

MPASC- General Meeting Minutes

Date: 13th February 2024

Meeting Open: 7.00 pm

Chairperson: John Skewes

1. **Present:** J. Skewes, B. McWhirter, M. Pilgrim, A. Whitbourne, J. Carr, T. Peters, J. LeLaen, B. Curran, K. Dalton, C. Tzaidas.
2. **Apologies:** N. Hord.
3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting (General Meeting held 9th January 2024)**

Moved: J. Carr

Seconded: M. Pilgrim

4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

Item 1 (Previous Item 2) Grant Applications – Current Status:

1. Central Coast Council (Community Activities/Programs Grants) – \$5000 - Purchase of a Drone. Grant successful. \$3899 approved by Council and deposited to Club's account.
2. Federal Government – 2023 Volunteers Grant (Fuel Expenses - \$2129). Funding of \$1500 approved. Waiting for funds to be deposited.
3. Level the Playing Field Program 2023/2024 - \$875,000 – Clubhouse 2nd Story Extension Project. Grant application submitted. Decision expected in March 2024.
4. Lake Macquarie Council - Women in Sport Festival (March 2024) - \$670 for MPASC to hold our Ladies Day Race on Saturday 2nd March 2024.

Item 2 (Previous Item 72) Water leak in the Storeroom: Andy (Whitbourne) had previously advised he had followed up with Council, with pictures, on this ongoing issue. Andy stated Council advised they will re-examine the problem and are looking to run a new pipe along the side of the clubhouse to the front tap and disconnect the old pipe from the main. No action by Council as at the time of this meeting.

Action Item: Andy (Whitbourne) to monitor Council's response to fixing the water leak.

Item 3 (Previous Item 75) Erosion issue along the foreshore and beneath the Club's Boat Ramp:

Andy (Whitborne) advised he had spoken to Tyrone who was going to organise the cement pump truck to deliver any leftover cement to the club and squirt it under the ramp to fill the gap.

Action Item: Tyrone to organise the cement pump truck to deliver leftover cement to the club.

Item 4 (Previous Item 83) Flag Sets for Regattas: Nick (Hord) had previously advised the current flag sets available for regattas were inadequate with missing or deteriorated flags. Nick recommended purchasing just the common flags we use rather than full sets. The Meeting agreed with Nick and asked him to provide a list of flags needed so they can be purchased.

Action Item: Nick (Hord) to provide a list of flags required.

Item 5 (Previous Item 86) Clubhouse 2nd Story Extension Project: Andy (Whitbourne) had previously advised two quotes had been obtained, one from DACH Constructions (\$875,000) and the second from Weyn Construction (\$1.14M). A grant application for \$875,000 has been submitted, by the Club's Grant Coordinator (Nilli Parker), under the State Government's "Level the Playing Field Program 2023/24 grant program". A decision is not expected until March 2024. If successful construction would need to start in September 2024.

Item 6 (Previous Item 87) Equitable Access and Usage Policy: Nikki (Parker) previously briefed the meeting of the need for the club, as part of the application for the Level the Playing Field Program, to commit to a Statement of Intent that gender equality is considered and prioritised in all current and future planning, policy, service delivery, and practice, as they relate to community sports infrastructure. A draft Equitable Access and Usage Policy has been developed but needs to be finalised by 30th June 2024, to remain eligible for funding under the Level the Playing Field Program. Over the coming months, as a committee, we will continue to address, develop, and consider the priorities of planning and delivery of this policy and how they relate to our community, members, and our infrastructure.

Action Item: The Committee to complete our Equitable Access and Usage Policy by 30th June 2024.

Item 8 (Previous Item 91) Pontoon Cracking: Andy (Whitbourne) had previously advised some cracking was evident on the pontoon at the end of the jetty. Nick (Hord) volunteered to have a closer inspection, to determine what action is needed to fix the issues. Andy also stated we should consider a "No Mooring" sign, to discourage boats from tying up to the pontoon.

Action Item: Nick (Hord) to inspect the pontoon for cracking.

Item 10 (Previous Item 97) Removal of the first Tree on the lake side of the Clubhouse: Andy (Whitbourne) had previously advised the DA for the club's 2nd story extension and amenities upgrade had approved the removal of the first tree on the lake side of the clubhouse which was causing considerable damage to the concrete slab. Andy sought approval from the Meeting to arrange for the removal of the tree and for the stump to be ground. Once that was completed, we could examine options to repair the concrete slab. The Meeting approved Andy's request.

Action Item: Andy (Whitbourne) to arrange for the removal of the tree and the grounding of the stump.

Item 11 (Previous Item 98) Sailing Rules Night: Mick (Pilgrim) advised he was not able to organise the presenter (Damien) but would see if Dave Taylor was available to conduct a “Sailing Rules” night.

Action Item: Mick (Pilgrim) to organise a “Sailing Rules” night.

Item 12 (Previous Item 99) Inspection of the Club’s Rib by NSW Maritime: Jim (LeLaen) advised the torch on the Club’s rib was still to be replaced following the inspection by NSW Maritime. Jim stated he could conduct an audit on all of our support vessels to ensure all safety equipment met the requirements of NSW Maritime.

Action Item: Jim (LeLaen) to audit all support vessels to ensure equipment met NSW Maritime standards.

Item 14 Drone Grant - Central Coast Council (Community Activities/Programs Grants): The Commodore advised Council had provided \$3899 in funding for the club to purchase a drone. Jim (LeLaen) has been authorised to source a suitable drone to meet the club’s needs.

Action Item: Jim (LeLaen) to price a suitable drone for the club.

Item 15 Lake Macquarie City Council (LMCC) “Women in Sports Festival – March 2024: The Commodore had previously advised the club would participate in the Lake Macquarie City Council’s “Women in Sports Festival” by holding our Ladies Day race on Saturday 2nd March 2024. LMCC is providing \$670 in funding to support this event. The meeting discussed what we would do to make this a standout event and how we would recognise women who both participate in the race and those who support the club, behind the scenes. A function after race would be held and prizes awarded for race participants as well as some recognition for those ladies onshore supporting the club.

5. **Reports**

Treasurer’s Report: The Commodore tabled a Profit & Loss Report for January.

Moved: C. Tzaidas

Seconded: J. Skewes **Report Accepted**

Race Committee Report: Mick (Pilgrim) advised five (5) boats from MPASC had competed in the Heaven Can Wait Regatta and overall our boats performed exceptionally well.

Regatta Committee Report: Jim (LeLaen) advised he had been approached by the Mirror Association for MPASC to host their seven-day regatta from 19th – 25th January 2025. After some discussion the Meeting decided we could not commit to a seven day regatta, but would consider a 2 – 3 day event.

6. **Correspondence In:**

- Nil.

7. **Correspondence Out:**

- Nil.

8. **General Business.**

Item 16 Annual Presentation Function: The Club's annual Presentation function will be held on Saturday 18th May 2024 at the Community Hall, Dunvegan St Mannering Park, starting at 5.30pm. Nikki (Parker) has confirmed the booking for the hall with Central Coast Council and has approached the same caterers as last year to confirm their availability and pricing. The Meeting decided to approach "Big Jim" (Jim Lonsdale) to again be the MC for the evening and for John Roy to handle the sound and electronics for the function. The Meeting also discussed the possibility of making the function a "Themed" night, but no decision was made. The Commodore would canvas members for suggestions before a final decision was made.

Action Item: The Commodore to canvas members on whether the Presentation Function should be a themed night and what that theme could be.

Item 17 Adult Learn to Sail Class: Andy (Whitbourne) advised he has had considerable interest in the club holding an adult learn to sail class and proposed holding a class starting on the last weekend in February (24th – 25th February) and running for 6 weeks. The Meeting approved the proposal and set the cost of the course at \$150 (the same as the junior courses).

Action Item: Andy (Whitbourne) to organise an adults learn to sail course starting 24th – 25th February.

Item 18 PayPal Account: Jim (LeLaen) proposed the club get its own PayPal account for purchasing online following a fraud attempt on one of the club's debit cards. The Meeting agreed with Jim's proposal and authorised the Treasurer to apply for an account in the club's name.

Action Item: Con (Tzaidas) to look into applying for a Pay Pal account for the club.

Long Term Issues.

Disposal of the Club's Flying Ants: The Club's Flying Ants fleet will be sold off.

Action Item: Ken (Dalton) and Jim (LeLaen) to manage the sale of the Flying Ants.

Renewal of Council Lease: Council is working through the renewal of the lease, as it is with all other long-term leases within the council area. Until the lease was finalized the Club would continue a month-to-month lease arrangement.

Renewal of RSA Qualifications for Club Members: Any club member undertaking the RSA training or renewing their RSA would be reimbursed the cost of the course by the Club.

Monitoring the Club's Radios during Sailing Days: For safety reasons club members and Duty personnel will need to be continuously reminded of the importance to monitor the radios during race days. The Commodore had recommended we change the radio call sign for the clubhouse from MP1 to MPASC Clubhouse to remove any confusion to who was being called and this was accepted by the meeting.

Development (through Australian Sailing): Australian Sailing (AS) were embarking on a program to engage clubs to improve club development.

Control of Roadway/Entry Way to Property): The Commodore advised the club's DA for the second story extension has now been approved by Council and the traffic assessment for the property is covered under the DA approval.

Rental of the Clubhouse for functions: The Meeting (12/9/2023) discussed the use of the clubhouse for functions and should all users pay a fee for renting the facility. The Commodore advised the club's current policy was that members could hire the clubhouse at no cost, but non-members had to pay a fee. Over the last few years only the Mannering Park Country Women's Association (CWA) had rented the facility, while their own hall was undergoing repairs, and they paid a nominal fee for using the clubhouse. All other bookings of the clubhouse were made by club members. The meeting decided any decision to establish a fee to members, for hiring the facility, should be made at an AGM by all members.

Future NSW Youth Regattas: The Commodore advised he had written to Australian Sailing stating the club would be interested in hosting a future NSW Youth Regatta, but we needed to have a number of key infrastructure projects completed before we would be in a position to host this event.

Meeting Closed: 8.11 pm.