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PRESIDENTS REPORT

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday February 9th 2010

Corporate Room Southport Surf Life Saving Club, Main Beach

Ten Years is a long time to wait, but members of Friends of Federation Walk (FoFW) should be extremely proud of their involvement to take the status of the 93ha Reserve from being under pressure of development, fires, plagues, floods, errant campers and the like to the Coastal Reserve that it is today. The Fires devastated a large majority of the Reserve including new plantings, and canopies allowing for the infestation of grasses and weeds. We have had it all over these years, to the annexing of an area for a Horizon Tank, a developer led claim, a Council Vision for four 5ha sites for Resorts to a plague of Grasshoppers

But the wait, although long winded, was worth it, with the State Government allocating the Reserve \$100,000 per year and the GCCC meeting that amount and more, reassured us that the major effort by all Volunteers was viewed as representative of a wider Community commitment to the Federation Walk Coastal Reserve and The Spit. Thank you Premier.

Tides of Change is a very apt title for the Gold Coast City Council's Vision for The Spit, after a Meeting in 2008 with FoFW requesting to have a Plan completed for the Reserves. Tides of Change is well advanced after having all requirements by us included. Thank you to the Gold Coast City Council for embracing the vision of the community and establishing "Tides of Change" enhancing a funding outcome.

We have this year added to the many Schools/Corporate/Community activities by hosting Rotary Queensland Coastal Community, Suncorp, SEQ Catchments, TAFE, Sullivan and Nicolaides and many more, the list is reassuring that our ethos for Education and Community involvement in our draft Management Plan in 2002 was correct.

Our involvement in community events was maintained again in Clean Beach Challenge, National Tree Day, Green Day Out, GECKO Youth Symposium, FoFW presentation at Gold Coast Catchment Association Forum and other presentations to like minded groups. We have the establishment of a Facebook page that will evolve as time allows.

We have kept the culture of sustainability by purchasing Organic Cotton White Tee Shirts. Making available Khaki LS lightweight Sun Smart Shirts both with our Logo; using bio Cups continued this sustainability. Other Merchandise includes Mouse Pads, Vests, Water bottles, pencils which will be available reasonably priced.

The Committee has worked together to streamline all processes to encourage and foster new volunteers, increase the application for grants, having gained funding to build the capacity of any catering needs especially as we go further north to rejuvenate fire ravaged areas. Hosting the Ten Year Event was a great day for all. Time fly's doesn't it.

Thanks must go to the current Committee, Secretary Arnold Wolthers, Treasurer Paul Boles, Susan Wright, Naomi Edwards, Neil Bennett, Rochelle and Michael Steven, Diana Kiss and Tim White supported by Jodie Clifford and Peta Williams contributing as much as possible as we all know none of us can do this alone, I know some Committee Members are not continuing so we wish them well in their future endeavours. Thank you.

Jodie has been a remarkable Ranger for Federation Walk keeping up to the pace with new groups, arranging Contractors, additional funding, while keeping our Community Days running smoothly. Jodie, thank you for your great contribution, coordinating and liaising with other Council Departments to improve the Federation Walk experience, while taking our group into another phase of growth. Your involvement is vital to success.

Thank you to Griffith Centre for Coastal Management who co ordinate many of these group activities, visiting Students at Schools to foster the importance of Coastal Management and in particular encourage the use of Federation Walk as a base for learning.

To SEQ Catchments a big thank you, your support for Federation Walk is so important as not only you invest in our Project but to Master Plan for the future including Coastal Reserves such as Federation Walk is paramount to its longevity.

Thank you to Tom Conlon who has generously donated his expertise in completing our Audit, he has done this for the past ten years, thanks also must go to Don Dinneen for completing this year's Audit. Thank you both for your generosity.

Thank you to Arnold Wolthers who is having a break after being our Secretary for all these years, no doubt he will still retain a strong connection to Federation Walk.

Our thanks must also include the Southport Surf Life Saving Club for the continued use of the Bathing Pavilion at no charge for our Committee Meeting.

Thank you.

Lyn Wright



Friends
of Federation
Walk

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