

SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL

Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting – 5 December 2017

Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting

held Level 2 Meeting Room, Council's Administration Building

Shellharbour City Centre

on Tuesday 05 December 2017 commencing at 3:04 pm

Present:

Cr Nathan Cattell

Shellharbour City Council

Cr Peter Moran

Shellharbour City Council

Community Members

Mr Richard Davis (Chairperson)

Community Representative

Aunty Lindy Lawler

Community Representative

Mr Barry Bird

Community Representative

Ms Jodi Edwards

Community Representative

Ms June Lowe

Community Representative

Ms Iriaka Ross

Community Representative

In Attendance:

Ms Kathryn Baget-Juleff

Group Manager Community Connections

Ms Jane Pollard

Acting Manager Community & Cultural Life

Ms Veronica Bird

Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer

Ms Christine Matesic

Agenda/Administration Officer

Acknowledgement to Country

Shellharbour City Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Land on which we are meeting and pays its respects to Elders past and present.

1. Apologies / Leave of Absence

An apology was tendered on behalf of Mayor Cr Marianne Saliba and Denika Thomas.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: That the apologies as tendered be accepted.

Guest Presentations:

Marla Guppy, Civic Centre Public Art Consultant and Angie Cass, Animator

Civic Centre Public Art project Update - 'Shellharbour Stories' animation project

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Ms Guppy provided an overview of the Civic Centre Public Art Strategy which includes a strong Indigenous focus. Marla acknowledged the work done by Aboriginal artists Uncle Steven Russell and Kristen Stewart, 'weaving pods' creating designs for the concrete seating in the Civic Centre forecourt, and Warwick Keen's 4x5m work 'People of the sky and tide' which will be hung in the customer service area.

The final work to be installed is "Shellharbour Stories" which features a series of short animations depicting local stories. Council's Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer (ACLO) was approached to identify a possible Aboriginal story that could be included. The ACLO suggested one of the six posters developed by Aunty Lorraine Brown and Narelle Thomas. This idea was embraced by the Artist, Angie Cass and Aunty Lorraine and Narelle have been consulted throughout the development of film. Narration will be done by Aunty Lorraine and Narelle, and Jodi Edwards will provide appropriate Aboriginal language.

The near complete animation was screened at the meeting and feedback was sought from the committee. Feedback included the use of alternative music for example didgeridoo, Aboriginal language and perhaps kids laughing and singing could be incorporated into the video to better represent Aboriginal culture. Feedback was noted by Marla and Cassie to be incorporated where possible into the film.

Judith Field and Donna De Jonge

Lend Lease - Calderwood Development

Djindi Bridge Opening

Ms Field made reference to the recent official opening of the new Djindi Bridge. A video of the launch was screened. The full length video can be viewed at the Calderwood Valley website under the News section in the "Living Here" drop down menu.

Ms Field advised that Lend Lease is seeking more Aboriginal names from the Committee for the naming of streets and parks in the Calderwood Valley Development.

Aboriginal Employment

Aboriginal employment opportunities were discussed. Ms Field advised the committee of the strong focus on training young Aboriginal people into jobs which have TAFE pathway opportunities. For example, participants will be trained in Certificate III in Heritage Management and will be provided on the job work experience through bush regeneration around Macquarie Rivulet. Murru Mittagar an Aboriginal organisation based in Western Sydney have been engaged by Lend Lease Communities to establish an Aboriginal Ranger Team at the Calderwood Valley residential development. Muru Mittagar are working closely with Warrigal Employment and the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council (ILALC). There are seven jobs being advertised with a focus on employing locally. The seven jobs include four Rangers, a Regional Project Manager and Leading Hands role. Ms Field

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reported that the information sessions held in October were not well attended, with only one participant at each of the workshops.

AAC member Ms Lowe advised that two potential candidates are waiting on feedback on the outcome of their attendance at the Lend Lease workshops. Mr Bird emphasised the focus should be on local employment. The ACLO offered support to facilitate more participation at a local level to assist Lend Lease in attracting prospective local applicants.

Jodi Edwards arrived at 3:35pm

The ACLO also provided information received at the recent the NSW Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference that highlighted the work of a local Aboriginal Team that have been employed by Albury City Council. The Aboriginal Team is also contracted out to local businesses to perform civic construction and land management to ensure continuity of employment. This concept could also be used by Calderwood for ongoing employment for the Aboriginal Ranger Team.

Contaminated soil update

Ms De Jonge provided an update on the contaminated soil situation. A subcontractor discovered the contaminated soil which was fallaciously transported to the site by another contractor. The situation has been addressed promptly and the EPA has issued a notice to have contaminated fill safely removed. Lend Lease are waiting further advice from EPA. Lend Lease have assured that the area is safe and areas of concern are covered.

Iriaka Ross arrived at 3:40pm

Jodi Edwards raised the issue of home ownership for Aboriginal people and low income earners within Calderwood Valley. Ms Edwards would like to see organisations such as Lend Lease incorporate affordable housing opportunities as part of future plans and development.

Mr Cattell suggested that the Committee could write to the State Government in relation to establishing more opportunity for housing affordability for low-income earners.

Action - The ACLO advised that Council had already engaged with the State Government on this issue. The ACLO will source this document for discussion at the next AAC meeting

Cr Moran suggested that surplus funds resulting from the Shell Cove Marina development program could provide housing opportunities to those groups that are locked out of housing affordability within the Shellharbour LGA. Council could work together with large developers to purchase land to assist with the provision of affordable housing options.

The issue of affordable housing will be discussed further at the March meeting.

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Marcello Chiodo

Group Manager Business Technology & Customers, Shellharbour City Council
- Naming of Reserves/Parks

Mr Chiodo is seeking engagement from the AAC in relation to input on streets names, Parks and Reserves in new areas within the Shellharbour LGA. A map outlining new areas was displayed and the committee were asked if they can provide a list of Aboriginal names that are appropriate to the area. The ACLO advised that a Predictive Map was prepared as part of Council's Aboriginal Heritage Study 2000, and that this could be used as an overlay for the areas identified. This map highlighting areas of significance should assist the AAC in the provision of appropriate Aboriginal names.

Mr Chiodo advised that every name needs to go through the geographic naming board process which at times does reject names.

Action: Mr Chiodo to provide the AAC committee with a list of places with an overlay interpretative map to assist the AAC to provide appropriate Aboriginal words and names

Mr Chiodo advised that a Council report will be prepared in 2018, and he will ensure AAC input has been included before submitting the report to council.

Toni Lindwall and Alisa Bateman

Communities / Communication Engagement Officer and Acting Organisational Performance Group Manager, Shellharbour City Council
- Community Strategic Plan (CSP) review

Ms Bateman advised that the Shellharbour CSP is a legislative requirement that is to be reviewed now that a new Council has been elected. The CSP is a community facing document that shapes the city. Community consultation is key to this review process, therefore Ms Bateman is seeking input from the AAC on how they would like the city shaped now and into the future.

Ms Lindwall outlined various promotional material currently being distributed including the 'Host a Conversation' concept as a mechanism to collect community feedback in a relaxed and informal way. The AAC expressed concern at the tight timeframe, and also suggested some ways to better engage with the Aboriginal community, including use of local Aboriginal language on the promotional postcard campaign, and hosting 'conversations' at Aboriginal organisations. The committee expressed that Council needs to go to the community, and to allow time for the promotional word to spread.

ACC member, Ms Edwards advised that two community based consultation sessions would be beneficial and suggested that one could be held at SACYA and the other at the Koori Men's Group.

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Action: The ACLO to arrange CSP review promotional packs to be sent to all AAC members, and to arrange two consecutive consultation sessions one on Monday 29 January at SACYA, and the other on Wednesday 31 January at the Koori's Men's Group. Ms Ross suggested that some Aboriginal language be incorporated on the promotional postcards.

Action: The ACLO to email Jodi Edwards seeking the Dharawal word for 'Hello' and 'Hey You' to be included on the CSP Review Postcards. Council will arrange for these postcards to be printed and distributed.

June Lowe left the meeting 4:40pm.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting 24 October 2017.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Barry Bird / Peter Moran

That the Minutes for the Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting held 24 October be confirmed as a true record or proceedings.

CARRIED

Action: The ACLO advised that she is still to arrange a meeting with Tamara and Jodi Edwards on Museum exhibits.

Ms Iriaka Ross congratulated council staff on the new building and acknowledged the Aboriginal art that is displayed.

3. Staff Reports

3.1 Community Strategic Plan (10971925)

RESOLVED: Iriaka Ross / Barry Bird

That the AAC receive and note this report and participate in this review by sharing and gathering feedback from community networks as discussed earlier in the meeting during presentations.

3.2 Aboriginal Advisory Committee - 20th Anniversary (10972376)

The ACLO is seeking ideas on how to celebrate this significant event. The committee are to bring forward ideas to the March 2018 AAC meeting.

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Cr Moran suggested a plaque be displayed in the new Civic Centre which lists members of the Aboriginal Community who have provided significant contribution in the Shellharbour LGA.

Cr Moran suggested the possibility of changing the name of Blackbutt Reserve to an Aboriginal name.

Mr Davis advised that his mother (Aunty Mary Davis) played a significant role in the establishment of the AAC in consultation with the former Mayor Cec Glenholmes and that she was citizen of the year in 2000. Mr Davis would like to see this work acknowledged as part of the 20th Anniversary Celebrations.

Action - Ms Edwards will provide a list of dual names to the next AAC meeting.

Cr Moran left the meeting at 4:53pm.

RESOLVED: Jodi Edwards / Aunty Lindy Lawler

The AAC accept and note the Report on the AAC's 20th Anniversary.

CARRIED

3.3 Aboriginal Advisory Committee Membership 2017/2019 (10972377)

The Committee discussed at length a revision of the AAC Terms of Reference (TOR) to include Aboriginal Elders (one male/one female) on the AAC to replace the elder from the Koori's Men's Group as stated in Rule 5, in the current AAC TOR. Discussion also focused on changing the number of total AAC committee members.

Action: that the ACLO to send a letter to Aunty Bev Armer thanking her for her contribution to the AAC.

Action: Advertising to fill one (1) community vacancy and the two Elders positions will commence after the ACLO's return from leave, reliant on approval of the Recommendations below by Council.

RESOLVED: Jodi Edwards / Nathan Cattell

1. The AAC endorse the seven eligible nominations received as outlined in the Table as Members of the AAC for the next two-year term.
2. The AAC does not accept the nomination that is ineligible because they do not live in Council's LGA pursuant to Rule 5 Membership – Eligibility.
3. Terms of Reference in relation to Rule 8 be amended to the following,

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- AAC Members shall occupy their positions for a period of two years expiring in December
 - Nominations shall be invited for new Committee members two months (October) prior to the end of the two-year term
4. Rule 5 be amended to include the following, ‘the total number of Community Members will be ten (10) (remove ‘including one member from the Koori Elders Group and replace with including one Male and one Female Elder)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.4 Calderwood Valley Aboriginal Ranger Program (10972545)

RESOLVED: Jodi Edwards / Barry Bird

That the AAC receive and note the Calderwood Valley community development Information Report update.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.5 Shellharbour Aboriginal Community Youth Association (10972546)

The ACLO advised that Council is working with SACYA to upgrade and renovate Oakleigh Park Hall. The proposed works will commence in February 2018 and are scheduled to be finalised by April 2018.

SACYA will need to relocate to other premises whilst the works are being undertaken.

RESOLVED: Iriaka Ross / Barry Bird

That the AAC receive and note the Information Report on the upgrade of Oakleigh Park Hall the premises currently leased by the Shellharbour Aboriginal Community Youth Association (SACYA).

The AAC recommends that Shellharbour City Council not increase the rent to SACYA at Oakleigh Park Hall as a result of these improvements.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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4. General Business

4.1 NAIDOC Week

The ACLO advised that the NAIDOC event will be held at Albion Park Rail next year.

The ACLO also advised that Sharon Randall has resigned from Council's other ACLO position. The responsibility of event management forms part of this role therefore work will commence on the NAIDOC event once this role has been filled. Council will recruit for this position in 2018.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.2 Employment

RESOLVED: Iriaka Ross / Barry Bird

That council investigate the possibilities of employing an Aboriginal Employment Coordinator to progress the Aboriginal employment strategy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.3 Bass Point Interpretive Centre (BPIC)

The ACLO advised that she is currently finalising the Report to the Executive Leadership Team seeking approval of the BPIC Tender and Assessment documents. It is envisaged that a tender will be released in early 2018 with the view to finalising the BPIC Business Case by June 2018.

A full report will be provided to the March meeting of the AAC in relation to the classification of the land.

5. Items for Information

Nil

6. Next Meeting

6 March 2018

Meeting closed at 5:41pm