



MLPORA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Are we maintaining the quality of our neighbourhood?

Wednesday 22 April 2020
Virtual meeting via Zoom
Commencing at 17:00 sharp (16:45 for 17:00)

1 Opening and welcome

Robert Cameron-Ellis (Vice Chairperson) opened the meeting at 17:03. Anke Barnard is unable to attend. Anke was congratulated on the birth of her son and thanked for her sterling work and valuable leadership.

It was confirmed that 20 participants are needed for a quorum. 36 people logged onto the zoom meeting. Attendance at Annexure A.

2 Apologies

Anke Barnard and Zendre Campion

3 Confirmation of agenda

The agenda was agreed to.

4 Approval of the minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes from the 2019 AGM were approved.

5 Matters arising from the minutes of previous AGM held on 10 April 2019

No matter arising. The annual report was circulated via the Telegram App and no questions have arisen.

6 Approval of the 2019 Financial Statements.

The financial statements were attached to the annual report which was circulated to the community prior to the meetings. These were accepted and approved.

7 Questions and discussion

7.1 Street security cameras with Vumacam

Vumacam was scheduled to present at the AGM for residents to ask questions. Unfortunately this is not possible.

The cameras proposed are smart; they look for patterns and identify and flag unusual activities. They can also identify suspicious car number-plates. We are looking at 4 to 6 cameras in Muckleneuk and

Lukasrand. Residents will have to pay more for this service which can be implemented once approval is granted. Funding needs to be sorted. As a start Interactive will sponsor one camera per pole, the cameras have different capabilities and costs.

7.2 Closure of Klip and John Streets

This issue was raised by Elizabeth and MHSI has approved in principal. In order to proceed she needs approval from the broader MLPORA community hence raising at the AGM. There are processes that need to be followed and costs involved. These will be explored once she has the go-ahead. Elizabeth volunteered to lead this project. The reason for closing these roads is two-fold i.e. security and traffic.

Part of the process going forward will be to seek permission from residents in these streets, conduct a traffic survey as well as determine costs and CoT processes. Tristan offered to join Elizabeth and help with traffic surveys.

Lame indicated that residents had worked on Street closures before and maybe that information can be used. Elizabeth stressed that this is not an initiative to close the suburb but to close particular streets. Robert reiterated that MLPORA and MHSI do not support the closing of suburbs. The street closures are to prevent vehicles from entering and exiting at certain points and not pedestrians.

The attendees voted for this project to proceed with Elizabeth driving the process.

7.3 Encroachment of Zuid Afrikaans Hospital into Muckleneuk

Robert expressed the communities concerns regarding the encroachment of Zuid Afrikaans Hospital into our suburb. A process has been started whereby we engage with the hospital with the intention of establishing a partnership with them which will benefit the community. He appealed for volunteers to assist with this project.

7.4 Security Telegram group

Elizabeth indicated that MHSI has an established communication strategy which includes the WhatsApp groups and the radios. Having a group on Telegram leads to frustration by residents as this group is not linked to the security initiatives and thus no action is taken. The Telegram security group is the wrong platform. It was proposed by Robert that this group be dissolved. Annoulla agreed with this and Yvette agreed to close this group by the end of April 2020 and to migrate people to the appropriate security WhatsApp groups.

7.5 Covid-19 lockdown easing practices

Lame asked if MLPORA is looking at initiatives for the community as lockdown is eased over the months ahead. For example staggering when and where dogs can be walked or exercise can be taken. Robert agreed this is something to be considered and that our new Chairperson should address this. Lame will send through the suggestions that is currently implemented at Stellenbosch for the committee's consideration.

7.6 Recycling

Recycling is not considered an essential service and thus Obokeng cannot collect the recycling. Some ideas were suggested such as storing recycling, stopping for now etc. Robert indicated this was the choice of households and that MLPORA would not be prescriptive. Yvette will look at suggestions offline and look for a way forward as an interim measure.

8 Election of MLPORA Executive Committee (12 members may serve)

The following committee members will step down:

- Isabeau Southwood (Town Planning)

- Anke Barnard (Chairperson)
- Jon Boltman (Committee member)

The following agreed to continue service on the committee:

- Anoulla Demetroudes (Security)
- Jane Clarke (Secretary / Kruin Park)
- Japie van der Laan (Treasurer)
- Mike Batley (Social Concerns)
- Niël Roux (Membership)
- Robin Buckley (Structural Planning)
- Robert Cameron-Ellis (Vice-chair)
- Ruan van Loo (Street Lights)
- Terence Smith (Community Building)
- Yvette Loots (Communication)
- Zendré Compion (Heritage).

Renette Leathern agreed to serve on the Committee and take on the Town Planning role left by Isabeau. Isabeau will guide and assist Renette if and when needed.

Titia is the Chairperson of the Friends of Kruin Park and will attend meetings when required and/or when she can.

8.1 Election of MLPORA Executive

The New Executive Committee from 22 April 2020 was voted as follows:

- Chair: Niel Roux
- Vice-Chair: Robert Cameron-Ellis
- Treasurer: Japie van der Laan
- Secretary: Jane Clarke

9 General

9.1 New Chair, Niel Roux's comments

Muckleneuk is one of the oldest suburbs in Pretoria, having been established in the late 1890s, boast a unique character and rich historical heritage. This unique character is reflected in the different eras of development over more than a century. Due to its prime location between universities, hospitals and embassies Muckleneuk and its much younger twin, Lukasrand (established in 1961), have historically attracted a rich mix of people. An article in the Pretoria News of 23 February 2001 probably summed it up best by saying the following, "This is a suburb that is not regarded as a stepping stone. Once people have bought into Muckleneuk Hill they stay there for life'.

Unfortunately, in no part due to its prime location and proximity to Sunnyside, the inevitable ageing of the suburb and its population, has led to a range of serious challenges which threatens the unique residential character of the two suburbs. These include challenges related to illegal land use, security concerns, municipal services, protection of green spaces, and building/maintaining a sense of community.

Muckleneuk and Lukasrand Property Owners and Ratepayers Association (MLPORA) was created to protect and advance the interest of all owners of fixed property in, and residents of the two suburbs.

I moved into the area in June 2011, and although we joined MLPORA shortly thereafter, I only became involved with MLPORA's activities in March 2017.

My time working with people like the outgoing Chairperson, Anke Barnard, the former chair person, Phillip Erasmus, and committee members such as Isabeau Southwood, Robert Cameron-Ellis, Robin Buckley, Terence Smith, Mike Batley, Anoulla Demetroudes and so many others have taught me that suburbs do not run themselves. While things can, occasionally, and probably accidentally, go right without deliberate nudges and action, situations tend to deteriorate badly without the concerted efforts of people who put in much more work than they will ever be credited with. Through their labour of love they send in multiple objections to stem illegal land use, attend Policing Forum meetings, spend countless hours on the Commons, or Kruinpark, or ensure that important communication reaches community members.

Important to maintain the various initiatives, such as:

- Illegal land use
- Security
- Protecting and advancing green spaces such as Kruinpark, the Commons, and parks such those in Lente Street
- Building and maintaining community cohesion
- Following up with Tshwane service delivery issues such as streetlights, road quality, electricity and others.

While committee members are doing a sterling job, it is vital that more community members become involved in community activities. We presently have fewer than 20% of households involved with MLPORA to any extent, whether they are just members, paying members, serving on the MLPORA committee, or assisting with initiatives such as the Commons, Kruinpark, or MHSI. It is imperative that we improve everybody's level of engagement, regardless of how big or how small their contributions are.

Whoever is selected as chair will not do as much leading as facilitating and supporting a wonderfully motivated and skilled group of individuals who already add so much to this community. I am humbled to work with all the present committee members and I see my main task to continue the wonderful work done by Anke by supporting committee members and increasing general community participation.

9.2 Vote of Thanks

Mike proposed a vote of thanks to

- Yvette for the work done on the poll. It provides valuable insight into the community and a good starting point for the Strategic Plan and Committee going forward.
- Anke for the great job she did as Chairperson for the year.

10 Closing of AGM

Robert thanked Isabeau for her immeasurable contribution to MLPORA for the past twenty-five years and Anke for her year as Chair.

Robert expressed his confidence in the community that they will rise to the challenges imposed by the Covid-19 crisis, in terms of personal, business and community needs. He thanked everyone for attending and urged them to stay safe.

The meeting was closed at 18:20.

11 ANNEXURE A: Attendance

Les Bateman	Phillip Erasmus	Bert Roefs
Tristan Bateman	Jeremy Gibberd	Niel Roux
Mike Batley	Wendy Isaac-Martin	Terence Smith
Carol Baron	Stephan Jacobs	Brian Southwood
Regardt Botha	Stienekie Jensma	Isabeau Southwood
Robin Buckley	Yvonne Klagsbrun	Titia Tabak
Loon Burge	Dirk Kotze	Fritz Tomasoff
Robert Cameron-Ellis	Renette Leathern	Ruan van Loo
Jane Clarke	Yvette Loots	Japie van der Laan
Catherine Coni	Chris Mostert	Raz Weiss
Anoulla Demetroudes	Jean Nel	
Elizabeth Diedrichs	Lyn Nurick	
Lame Ebersohn	Jos Peters	