



mandate and still have 6 barrels of paint in store for regular maintenance and touch ups.

- C) John Lubbe has agreed to take the Standards Portfolio after the tragic passing away of Digby Colman. Exco extended a warm welcome to him
- D) 2108 MDGA Constitution – the Constitution’ approval has been in limbo since the AGM of 2019. In recent months - Exco has re engaged the City of Cape Town legal department and we are amazed at their flexibility and understanding – and we Finally had them approve the amendments on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2021 and thus we have a “new” and approved Constitution with amendments up to and including March 2018 included in it, and it is available for all to see on mdga.co.za web page
- E) Our Financials to end February 2021 are completed and available for Audit – remarkable just 9 days after Year End – congratulations to Janet and Lyn. We will be similarly publishing these un audited results – along with the minutes of this Exco on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> March

## Matters Arising from Portfolio Reports

### **Parks and Gardens**

Scott re-evaluating the irrigation system – ongoing. Scott arranged a meeting with proposed Garden Company as well as representatives of Uitsig, Park Island and Eastlake – Contracts to be completed and signed - Welcome to Andie – Canon Island- and Eastlake, Silvia – Park Island and Sharon - Uitsig

### **Standards**

Scott will prepare a brief write up on Tree cutting/preservation in the Standards Manual – to be confirmed with Archcom for inclusion in revised Standards Manual.

## **Waterways**

We have an Employee Insurance in place to cover casuals who are assisting in the floating Algae cleanup – paid for by MDGA, as well as the MDGA Gardeners. Angus raised issue of smaller algae purchase by CoCT and after our meeting with the Councilor – was advised - no chance.

## **Security**

Security Proposal – BattleRidge –awaiting costed proposals and Councillor Kuhl’s interventions on Bush clearing and fencing.

MDGA LPR Camera service providers

Exco voted on preferred service provider – and a unanimous vote was for Navic to preplace I Track. Chairman to confirm with Deep Blue to give I Track notice. The difference in cost is R10 a month each for the 8 LPR cameras but our investigation has revealed significant differences in data base technology (cloud versus a server), Alert verification and the fact that the Marina is surrounded by Navic users (Closest I Track is Philippi) and thus official sharing of information and data can be significantly increased with added benefits to our security for our members. Deep Blue continues to be our partner in the 16-camera monitoring, maintenance and armed response services, but this will be under an updated Service Level Agreement – in collaboration with Deep Blue and at their request.

## **Appointment of Auditors**

In terms of legislation and good business practices, home owner organisations like MDGA can use an Audit Company for 10 years but the individual auditor actually doing the audit can only audit us for 5 years. Our auditor had audited us for 5 years with our last audit to February 29<sup>th</sup> 2020.

In September 2020 we virtually request approval of a resolution to re appoint BDV Platinum as our auditors and we were advised that they would appoint a new auditor in January/February 2021. They have subsequently advised us that they will not – “have not taken on another auditor as expected and we don’t expect to do so for the rest of the year”

Thus – we are in a catch 22 – we have to present Audited Financials at an AGM as one of the most significant and mandated obligations in an AGM. The only way for

Exco to achieve that is to revert to the members and request via Special resolution to amend the appointment of Auditors. Exco confirmed that this is the route to follow – alternate auditors will be found and Exco will decide on which to put forward in the Special resolution for Members approval – and so that we can then schedule the AGM in June.

### **Communications**

Patrick proposed that we do away with all printed communications and move decisively into the electronic communication field. To this end he proposed that we increase our communications by introducing a Blog, which will feature weekly a comprehensive article of general interest and will link Facebook, Newsletter and web page into a seamless and informative medium for residents to access their information. The Blog can be monetized for advertisers as well.

Unanimous approval

Meeting Ended 18h50 – next meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> April at 18h00

### **PORTFOLIO REPORTS – 09 March 2021**

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## TREASURER REPORT

### **Bank Balances: as at 05/03/2021**

Cheque A/c	R	7,367.61
Archcom A/c	R	328,037.53
Money Market A/c	R	504,305.65
<b>Total</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>839,710.79</b>

## **WATERWAYS – ANGUS HEMP**

After a long break due to Covid lockdowns ZPAAC meetings will be resuming this month. The committee has an interim chairman who will serve until a chairman is appointed. Anyone who wishes to have something raised at ZPAAC, please contact the Marina da Gama office.

Nick Bode has been invited by Exco to share his passion and drive with Exco. He has been driving the initiative to use the pool-noodle parachute skimmer to collect cladophera algae from the canal surfaces. The writer shall have served his five- year term this year and must leave the committee.

We were unsuccessful in persuading the CoCT to purchase a small harvester. Efforts to do so will continue. A large paddle-wheel harvester is not really suitable for picking up the floating algae that spoils our canal waters. In tight places it pushes aside as much algae as it collects.

Residents are responsible for clearing the 2 m wide strip of water in front of their properties. Here there are two problems. If the waterway outside of the 2 m strip is not cleared, then the algae there quickly floats in and refills the strip that is cleared. Secondly, there is extensive water frontage in the Marina that is on public land. What is needed is a smaller, more manoeuvrable machine which can pick up algae right up to the bank, with no threat of damage to revetments. (Google Weedoo Harvesters to see the sort of thing that we have in mind).

There have been many expressing concern that bird numbers in the vlei are declining. Bird numbers here do fluctuate due to a number of factors. Apart from the obvious decline in the number of ducks, both indigenous and hybrid, the overall population has not shown any significant decline in the past few years. For decades, quarterly counts of waterbirds, called CWAC counts, have been done for the Animal Demography Unit at UCT. The last count was in January 2021. In the whole of the vlei, plus the Westlake wetlands, 1938 waterbirds were sighted, comprising 29 different species. This included 52 reed cormorants, 37 little egrets, 37 blacksmith lapwings, 16 avocets, 54 black-winged stilts, 129 gulls, 110 yellow billed ducks, 521 coots and 12 Pied Kingfishers. Not seen that day were flamingos or the occasional pelican that are often seen.

You will have seen in the Echo of 18<sup>th</sup> February that a system of flags is to be deployed around the vlei to serve as a warning in the event of water being polluted. Most welcome is the information that the Sand River, one of Zandvlei's major sources of litter and sewage contamination, will be diverted through a series of vegetated swales and ponds, cleaning the water before it reaches the main water body.

## **EVENTS – VALERIE BENSON**

### **1. MONDAY QUIZ NIGHT AT MARINA BISTRO on 8.3.2021**

Please save Monday 8th March 2021 at 7pm as your next Quiz and Dinner night at our lovely local Marina Bistro in Eastlake! Our quizmasters are Marina husband and wife team, Andy and Jill Rumbelow, from Uitsig

Peninsula. Teams of up to 4 people can enter the quiz, cost is R10 pp and proceeds go to the Guide Dog Association. A number of Marina residents are raising guide dog puppies so it's a local event. The Bistro will be offering chicken breyani (vegetarian option available too) that evening at R65 per person as well as their normal menu. Please prebook with me 082 475 6187 or the Marina Bistro on 061 283 3182. Masks and social distancing non negotiable.

## **LONGER TERM PROJECTS – LATHIF GAFOOR**

### **Strategic Planning Report**

a. Water lettuce and another aquatic invasive species of weed between the duck weed is now proliferating in the sand river canal. Kyran is monitoring the situation and would act if the situation worsens b. Councillor Aimee has reported back that the council will only attend to a twice yearly cleaning of the storm water culverts and not the gutters running alongside the roadways c. Kyran has informed me that there will be no burning of vegetation in the Zandvlei nature reserve this year besides a need for burning of vegetation along the Boyes Drive in the next year or two. The city council will however be engaged in ecological burns in a number of other nature reserves as per their media release of the 26/02/21

## **ENVIRONMENTAL – LISE CARSWELL**

4 March Sewerage spill in the Langevlei canal, originating at Military road. Has been treated with enzymes and as present it has not reached the main body of the vlei.

We have employed Francisco and Lughano to clear the algae by hand. It is tough going but they have been doing a fantastic job. Nick Bode has been managing them and has also been helping a lot with the algae clearing including from his boat where needed. Kyran has sent a team to collect the worst of the collected algae. We will continue this for 4 weeks unless the kingfisher is repaired.

We have been in conversation with both Kyran Wright and Aimee Kuhl about the urgency of getting the Kingfisher fixed. It is absolutely outrageous that it is taking so long to fix such a small problem. Meeting with Aimee Kuhl on 9<sup>th</sup> March where this will be one of the discussion points.

We will be starting a questions and answers session with Kyran Wright this week, which will be displayed on our social media platforms. This will be expanded and residents will get a chance to get their questions answered.

Quite a bit of correspondence this month, mainly regarding the algae issue. We have tried to assist each resident as far as we can.

## **ARCHCOM – PAUL HIGGINS**

7 plans submitted of which  
3 were sketches

Of these sketches 2 were approved and 3<sup>rd</sup> required plans to be drawn, which were submitted and approved by Archcom

Of the 4 plans – all were approved by Archcom

1 letter of Objection was detailed and submitted to the City planning department.

## **STANDARDS**

Inspection and complaint regarding 2 garage conversions – 1 has approved plans submitted 2<sup>nd</sup> one not - being followed up

Inspection on unacceptable fence on PGD being pursued with an Estate Late

Specialised Venture operated from Home being investigated

Painting of PGD wall completed and paint and auxiliary being reconciled.

## **COMMUNICATIONS – PATRICK McKENNA**

The level of activity among those involved with the Communications portfolio continues to rise. To everyone's credit, quality is matching quantity.

Our Communications sub-committee recently held a meeting with Janine Avery from Five Star Stories to discuss the way ahead and the next phase of our website's development.

Before taking any firm decisions on the next steps, we conducted a brief online survey asking residents how they preferred to receive news from the MDGA.

Our weekly email newsletter appears to be the most popular communication platform among residents. Although there is support for the magazine, I would argue in favour of migrating to a blog format for articles to reinforce and complement our weekly email output. Assuming ExCom agrees, the next move is to ask Janine to set up the blog template and train us on populating it.

Before that, however, we need to agree costs with Janine. Drawing on lesson learnt, we also need to finalise a spec for her future involvement.

## **PARKS AND MAINTENANCE – SCOTT ATTFIELD**

### **Parks**

- Upgrading of Uitsig park fast tracked with assistance of a R50k donation from a Marina resident. Focus will be on tree and large shrub planting to coincide with winter rains.
- Plans and plant layout sent to council to follow correct protocol.
- A 2500l rain tank was donated by another resident for use on this project.
- Irrigation viability exploration ongoing.

### **Staff**

- New larger garden team headed by Staffa kicked off to a busy and dusty start.
- Vast pockets of gardens were tackled very effectively during the inaugural kickoff.

### **Public space trees and plants**

- Regular notifications need to be sent to residents to remind them of the legislations regarding council trees and plants and residents' responsibilities and limitations regarding.
- Scott to present document for approval.

## **SECURITY – PETER ALLEN**

Crime Stats February 2021

Uitsig	Heron	HBT	06.02.2021	05h00	Yes Muizenberg	Resident's mom stays in flatlet, left door open. C/M walked in and stole handbag
Uitsig	Guard hut		05.02.2021	22h00	Yes Muizenberg	3 x B/M threatened DBS guard with knife to get access to Shearwater Dr. He moved away from them and called AR's for back up over the radio. As one AR came in from PGD and the other from Oudevlei, the suspects ran across the road into Vrygrond. No-one injured Guard is ok.
Uitsig	Red Roman/Mullet	Intrusion	18.02.2021	01h49	Yes Muizenberg	At 02h32, DBS was notified by UNW that 2 x suspects jumped the wall and entered Uitsig by the canal at bottom of Red Roman. At 02h33 DBS vehicle stood down and found 2 x CF vehicles parked in front of 42 RR, officers sitting inside vehicles. They asked DBS officer to go to end of Mullet because they want to check by the canal where the suspects are. No-one was found. DBS AR then parked his vehicle at bottom of RR and proceeded to check area on foot with one CF officer, the other one had to depart to do an alarm call. One suspect was found hiding underneath a vehicle c/o RR and Mullett. they searched for the other suspect, but could not find him. This suspect later left the area at 05h52 going back over the wall where they came in.
Uitsig	Coot	ATT HB	26.02.2021	09h40	Yes Muizenberg	Suspect pushed open unlocked sliding gate, went to open window with no burglar bars and tried to take laptop from the desk. Resident heard a noise and upon investigating found suspect with laptop in hands trying to get it through the window. He grabbed it out of the suspect's hands and suspect ran away.
Uitsig	Conifer Close	HBT	01.03.2021	02h02	Yes Muizenberg	Suspect came over boundary wall out of sight of the camera and broke into garage and stole a Pitbull puppy.

Herewith the LPR Alerts received as from 05/02/2021 to 01/03/2021

Friday	05 02 2021	08h06	Eastlake Island Way/ Eastlake Dr	Red Nissan Sentra	CA68xxx	Stolen Ottery 2 Feb 21	SAPS verify Stop if still sought	Misread. Was Black Chev CA689xxx
Friday	12 02 2021	15h28	Oudevlei/ Eastlake Dr	White Hyundai i20	CAA13xxx	Prev Arrest Armed House Robbery	Monitor, SAPS Stop if Crime or Suspicious	Misread. Was Silver VW Caddy CAA130xxx
Saturday	13 02 2021	22h07	Park Island/ Eastlake Dr	Silver Ford Focus ST Hatch	CA726xxx	Suspicious activity	Monitor, SAPS Stop if Crime or Suspicious	Vehicle already out of area on arrival.
Wednesday	17 02 2021	12h13	Park Island/ Eastlake Dr	White VW Golf Hatch	CA554xxx	Prev Arrest Theft of MV	Monitor, SAPS Stop if Crime or Suspicious	Vehicle made a U-Turn and left before AR arrived. I-Track and SAPS notified that the plates are on a Silver Renault Station wagon and not a Golf. SAPS confirmed plates is registered on a White Golf. Vehicle was pulled over by SAPS following day. Renault stolen in Kimberley
Wednesday	17 02 2021	12h14	Park Island/ Eastlake Dr	White VW Golf Hatch	CA554xxx	Prev Arrest Theft of MV	Monitor, SAPS Stop if Crime or Suspicious	See result above
Friday	19 02 2021	08h31	Sonnet Quay	Blue Opel Corsa Hatch	CA269xxx	Suspicious activity	Monitor, SAPS Stop if Crime or Suspicious	Vehicle driving without front number plate. Vehicle found in Capstan Close. Informed SAPS who came and checked vehicle and spoke to owner. All found in order. Warned to have plate replaced. Vehicle taken off system.
Sunday	21 02 2021	17h11	Oudevlei/ Eastlake Dr	Green Opel Astra	CA626xxx	Stolen Maitland	SAPS verify Stop if still sought	Misread. Was Blue Ford Fiesta CA626xxx. Resident
Monday	22 02 2021	16h09	Oudevlei/ Eastlake Dr	Blue Hyundai Getz	CA99xxx	Theft from MV (Battery)	Monitor, SAPS Stop if Crime or	Misread. Was Silver Ford CA997xxx. Resident

							Suspicious	
Wednesday	24 02 2021	16h16	Oudevelei/ Eastlake Dr	White Hyundai i10	CA47xxx	Street Robbery Suspects	Monitor, SAPS Stop if Crime or Suspicious	Misread. Was White Toyota Etios Sedan CA477xxx
Sunday	28 02 2021	08h57	Park Island/ Eastlake Dr	Silver Toyota Avanza	CF97xxx	Missing person	SAPS Stop and Confirm details of driver	Misread. Was White Hyundai i20 CF99xxx
Monday	01 03 2021	18h14	Eastlake Island Way/ Eastlake Dr	White VW Polo Sedan	CF35xxx	Remote Jammers	Monitor, SAPS Stop if Crime or Suspicious	Followed till out of the area