



muizenberg

IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Registration No 2001/018176/08 • Incorporated Association not for Gain
PO Box 138 MUIZENBERG 7950 • MANAGER 082-463-1525

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2008

Suddenly December is upon us and another year is nearly over. On the positive side this Festive time is a joyous and happy occasion for many of us where we can link up with families, spoil children and generally relax. The present financial climate is certainly not conducive to spending lavishly but we are sure that we can all spread a little goodwill this year whatever our circumstances. We only have to look around and we can find many people in far worse circumstances than ourselves and it makes one feel that things in our lives aren't so bad after all.

Election of a new Board of Directors

At the end of October this year we held our Annual General Meeting and the following Board of Directors were elected

John Cartwright (Chairperson)
Melany Bendix
Sandy Crossley
Nicolas Edwards
CLr Demetri Qually (ex officio)
Mike Romyn
Arno Erasmus
Truida Prekel

The last 3 directors were new appointments although Truida Prekel has stood in for Directors in the past. Arno Erasmus and Mike Romyn both own businesses and property in the area and are committed to Muizenberg. We are sure that the new Board will continue to get things moving forward.

We took leave of Trixi Palmer who had chaired the Board for 2 years but was unable to stand again due to business commitments. Thanks for all you did for MIDS Trixi.



Manager's Position

Our Manager since October 2006 Dave D'Alton has been appointed a City Councillor and has requested that he be released to enable him to concentrate on these duties. He will be attached to the Fish Hoek Sub Council and as such will still be available to serve the public of Muizenberg in his new role and not be lost to the area.

To this end we will be appointing a new Manager together with a part-time Public Relations Manager and list below our adverts for these positions which are being circulated by email

Muizenberg Improvement District

Do you have the time, skills and energy to contribute to the wellbeing of Muizenberg?

The Muizenberg Improvement District (MID) is looking to employ

- a Manager
- a Communication and Public Relations Manager.
- **MID Manager**

The MID Manager's role is to coordinate and manage the operations of the MID under the direction of the MID Board.

This includes liaison with

- the contracted security and cleansing service-providers
- other security agencies, including the SAPS
- the City
- civic organisations, and
- to be the link between the Board and the public and promote the interests of Muizenberg and of the MID.

Applicants must be computer-literate and have the capacity to draw and manage budgets and contracts, and establish good relations with diverse stakeholders.

Communication and Public Relations Manager (part-time)

The role of this officer is to promote the reputation and interests of Muizenberg, both as a community and as a destination - through a variety of media.

Applicants must have previous experience in communications, marketing and public relations, and should have contacts in the media industry.

Remuneration is negotiable, for both positions.

Applicants should include a *curriculum vitae* (maximum two pages) with telephone numbers of 3 contactable references, and should apply by email by 5pm on **Monday 12 January 2009**, to davedalton@telkomsa.net.

Criminal Activities and Derelict Buildings

Whilst we have some really beautiful and interesting buildings in our area we have some that need urgent attention and some areas notably the corner of Church and Frankfort Roads where anti-social and criminal activities take place. Our Manager is unable to concentrate all his time

amongst his many duties, on these matters alone and to this end we have engaged someone to concentrate solely on these issues and are achieving notable successes so far and will continue to target

these
criminal
activities



vigorously with the help of the City Council, SA Police and Metro Police and make it a safe and attractive area which all of our residents can enjoy and deserve. This will take time but we are confident that in the near future there will be a visible turnaround.

Muizenberg Moonlight Meander

The “Moonlight Meander” held at Muizenberg beach on Saturday 13 December brought together hundreds of locals and visitors of all ages to walk, have fun, picnic and enjoy the beauty and freedom of our beach – in total safety. Families picnicked on the sand, people filled the restaurants, and enjoyed meeting friends they had not seen for years, or new folks.

Arranged by the volunteer group Safer Together, the event aimed to bring together people from the greater Muizenberg area to get to know one another, and to “take the beach back” for the community – even if it was only for one night. A variety of entertainment was arranged (although it was modest, as the organisers did not know how many people would respond to this “pilot” invitation.)

Entertainment included vintage cars, horse-cart rides, kite-flying, face painting, laughter yoga, Putt-Putt – and then the opportunity to walk or sit on the beach in the moonlight.

Most of the restaurants and businesses near the beach had agreed to stay open – and they have reported that it was well worth their while. They would support it becoming a regular event.

Safety in the entire area was ensured by neighbourhood watches from Sea Winds, Vrygrond, 3 areas in Hillview, Overcome, and the Muizenberg Community Safety Initiative (MCSI), as well as security firms “Mountain Men”, Chubb, ADT and Combat Force. An ambulance from Cape Medics and trained paramedics were on standby – and fortunately there were no incidents.

To quote MCSI chairperson Elizabeth Milne who co-ordinated the safety arrangements: “Some of our resident “baddies” were spotted on the beach. A contingent of about 6 members of one of our visiting neighbourhood watches followed them for a while. They left the area, returning much later, only to be kept under observation again, until they again left. There were no crime incidents. Four-year-old Joel became detached from his mother at one point, but was located by the radio-linked paramedics within minutes and reunited with his mama.”

“Safer Together” sold candles to raise funds for torches for neighbourhood watches in areas where there is limited or no street lighting, and used the opportunity to hand over 8 high-quality rechargeable torches bought with funds raised with earlier events. This was the group’s fourth event to raise funds for better equipment to enable the Police, neighbourhood watches and trauma councillors at the Muizenberg SAPS to do a better job. The group has raised over R10 000 with three dinners-with-good-speakers, co-sponsored by Baltazar, Harbour House and Fogey’s Railway House, and are planning a major event in February or March to raise funds for the planned Watchcom community radio network.

All events aim to bring people together to get to know their neighbours, and have been generally well supported by people sponsoring their services and facilities free of charge, or at basic cost. Safer Together wishes to thank everyone who both participated and supported the event.

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capacity as a City Councillor and work closely with MIDS to the best of my ability and to the benefit of our wonderful area.

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