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*'Enthusiasm is common.
Endurance is rare'*

- Angela Duckworth



Dear MID Members,

As we forge on into 2021 still plagued by the 'Curse of Covid', the above quote, for me, best describes our Muizenberg community.

Businesses have been battered, yet most continue to endure. Residents have felt the hardships, yet still they endure. Organisations helping vulnerable people have been hard-pressed to continue assisting, yet they endure. The MID Board, too, has been challenged during this time, and yet we have not only endured but continue to do so with enthusiasm.

This rare enthusiasm has recently been buoyed by the addition of three new directors: Charles Goodwin (Finance and Government); Mike Romyn (Beachfront); and Clair Timlin (Gardening), who all know Muizenberg well and bring extra hands plus expertise to the Board.

In addition, Cara Dowling, a long-time resident and active community member, joins the board as alternative director for Toby Megaw, who holds the Safety & Security portfolio. Toby is phasing out of his role due to a huge workload this year and we welcome Cara and her experience to the board during this gradual handover.

Read on...

Peter Corbett

MID Chair



Social Development: A Hand Up, Not A Hand Out

I am extraordinarily pleased to announce that, after many months of proposals, meetings, setbacks and red tape, MID has officially partnered with U-Turn to set up a Service Centre for street people Muizenberg.

U-Turn is an NGO that has been running rehabilitation programs in Cape Town since 1997 with an excellent track record.

The U-Turn program is expected to launch in mid-March and initially focus on a service centre where homeless people can access meals twice a day via a voucher system. Residents will be able to buy vouchers from local businesses, which will enable residents to give responsibly to people in need. Twinned with the meal program is a voluntary rehabilitation program that equips people with the skills needed to overcome homelessness.



MID has committed to partially funding U-Turn's Muizenberg Service Centre and we will be sending out a special newsletter and pamphlets explaining the programme in full detail shortly. In the interim, learn more about U-Turn's work [here](#). And please also check out their YouTube channel [here](#).

– Dale Simpson, Social Development Portfolio



Beachfront: Beautification and Better Safety

1. See the sculpture for the circle on Surfer's Corner (finally) erected.
2. Work with Council to implement paid parking at the beachfront, which would eliminate the problem of self-appointed car guards.
3. Actively liaise with Council on the beachfront improvement plan and, where applicable, guide the process in the right direction.

– Mike Romyn, *Beachfront Portfolio*



Public Safety: Engagement to make Muizenberg Safer

In 2021, I plan to:

1. Educate MD members on the importance of reporting C3 issues (damaged/broken public infrastructure). This is crucial to the 'Broken Window' theory of auxiliary crime prevention, in that criminals are less inclined to target a well-kept area.
2. Continue engaging with the contracted Public Safety service provider to ensure optimum service and cooperation between all role-players.
3. Improve the incident reporting system so we can have a better overview of criminal activity and trends in Muizenberg, which will assist MID to work with role-players to tackle crime.

– Cara Dowling, *Safety & Security Portfolio*



Gardening: Greening the 'Berg

I'm excited to get my 'hands dirty' to further green Muizenberg by:

1. Planting up public spaces.
2. Involving the community more via encouraging residents to take ownership of shared green spaces.
3. Contracting a part-time gardener where budget allows.

– *Clair Timlin, Gardening Portfolio*



Public Spaces: More Potholes and Weeding...

Public Spaces isn't a 'sexy' mandate, but it's incredibly important to maintaining Muizenberg's appeal. As such, in 2021 I will be continuing to plough on with:

1. Accumulating, cataloguing and monitoring the progress of C3s (public infrastructure damage and repairs for Council, such as potholes and broken drain covers).
2. Working with Gardening to ensure weeds are a priority. Like I said, not 'sexy', but weeds lead to cracked pavements, which in turn leads to overall degradation of the area, so those pesky intruders need to be constantly dealt with.
3. Tackling the scourge of illegal dumping!

- Joanne Hichens, *Public Spaces Portfolio and Vice Chair*



Communications: Clear Comms is Key

We made good inroads in improving communications in 2020, but there is still much to be done, with little to no budget. In the coming year I plan to:

1. Launch a new-look website which is more user-friendly and also serves to educate members on pertinent issues, such as what MID is and is not responsible for, go-to contacts and procedures for issue reporting, etc.
2. Work with the local business community to promote inter-business support and pilot a #supportlocal media campaign.
3. Work closely with U-Turn to launch the Muizenberg Service Centre, including an on-going communication campaign around the centre's voucher and rehabilitation programme.

– *Melany Bendix, Communications Portfolio*

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