (CHCA)

The Association is a member of CHCA and was represented at its regular meetings. CHCA is an important peak body that participates in scheduled meetings with the HCC General Manager and enables member associations to share ideas and initiatives.

Heritage

Through its attention to planning applications, involvement in research activity with HCC heritage officers and specific initiatives, such as advocating for the protection of the historic Fisheries Research Centre, the Committee continued to work to protect the historic values of Battery Point.

Future

The Committee will continue its strong support for the Aims of the Association. The Committee is committed to fostering improved communication with members and to seek

their advice on matters of interest to the community. In particular, the Committee aims to strengthen the sense of community among Battery Point residents and businesses through a variety of initiatives. Next year, the Committee will develop a succession plan to ensure that the strong management of the Association continues.

Acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge the important contributions of the following people:

- All members of the Committee – Anne Reed, Neil Cranston, Tiina Sexton, Carol Mackel, Andrew Edwards, Susan Blackburn and Peter Jones, who have worked exceptionally hard on behalf of the Association
- Andrew Wilkie MP in assisting us with photocopying
- The Battery Point Post Office and Annick's Antiques for promoting and selling In Bobby's Footsteps booklets
- Angelo Fraraccio for his ongoing support for events
- Community volunteers for their contribution to a range of events and initiatives: Jenny Cranston, Marilyn Jones, Chrissie Walsh, Rose Redman and Milf McCarthur
- Peter Pearce for his ongoing advice on planning matters
- Jamie MacArthur for re-painting the Marine Terrace Community Garden sign
- Charlie and Ange Miller for their assistance in organising the sign advertising the website
- Steven Haines for his work in designing and maintaining the Association website

Charles Morgan
President
25 September 2018