

MINUTES

NARRABEEN LAGOON STATE PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12 APRIL 2017

**TODD DICKINSON
EXECUTIVE MANAGER, NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE
(OPERATIONS)**

Voting Members

Northern Beaches Council – Chair	Mr Michael Regan
Northern Beaches Council GM representative	Mr Todd Dickinson
Recreational Community Representative	Ms Julie Whitfield
Environment Community Representative	Dr Conny Harris
Business Community Representative	Ms Francesca Dolly
Ratepayer / Community Representative	Ms Pamela Johnston
Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council	Mr Allen Madden / Mr Nathan Moran
NSW Office of Environment and Heritage – National Parks	Mr Peter Hay
NSW Department of Industry (Lands)	Mr Chris Wright
NSW Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries)	Ms Carla Ganassin

Officers

Coast, Catchment & Estuaries Manager	Mr Adrian Turnbull
Senior Environment Officer – Lagoons	Ms Sue Jacobs
Administration Coordinator	Ms Denise Regan

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Narrabeen Lagoon State Park Advisory Committee
held on Wednesday, 12 April, 2017 in the Guringai Room, Civic Centre, Dee Why,
commencing at 4:00 pm.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1. Present:

Mr Michael Regan (Chair), Mr Todd Dickinson, Ms Carla Ganassin, Ms Julie Whitfield, Mr Peter Hay, Dr Conny Harris, Ms Francesca Dolly, Ms Pamela Johnston, Mr Christopher Wright, Mr Adrian Turnbull, Ms Sue Jacobs

1.2. Apologies:

Nil

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- 2.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 11 May 2016 were confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting by Mr Hay and Mr Regan.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.1 Cumulative Impact and Carrying Capacity

Staff presented an outline of how carrying capacity is currently addressed in Plans of Management and other strategic documents both within the catchment of Narrabeen Lagoon and around the lagoon itself. Staff provided an overview of the Decision Support Matrix that is used to assess proposals for activities within the State Park.

Discussion centred on the difficulty of finding a balance between providing recreational facilities which become very popular, and the challenge of ensuring that popularity doesn't compromise the environmental values of the area or the recreational experience itself. The suggestion was made that in some areas around the lagoon Council should not provide any more facilities as these areas have already reached capacity. The amount of use that each area can sustain may be different, as some areas are more environmentally sensitive than other areas.

Resolution:

That staff prepare a presentation for the next meeting outlining environmental, recreational and land tenure issues associated with the lagoon and its catchment, together with an indication of their likely trajectory depending on management regimes. This will enable informed discussion on what the Committee should focus on next.

3.2 Feasibility Study, East Narrabeen Lagoon Walkway

This proposal was discussed at the previous meeting and the committee requested Council staff to prepare a feasibility study on the proposal and bring it to the next meeting. The feasibility study was presented and discussed. The outcome of the feasibility study was that the proposal is not supported due to the significant environmental and budgetary constraints outweighing the benefits to be gained by the creation of the walkway.

Resolution:

That the Committee accept the results of the feasibility study, that the proposal is not supported.

4. REPORTS TO NARRABEEN LAGOON STATE PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4.1 Update on Stage 1 Expansion

A significant expansion to the State Park was gazetted on 24 March 2017. The map at Attachment 1 shows the extent of the existing State Park and the expansion. All of these land parcels are Crown Land which were reserved for 'Public Recreation'. An additional purpose of 'Coastal Environmental Protection' was added at gazettal.

The Committee discussed the balance between expanding the State Park but not taking on liabilities associated with additional land parcels. Costs associated with the State Park will increase and there is a need to balance this with revenue where possible. Mr Wright advised that the Trust Manager (Council) could now apply for funds for the entire expanded State Park.

In regard to future expansion into other parts of the catchment, Mr Wright indicated that there may be opportunities in future for some form of land management agreement between agencies including the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, Office of Environment and Heritage – National Parks, Department of Industry (Lands) and Northern Beaches Council.

Resolution:

That staff continue to work with Crown Lands and other agencies to identify suitable parcels for inclusion in the State Park.

4.2 Discussion on the future direction of the State Park

This matter was deferred until the next meeting, so that the information in the background report on the lagoon and its catchment can be taken into account by committee members.

Resolution:

That this item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 Site Inspection

Dr Harris suggested a site inspection of relevant areas within the catchment and around the lagoon be held before the next meeting for those interested in attending.

Resolution:

That Council staff develop an itinerary in consultation with Dr Harris and make the relevant arrangements.

5.2 Minutes

Ms Johnston requested the minutes of the meetings be more visible to the public. Mr Dickinson suggested that the minutes be circulated to committee members following the meeting for review and then once all members agree the minutes be put on Council's website in draft form until such time as they are formally adopted at the next meeting. After this they would be forwarded to the next Council meeting and the final version put on Council's website. The three state agencies would need to agree to this proposal. Note that Mr Wright has already indicated that the Department of Industry (Lands) supports this approach.

Resolution:

That Office of Environment and Heritage – National Parks and NSW Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries) respond to Council as to whether they agree with the proposed approach to making the minutes more visible to the public. If these agencies agree, Council to implement the proposed approach.

5.3 Potential further expansion of State Park

Mr Regan identified a number of individual land parcels as having potential for inclusion in the State Park. Mr Wright noted that Council land could be included within the State Park under an administrative agreement.

Resolution:

That Council staff present information on potential parcels for inclusion in the State Park to the next meeting.

5.4 Lagoon Health Report Card 2015/16

Mr Turnbull distributed and explained the latest Lagoon Health Report Card. In particular he pointed out the close link between rainfall and water quality, noting that a wetter year means more pollutant inputs than a dryer year. It was noted that the Report Card is available on Council's website. <http://www.warringah.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/general-information/lagoons/lagoon-report-card-2015-16single-pagealow-res.pdf>

Resolution:

That the Committee note the Report Card.

6. NEXT MEETING

To be determined

There being no further business the meeting ended at 5:30pm

ATTACHMENT 1

Stage 1 Expansion of Narrabeen Lagoon State Park

