

# FAR SOUTH PENINSULA COMMUNITY FORUM (FSPCF)

## MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE MASIPHUMELELE WORKING GROUP

### HELD AT 17H30 ON 5 APRIL 2016 IN THE FISH HOEK LIBRARY MEETING ROOM

#### **Preamble:**

The FSPCF is the joint voice of several Civic, Community and Environmental organisations in the Far South Peninsula. At the Quarterly General Meeting of the FSPCF held in November 2015 social issues relating to the Far South Peninsula were discussed and it was agreed that specific attention be given to understand and support the communities of Masiphumelele and Ocean View, notwithstanding the present absence of their civic organisations as members of the FSPCF. The Masiphumelele Development Framework, which was being prepared by consultants for the City, would be monitored for input by the FSPCF. The FSPCF chairman stressed that Masiphumelele should be seen as part of the larger valley – including housing, medical, education, security, etc. considerations.

At the Quarterly General Meeting of the FSPCF held on 16 February 2016, Lutz van Dijk and Steve Perrett, who had been invited to the meeting, tabled documentation that the current approach being taken by the City in respect of Masiphumelele was not adequate or appropriate. It was agreed that a working group be established and that a follow-up meeting with Masiphumelele representatives to discuss the way forward take place on 5 April 2016.

#### **Attendance:**

See attendance register attached hereto (Attachment 1).

In the chair: Marti Weddepohl

#### **1. Welcome and Introduction**

Marti welcomed all to the meeting and itemised the following points in respect of this inaugural meeting of the Masiphumelele (Masi) Working Group

- the FSPCF is a civic organisation and a member of the Greater Cape Town Civic Alliance (GCTCA)
- the FSPCF is a collective body of the Far South Peninsula community which co-ordinates submissions to the Municipality / Province / Government
- the FSPCF has had success in engaging with the City of Cape Town
  
- why here, what do we want to achieve, how take forward?
- how constituted?
- the FSPCF deals with many issues and in the past has only sporadically dealt with issues affecting Masi e.g. transport, taxi rank, pedestrian access.
- the FSPCF has recognised that social issues – housing, health, education, etc. – have not been adequately addressed
- the FSPCF recognises that Masi is overcrowded
- the FSPCF will fight for improved primary health care in Masi
  
- what is the mandate of the attendees?

#### **2. Agenda**

The agenda had been distributed before the meeting (see Attachment 2).  
It was agreed to add Erf 5131 to the agenda.

### 3. Participation at the meeting

Each attendee introduced him / herself and identified their interest in participating in the Masi Working Group. This is summarised as follows (in the order of the presentations):

Marti Weddepohl	FSPCF chairperson / Risk Reduction. <i>Improved social and service structures.</i>
Andy Dawes:	Educationalist and Psychologist. <i>Assistance with resources.</i>
Kim Kruyshaar	FSPCF - environmental issues. <i>Interest in the protection of the environment.</i>
Matthew Gray	FHVRRA and FSPCF - planning. <i>Built environment and long term self improvement.</i>
Steve Perrett	Ex FHVRRA – Exco member. <i>Assistance with research.</i>
Brian Nompunga	Chairman Wetland committee. <i>Improved living conditions.</i>
Portia Mgizima	Women’s Group. <i>Long term future.</i>
Lutz van Dijk	Hokisa. <i>Problem solving with view to long term sustainability. Building bridges.</i>
Howard Mbana	Community leader (in wetlands for 20 years). <i>Concern re capacity / eagerness of City and government to deal with issues. Masi Development Framework.</i>
Lonwabo Ntwasa	PAC – Backyarders. <i>Recognition of backyarders.</i>
Tshepo Moletsane	Branch chair of ANC and Community leader. <i>Resolve conflicts in the community and prioritise issues with the 3 levels of government.</i>
Allen Rose-Innes	FHVRRA chair and FSPCF. <i>Integration of Masi in the wider FSPCF community and assistance in solving Masi issues.</i>
Debbie Ellis	Acting chair – Imhoff’s Gift. <i>Assistance to the less privileged.</i>
Sithembele Mtshamba	Representative – Wetlands people. <i>Sanitation and water supply.</i>
Lynn Brown & Marike Colyn (NRPA)	Apologies – NRPA AGM

### 4. Ground-rules for the Working Group

Marti proposed these as:

- be friends
- stay away from party politics
- target all three levels of government
- formulate long term plans
- do not fall behind with actions
- recognise that we have some capacity to address matters but not all
- ongoing participation from a wide spectrum of Masi leaders is essential
- be honest
- be straightforward

### 5. Logistics for meetings

Marti proposed that other meeting venues be considered in addition to Fish Hoek – e.g. Pink House (Masi) and Living Hope.

### 6. Objectives of the Working Group

Marti tabled the following:

- Problem solving
- Dealing with the whole spectrum of Masi citizens – not only poor people

- Ensuring developmental process
- Addressing the concerns expressed by the ‘younger’ generation (18 – 35 years)
  - Police
  - Skills training
  - Active CPF
  - Poverty / employment
  - Responsibility to care for ageing parents
  - Arts, sport, cultural facilities
  - Drug rehabilitation
  - Gangsterism
- Ensuring developmental process

Andy tabled the following:

- Focus on the systemic problems and do-able solutions. What can we take on board?
- Focus on urban development
- Look at spatial development
- Inventory of what is available in the Masi area
- Concentrate on 6 fundamentals: people, housing, health, safety & security, education, land issues
  - Need for Social development framework
  - Location of facilities
- Consider fragmenting into smaller specific working groups

Steve tabled the following

- Prioritise health issues and the provision of toilets. (In the wetlands there are only 146 toilets for 14 500 people!)
- Explanation and background to Erf 5131, stressing its importance in resolving the mess of current housing & health issues
- Google Earth historical imagery shows that there has been no significant increase in the Wetlands I.S. area over the last 6 years
- The necessity of the FSPCF members to support the reviewing of DEA’DP’s Record of Decision, and if not, then not to oppose such review

Lutz tabled the following:

- The Group needs to find an identity
- Be a Group and reconcile positions, recognising that we cannot speak for the Masi community.
- Tackle issues within the capacity of the Group and with achievable results
- Assist in developing a strong structure in Masi
- Address the land issue as a priority.

All stressed:

- Put pressure on the City to obtain the Masi Development Framework ASAP from the City
- The Group needs to focus thinking for new ideas
- Focus on overcoming issues threatening us
- Address the short-term land issue
- Address the long-term land issues within a more holistic thinking
- The need for an apolitical local manager [e.g. similar to Desiree Mentor (S/C 19)]

Tshepo tabled the following

- Focus on overcoming issues threatening us
- Identify officials within S/C 19 and the City who are dedicated to Masi affairs
- Upgrading of the Clinic and the provision of shelter for persons queuing from 05h00
- Provision of expanded / new education facilities
- Pressure on Benedicta van Minnen (Mayco - Human Settlements) to give more attention to Masi

## 7. Comments by Marti to issues raised under 6. Objectives

- S/C 19 has responsibility for Masi, but it is not fulfilling its job on non-land issues. How do we put pressure on S/C 19?
- Masi is expanding, so how do we stop the proposed fence? Agreed that the fence is a stupid idea and that it impinges on the dignity of Masi residents.
- We need to create a mechanism whereby additional land is made available.
- It is essential to have the Masi Development Framework so that we can go back to community.
- We must engender understanding that Masi is a community not just a black hole.
- We need a land audit of surrounding areas but we must ensure its confidentiality, as otherwise people will expect achievement by “tomorrow”.

## 8. Comments by Lutz to issues raised under 6. Objectives

- Tabled the excellent document lodged with the South African Human Rights Commission by Tshepo, copies of which had been made available to all participants.
- The Police Ombudsman will be visiting Masi on 14 April. **(Post-meeting change: 13 April.)**
- A delegation from Masi will be meeting with B van Minnen on 19 April - 14h30. **(Post-meeting change: 26 April – 14h30.)**
- There is a need to focus on the land issue (Erf 5131). With the assistance of Steve he showed the location of Erf 5131.

## 9. General Discussion

- Matthew made the point that neither the ANC nor the DA can provide housing to all
- Marti made the points that
  - as the poor cannot afford or be allowed to build, there is a need to make the backyard liveable
  - the middle class is making the money, thereby impoverishing the poor
  - the long-term vision must be to have more land with the necessary services
- Lonwabo stressed the need to get statistics on TB at False Bay Hospital so as to lobby for a proper clinic
- There was an urgent need to create greater pressure for a ‘proper police station’
- The proposed fence appears to be for the protection of the environment without any consideration of the dignity of people
- There is a need to express general concern about Masi to the City, Province and the National Government
- It was noted that the Deputy Mayor (Ian Nielsen) will be presenting the budget for S/C 19 at a public meeting to be held at the Fish Hoek Civic Centre at 18h30 on 13 April
- Lucia Mayo has made “nervous” presentations to S/C 19. Marti and Allen are prepared to help her re formal channels
- The request re land should be directed via the S/C 19 manager Desiree Mentor
- Councillors tend to blame the leadership in Masi for non-delivery of actions undertaken by the City. This is creating divisions in the community
- Giving new zinc after a fire to build new informal structures does not solve the problem

## 10. Actions

The following actions were agreed for the FSPCF to take on behalf of the Working Group:

- submit a letter to the City objecting to the fence
- submit a letter to the City for the provision of more toilets in the wetland area
- submit a letter to the City requesting that Erf 5131 be made available for Masi housing with a well planned urban design
- obtain a report on City expenditure 2015/2016 and the budget for 2016/2017 in respect of Masi

Regarding Erf 5131, Steve, Kim and Matthew will look at the long-term benefits to Masi and the impact on neighbours and table a short summary of their findings.

These actions will be submitted for approval to the next General Meeting of the FSPCF to be held on 3 May.

**Post- meeting note: Rather complete these actions before the meeting now scheduled with B van Minnen on 26 April 2016.**

**11. Nest meetings**

The Working Group (with Lutz and representatives from Masi) will provide feedback to the next General Meeting of the FSPCF to be held at 17h30 on 3 May in the Sub-Council chambers.

The next meeting of the Masi Working Group is scheduled for 17h30 on 10 May. The venue will be advised in due course.

[Note that Allen will be away and tenders his apologies iro this meeting.]

**12. Closure**

Steve had printed on CDs various plans and photographs relating to Masi. Attendees were invited to take one.

The meeting closed at 20h00 with thanks from the chair for participants' attendance.

**Approved:**

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**Chair**

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**Date**