

Your local voice



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Minutes of the General Meeting “Meet the Candidates” Wednesday, 26 September 2012

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting was opened at 7.35pm by Acting Chair Pat McGinn. Pat welcomed members and a number of guests: Louise Maher, from the ABC, Moderator for the meeting; and eight candidates for the ACT elections: Katy Gallagher, Angie Drake, Mark Kulasingham (ALP); Jeremy Hanson, Tom Sefton (Liberal Party); Shane Rattenbury, Caroline Le Couteur, Alan Kerlin (Greens). Approximately sixty persons attended the meeting.

2. Introduction of Candidates

Pat McGinn asked each candidate to introduce him- or herself, then asked Louise Maher to officiate as Moderator for the Question and Answer session.

Candidates names were drawn out of a hat, so the order for the introductions was as follows:

1. Angie Drake
2. Katy Gallagher
3. Alan Kerlin
4. Shane Rattenbury
5. Jeremy Hanson
6. Tom Sefton
7. Caroline Le Couteur
8. Mark Kulasingham

[Two candidates, Steve Doszpot (Liberal Party) and David Matthews (ALP) had accepted WCCC’s invitation to the meeting, but were not present when their names were called.]

A lengthy Question and Answer session followed, during which candidates responded to questions from WCCC members. Questions covered such issues as: a medical “super store” for North Canberra; neglect of Weston Creek area; size of Molonglo electorate; price of land in Molonglo; state of parks and gardens in ACT; support for a strategic, long-term approach to facilities for horses; lack of coordination between government departments; betterment tax; price of water; shop-front library for Weston Creek; swimming pool for Molonglo labelled as being for Weston Creek; transport/roads in and out of Molonglo area. Candidates who were not sitting MLAs were asked to demonstrate what experience they had that might suit them to be a

minister in the new government. There was one favourable comment on recent improvements in Weston Park.

The Q&A session ended at 9.20pm, and was closed by Louise Maher. Pat McGinn thanked Louise for her excellent management of the session, and thanked all the candidates for having come to our meeting and responded to the many questions.

There was a short break for tea and coffee.

After the break, the General Meeting was opened.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Tom Anderson, Lance Williamson, Gai Brodtmann, Meegan Fitzharris (ACT Labor Candidate for Molonglo).

Minutes

Copies of the minutes of the General Meeting held on Wednesday, 25 July 2011 were provided to all present at the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was put to the meeting.

Motion: That the minutes of the WCCC General Meeting of 25 July 2012 be accepted as presented. (Moved: Jenny Adams; Seconded: Trevor Wilson) Motion was passed.

Business Arising

1. Questions were asked about the results of the WCCC survey held in July, the result of the charity bin trial, the development in North Weston by Defence Housing Australia, and the state of trees near the tennis courts at Coleman Court. Pat McGinn responded, and it was agreed the WCCC committee would contact one member about the survey results.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that WCCC has \$7,107.67 in the bank account as of 26 September 2012. There are no outstanding accounts and no major expenses foreshadowed at the moment.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted as read. (Moved: Bill Leslie; Seconded: Rosemary Drabsch) Motion passed.

General Business

There was no further general business

The meeting closed at 9.50pm, and the chairman thanked all participants for attending and for their input.