

URBAN IMPROVEMENTS PRECINCTS (RF) NPC

**Minutes of the North East Business Precinct Committee Meeting,
held on Tuesday 7th June 2016, in the Meeting Centre at the
Durban City Lodge, K E Masenga (Old Fort) Road, at 2.30pm**

Attended By:

Etienne Erlank	Chairman
Colin Burnett	UIP Company
Ingrid Lewis	UIP Company
Khule Sithole	Reserve Bank
Monica Botha	Road Lodge Durban
Anton Diedericks	Enforce Security Services
Chris Meintjes	Enforce Security Services
Thulile Mgenge	DSW
Patrick Mnguni	Metro Police
Bruce Blake	Parks
Zinhle Nkwanyana	Business Support

Apologies:

Des Cormack
Denis Cockhead

1. Welcome and Thanks

The Chairman welcomed all present and thanked Des Cormack in his absence and the City Lodge for the use of the meeting room and the coffee.

2. Apologies

As above

3. Confirmation of Minutes of 10 May 2016

The minutes of the above meeting were confirmed as read and reflecting a true copy by Chris and Anton.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Clean-up of Bram Fisher Verge.

Colin advised that he had visited the site earlier in the day and noted that the contractors board was gone. He advised that a sluice gutter has been put into place alongside the adjacent perimeter wall, and that half the area up the bank has been cleared to expose soil. He also advised that there was still a lot of dead and green grass at the palisade area and that quite a lot of papers had once again blown into the area and that it needed clearing again. Colin advised he would enquire whether it would be possible for Thobile to establish what the Electrical Department intend doing here to make it maintenance free. Monica stated that it looked much better again and noted that the area used to be kept clean by the Road Lodge until the Municipality took responsibility for it.

Colin to follow up.

4.2 Metro Police Cones

Colin advised that he had noticed that the Metro Police cones were no longer in place. It was noted that Des, when he tendered his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting, had requested that Metro Police please return these cones that they had taken for use during the Comrades. Colin explained the history behind the cones to Captain Mnguni and requested his assistance in the matter of having the four Metro Cones returned.

Captain Mnguni to action

5. Report back from Service Providers:

5.1 DSW- Thulile Mgenge

Thulile advised that the last of the 95 seasonal temps contracts had now come to an end and that the EPWP contract had been extended to 28/02/2017. Thulile advised that the Cardboard Collection and Recycling project that would be launched shortly should alleviate the cardboard problems currently being experienced in the City.

Colin stated that he had seen a vast improvement in cleanliness at the Dr Yusuf Dadoo robot coming into the city, but that he noticed that the vagrants had once again lifted and damaged some drain covers which Roads and Storm water should be made aware of.

Colin to action.

5.2 Business Support- Zinhle Nkwanyana

Zinhle advised that there were once again illegal traders on the pavement opposite the Unisa building selling books and that Metro Police had been unsuccessful in removing them as according to the Law their goods cannot be confiscated. She stated that when Metro Police gave them a warning they moved to a new location, which according to the law is a new infringement, and when they get another warning they move to the next location and so it continues. She stated that a permanent solution needed to be found. It was noted by Colin that the Metro Legal Department were investigating and trying to come up with a solution. Captain Mnguni confirmed that they were receiving complaints and that they were doing their best, but that they could not enforce the by-law effectively.

Zinhle advised that they had done an operation with BOSS to remove the traders that were sleeping in the trader huts on the beach, which had not been very effective. She stated that another operation would be conducted soon and that Metro Police would be involved. She felt that the situation had gotten worse since the new by-laws had been introduced.

5.3 SAPS- W/O Rajaram

Not present

5.4 Metro Police- Captain Mnguni

Captain Mnguni stated that they were very frustrated by the current situation regarding the by-laws and the fact that they were not able to confiscate the goods and enforce the law.

5.5 Enforce – UIP Security Division- Chris Meintjes

The Security Report was circulated and reported on by Chris. He mentioned that there had not had any serious incidents in the NEB. They were mainly focussing on moving the vagrants out of the area and

assisting SAPS in an effort to prevent snatch and grab crimes at the Bram Fisher intersection of McDonalds. He also had a few isolated incidents of individuals smoking marijuana mainly in Gugu Dlamini Park. He advised that during the same period there had been 5 armed robberies in the CBD. Chris stated that the ISIS warning was based on fake information, but that the American Consulate remained concerned.

5.6 Parks – Bruce Blake

Bruce stated that they had awarded a three year cutting contract to a contractor, who would, once all agreements were in place start cutting the grass. He was of the opinion that the project would commence in June 2016. He advised that they still needed to appoint a contractor who would be responsible for killing and removing weeds. Colin enquired as to whether the parks department were currently trimming the palm trees and was advised by Bruce that he would need to investigate as to when this would be taking place.

6. Finances

The April Financials were tabled and reported on by Colin as the May 2016 expenses were not available yet.

7. General

7.1 Urban Management Zones (UMZ)

Not present

7.2 ICC & DCC

The Chairman thanked Chris as well as Thobile and Captain Naicker in their absence for the removal of the vagrants from the area. He stated that although it was a social problem the vagrants were not innocent. He also reported that the illegal car guards were a major concern. According to the Chairman Captain Naicker and his team had arrested 30 illegal car guards on the Thursday and on the Friday they were back at the ICC. He stated that they were aggressive and were pulling knives on the patrons who were attending functions. Chris suggested that the Chairman calls on Enforce to chase the illegal guards during special events, but the problem arose when it was an evening event as the UIP did not have guards in place at night. The Chairman stated that they would need to educate the patrons to use the parkings that were available for the functions. He furthermore advised that the Nedbank parking opposite had been arranged but not used.

7.3 Retaining Wall City Lodge Corner

Colin advised that clarity needed to be obtained as to who was responsible for repairing the damage to the retaining wall on the corner of Bram Fisher and Shepstone Road. No parties were present to obtain clarity.

Colin to follow up

7.4 Reserve Bank

Khule advised that Gerhard Helberg who had attended the meetings previously had recently resigned from the Reserve Bank. He stated that they had an incident whereby an individual jumped over the Reserve Bank fence from the Workshop side into their facility. The individual was well

built and neatly dressed and only started acting drunk when Metro Police arrived. He stated that as per protocol, their security did not exit the building to confront the intruder. He was concerned that the intruder was possibly evaluating their security procedures. He was even more concerned that the individual was released before a case could be opened and questioned whether Metro Police new the importance of security at the Reserve Bank which is a National Key point.

Khule explained that during the SAMA awards vehicles parked around the Reserve Bank had blocked their access. After 3 hours Metro Police arrived and towed away one vehicle leaving the rest in place still blocking their access. A further problem was that people were being mugged in the walkway behind the Reserve Bank.

Chris to action.

The Chairman thanked all for attending the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 15:40

8. Date of Next Meeting

12 July 2016