



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on 15th February
2022 19:00 at Claremont Primary School**

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed all present including councillor Katherine Christie (Ward 58); Rowen Ravera-Bauer (guest speaker); Colonel Fourie and Warrant Officer Wilkens (Claremont SAPS); Derek Bluck (Harlyn Neighbourhood Watch), Jen Rowe (HVA) and Ian Iversen.

Apologies: James Fernie (HVA) and Councillor Mikhail Manuel (Ward 59).

2. GUEST SPEAKER: ROWEN RAVERA-RAUER (CHIEFL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER OF U-TURN HOMELESS MINISTRIES

Rowen began with explaining that the popular approach to homelessness is a welfare model of providing money, food and blankets to homeless people. This is a short-term response which does nothing to change the person's situation or life circumstances. U-Turn offers a pathway out of the situation by offering support services which provide a good long-term outcome for the individual. The programme boasts an 80% success rate.

While the welfare approach may make the giver feel good, it only enables the homeless people to stay where they are: on the street. Giving a voucher, however, gives the person access to services and a support network as well as meeting their basic needs of food and clothing.

Rowen hoped to shift the community's preconceptions about helping the homeless by detailing the U-Turn four phase Programme:

Phase 1: Preparation: Vouchers encourage people to come to the service centre. They not only receive food and clothing there but meet a team of people who implement a programme that is designed to awaken in the individual the understanding and knowledge that there's a world of potential within them. The team includes U-Turn Champions – those who have successfully completed the programme and changed their lives.

Phase 2: Drug and alcohol rehabilitation: The addiction rate of people living on the streets is 70-90%. Addiction not only causes homelessness; it is also caused by



homelessness. U-Turn work with the City's rehab centres and show a 70% success rate with their rehabilitation model.

Phase 3: Work Readiness: This is an eighteen-month long programme where individuals work in the U-Turn shops and attend personal development courses as well as occupational therapy, literacy courses, IT training and receive psycho-social support. The shops generate income which then contributes to the stipends for those who work there.

Phase 4: Employment: This is an aftercare programme for those who have looked for a job, secured a job and offers peer-to-peer support groups among other resources.

Rowen introduced Malixole Sikhungo who shared his life story journeying from homelessness to practicing law, with the support of the U-Turn programme and funding from individuals.

In conclusion, Rowen reiterated the importance of changing someone's life with an effective support network versus handouts which change nothing about the circumstances for those who are homeless.

Madeline thanked Rowen and Malixole for their time and input. She also stated that GLCA committee support U-Turn by selling vouchers for them at events and markets. She encouraged the GLCA community to change their mindset and support U-Turn.

3. CONFIRMATION OF 2021 AGM MINIUTES

Proposed: Carol Scrooby

Seconded: Jenny Calder

4. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Madeline began with the financial report prepared by the treasurer.

Finances (Stephen Bredenkamp)

The GLCA had a successful year financially ending the year in a better position than ever before and having enough cash in the bank to start doing something meaningful.

We increased our reserves from R26 583 at the end of 2020 to R45 030 at the end of 2021.

Our paid-up membership stood at 99 with membership fees of R9 900 compared to 57 paid up members at the end of 2020.



While this is a great improvement, we do represent and speak for, a community of over 2 000 households in the area, so there is still a lot of room for improvement. We do, however, wish to thank all those who supported us. While we take no personal benefit, fee or other payment, it is heartening that the community entrusts us with this money.

Our main source of income was the community market we held in October 2021. This was an immense success – and raised just over R21 000 after expenses, compared to R7 500 the previous year. This represents a 70% growth.

- We gave our usual contributions to the HarLyn Watch R3 000 with the view to increase this amount this year.
- SAPS for their Christmas lunch – R1 176
- Contributions were made to Uthando – R3 000
- U-Turn vouchers – R1 000
- The Cart Horse Protection Association – R670; with the community also adding their donations on Mandela Day. The CPHA were most appreciative.
- Other expenses include web-hosting fees and bank charges.

Our biggest bugbear is still bank charges. This costs us R1 143 for the year. Free accounts are not available for civic associations.

We once again wish to thank the committee for all the hard work they put into the community this year. We think we are starting to see it pay back, and we look forward to more successes with the help of our Councillors.

Events (Michelle Tayler-Smith)

The main and very successful event was our Family Community Market at Keurboom Park late last year. This our fourth year staging this event and the community response was amazing.

In 2020 we raised just over R7000 and over R21 000 in 2021. We say a big thank you to all the vendors that took part and, of course, the customers who came along to support the market. Also, the hard-working committee and additional helpers who joined in making this event happen.

A special mention and many thanks go to Michelle Tayler-Smith who was our leader and task master in this event and brought it all together.

We are planning to repeat the market in 2022 with improvements. Thank you to those vendors who completed the survey. Your feedback and comments have been taken on board.



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This market is our main source of income and we have received many requests to have more than one market a year. This is under consideration as it is a big task to organise, but we will keep you up to date on this.

Thanks to the success of these markets, we are in the financial position for the first time to look at getting involved with our community regarding projects to make a difference.

The funds raised from these events will go into projects planned for 2022 and the committee hope to continue to build on this.

Security report (Alexia McCoy)

There has been a decrease in crime in our area but theft out of motor vehicles continues to be an issue and residents are urged not to leave anything of value visible in their vehicles.

There has also been a spate of manhole and drain cover theft. Please report missing covers to the City of Cape Town and if your water meter or meter cover is stolen, report to SAPS and notify the City of Cape Town. If cases are not opened and reported it is not easy to track.

Residents are encouraged to join their street WhatsApp groups. This is the best way to get information out. Report all crime incidents to SAPS and notify Har-Lyn as the crime stats help to schedule their patrols.

HarLyn achieved 1 959 patrols for 2021 which is an average of 11 patrols per week.

There are currently 80 patrollers and 9 new recruits. The dedicated team of patrollers work extremely hard, on and off patrol, to ensure that crime in our area is reduced. Citizen surveillance is key, and HarLyn are always on the lookout for new volunteer patrollers. Patrollers range in age from 20 to 70 years, both men and women so if you would like to join the team please make contact. Alexia is here you can come chat to her after the meeting.

HarLyn are extremely grateful to the GLCA for their continued support and generous financial donations.

Traffic (Charles Silbert)

Our first meeting was held on 14 April 2021. Tim de Villiers, Senior Traffic Engineer for the City of Cape Town was invited to join our committee meeting to explain how the City Council implement traffic calming measures. He explained where speed bumps can be installed e.g. outside schools, which roads taxis may and may not use, how roads are graded and that a lot



of work was dependent on the allocated budget for traffic calming. This was very education as it gave us a benchmark to work from.

After the meeting with Tim de Villiers, Madeline Sweeney and Charles drove around the neighbourhood identifying areas where traffic calming measures could be installed such as repainting of stop signs, speed bumps, mirrors on poles etc. To date some have been up graded and is on –going.

We submitted our findings and suggestions to Tim de Villiers and met with him again.

Achievements 2021

- speed bumps have been installed in Heatherton Rd and Water Street,
- The stop street markings at the St Leger, Miller St and Water St intersection have been repainted,
- Stop street markings in Heatherton Rd and Water St have been repainted,
- Clearer no entry signs have been erected at the intersection of Queen Victoria Rd and Cook Rd,
- and a Stop street added at the corner of Mons Ave and Cook Road.

A raised intersection at the intersection of Queen Victoria Rd and Miller Rd has been proposed by the City Council but is costly and requires budget.

With the help of our Councillors for Wards 58 and 59, we will endeavour to have more traffic calming measures installed. We look forward to safer driving in the GLCA area with the support of all our residents.

At this point Cllr. Kate Christie interjected and shared the good news that the City has allocated R200 000 in the 2022 budget for the raised intersection at Miller and Queen Victoria Roads intersection. This was thanks to previous councillor Sharon Cottle's hard work.

Planning (Maura Sanderoff)

Our planning committee consists of 4 dedicated members, an architect, an architectural technologist, a land surveyor and a civil engineer.

Total of 72 building planning applications were completed in 2021 through this sub-committee.



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The processing of these Plans is a long and detailed process but is vital to the outcome in the community. Lynfrae mainly consists of buildings older than 60 years, thereby triggering Heritage Western Cape applications as well.

The planning sub-committee take a great deal of interest in planning proposals within our area, and are keen to ensure that all new developments (there are a lot happening!!), redevelopments, or alterations seek to both provide a good quality living environment for the future residents of the development and enhances both the sense of place, urban design, and attractiveness of the area.

Any architects, town planners, urban designers, or engineers out there, we invite you to join and help our team.

Community and environment (Jenny Calder)

Claremont Wash House and Caretaker's Cottage

An application with Heritage Western Cape to have the Claremont Wash House & Caretaker's Cottage declared a Provincial Heritage site was submitted. Although the buildings have deteriorated through neglect and poor maintenance, Heritage Western Cape was happy to take on the task of restoration and good tenancy. The intention for its use is to serve the community, the two Early Child Development schools on the site will continue to operate with The City continuing to assist and will finally register their businesses with the Department of Social Development.

The 60-day public participation period has ended, and we eagerly await feedback from Heritage.

All the residents we engaged in the Chess road vicinity were supportive of the changes. If the outcome is positive, it will be declared as Grade II, Provincial Heritage site ceremony. This is a great turnaround for the residents in the area who have had to endure abuse, threats, violence, and robbery in the years before.

It has been suggested to have a coffee shop in the cottage with crafting rooms upstairs, as it will bring new life to the area.

Queen Vic Gardens (Corner of Miller and Queen Victoria Roads)

The Queen Vic Gardens Project has start with the view to negate the negative effect of illegal dumping on the site.



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The response has been overwhelming in support of the gardens. We've had donations of plants from many sources and although quite a few people helped in the initial clean-up and planting, the core group responsible for the gardens are Jenny Calder, Marshall Calder, Paul Leader, and Andre (resident who lives across the road). We encourage community members to support this initiative – and other garden projects in the area. Popping by on a weekend to chat, help or donate water, etc. It is a good opportunity to get to know your neighbours and show support and appreciation for the hard work that goes into making the GLCA environment greener and cared for.

Members are encouraged to use their own initiative like Charles (Sanderoff), who cleared and planted the area alongside the Canal at Water Road/St Michael's and Middleton Roads.

Queen Vic Gardens have several mini projects on the go currently, including sourcing water on hot days, and stabilizing the soil around the one tree which has exposed roots caused by run-off water not being properly channelled on rainy days. Overall, it has been a great community building exercise and a great success: taking ownership of the area and turning it into an attractive area that is no longer a dump site.

Madeline explained that the reason she read out all the above reports, was to put into perspective what the committee is about. We meet once a month and share ideas around the table. The different portfolios were created around members' specialities, passions and interests. They welcome community members to join and bring ideas for projects. The committee of nine volunteers can only do so much; more could be done with more members taking on specific projects.

Madeline thanked the committee for all their hard work and successes. We look forward to working on further projects now that the funding is available.

Key objectives for 2022:

- Continue the focus on traffic calming measures,
- Increase community involvement with projects,
- Increase committee members through forming sub-committees,
- Look for additional fund-raising events to do,
- Increase GLCA membership.

2021 Committee: Madeline Sweeney (Chairperson); Jasmine Lin (Vice-Chairperson); Stephen Bredenkamp (Treasurer); Carol Scrooby (Secretary); Members – Jenny Calder, Alexia McCoy, Michelle Tayler-Smith, Maura Sanderoff, Charles Silbert



5. FEEDBACK FROM WARD COUNCILLOR KATHERINE CHRISTIE

Madeline introduced Kate Christie, councillor for Ward 58.

Kate has been in office for three months and her intentions are to work with leaders of civic associations like Madeline and Jenny and the committee members. By voting them onto the committee you are voting for them to be co-leaders with Kate.

Kate described her first three months as having to be reactive; having to respond to issues and complaints, rather than being proactive with new ideas and projects.

Two main issues:

People living on the streets – Residents feel like they are living under siege as the homeless numbers increase. The two major areas in Ward 58 are in Imam Haron Road and Wetton Bridge. Businesses have reported the effect of this increase on their businesses in the area, e.g. the littering, encampments, resulting in the loss of customers. Kate is working with the City's Social Workers and engaging with U-Turn to find long term solutions to this problem.

Traffic - The main complaint is about taxis, who are a law unto themselves. Two thirds of taxis at Wynberg taxi rank are un-licensed. Kate is lobbying for cameras to be installed at traffic lights and other key areas.

Kate wishes to be proactive on environmental issues in response to climate change by greening Ward 58 wherever possible. There are many parks in the ward and these will be given attention.

Another focus will be on cleaning up the Black River that flows through Ward 58. Once the sewerage overflows into the river have been fixed, she wants to organise the community to clean up the river near Rondebosch Golf Club. She is wanting to educate communities regarding littering and dumping.

6. ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE (facilitated by Kate Christie)

The existing committee stood down as required by the GLCA constitution. All members of the 2021 committee have agreed to stand again and were re-elected for 2022.

Butch Alden nominated the entire committee and Keith Gottshalk seconded.



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There were two nominations for members:

Donny Paradise-Lord: Nominated by Jenny Calder and seconded by Carol Scrooby

Leanne van Rensburg: Nominated by Anthony van Rensburg and seconded by Penny Owens

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Chairperson thanked everyone for attending the AGM. The meeting was adjourned at 8.20pm. Snacks and drinks were served after the meeting and provided an opportunity to meet and greet the committee and guests.



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Signed at Claremont on 15th March 2022

Madeline Sweeney (Chairperson).....

Stephen Bredenkamp (Treasurer).....

Carol Scrooby (Secretary).....