Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting – 4 November 2021

Note: These recommendations are subject to adoption at Councils next Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 16 November 2021

Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting Meeting held via Teams webcast video link on Thursday 4 November 2021 commencing at 3.00pm

Present:

Mayor, Cr Marianne Saliba (Chair)
Cr Moira Hamilton
Cr Robert Petreski
Shellharbour City Council
Shellharbour City Council

Community Members:

Aunty Lindy Lawler Community Elder

Mr Richard Davis

Ms June Lowe

Ms Jodi Edwards

Ms Iriaka Ross

Mr Barry Bird

Ms Toumanda Fohrman

Community Representative

Community Representative

Community Representative

Community Representative

Community Representative

In Attendance:

Ms Kathryn Baget-Juleff Group Manager Community Connections

Ms Bonnie Hittmann Manager Community Life
Ms Flora Lepouras (part) Executive Manager
Mr Nathan McColl (part) Senior Design Engineer

Mr Jamie Dawson (part)

Manager Community Engagement and

Activation

Ms Carmelina Nunnari (part)

Acting Arts and Cultural Development Officer

Ms Katrina Owers (part)

Civic Centre Activation Manager

Ms Christine Matesic (Minutes Taker)

Corporate Meetings Officer

1. Acknowledgement to Country

Shellharbour City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Dharawal Country and recognise their continued connection to the land we meet on today. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region and extend our recognition to their descendants who continue to live on country.

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2. Apologies / Leave of Absence

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Petreski / Davis

An apology was tendered on behalf of Community Representative, Basilia McGaw.

It was NOTED the Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer was unable to attend this meeting.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

3.1 Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting 5 October 2021

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Petreski / Hamilton

That the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5 October 2021 as circulated be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED

4. Disclosures of Interest

Ms Jodi Edwards

Declared a Pecuniary Interest to Item 6.6 as she has submitted an application for the Art Trail.

Ms Jodi Edwards

Declared an interest to Item 6.3 as she is on the Board of Beyond Empathy.

5. Presentations

5.1 Governance Induction for Community Representatives

Presenter – Flora Lepouras Executive Manager, Shellharbour City Council

Ms Lepouras noted that the community representatives were provided with a copy of the Code of Conduct for Council Committee Members, Delegates of Council and Council Advisers and that they had signed an acknowledgement of their responsibilities and obligations as a community representative under the Code of Conduct as well making particular note of Declarations of Interest and the requirement to declare an interest at the appropriate time in the Agenda if they had a conflict as prescribed in the Code of Conduct.

The Mayor thanked Ms Lepouras for her report.

6. Staff Reports and General Business

6.1 Development of a Reconciliation Action Plan Report (11759112)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Petreski / Davis

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

- 1. RECEIVE and NOTE the Reconciliation Action Plan Report; and
- 2. consider establishing a Reconciliation Action Plan sub-committee for Shellharbour City Council under the guidance of the national Reconciliation Plan authority.

CARRIED

6.2 Elsa Dixon Update Report (11759110)

Ms Hittmann spoke to this report and advised further foundational work is needed moving forward as well as consultation with RAP.

Ms Edwards saw it unnecessary to seek guidance from RAP as this has been ongoing and RAP does not have an impact on employment strategies.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Davis / Petreski

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

- 1. RECEIVE and NOTE the Elsa Dixon Update Report; and
- 2. NOTE this will continue to be monitored and reported back to a future meeting of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

6.3 NAIDOC Events Update Report (11759113)

Jodi Edwards declared an interest on the Board of Beyond Empathy.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Bird / Lawler

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive and note the NAIDOC Events Update Report.

CARRIED

6.4 Request for Nomination to Coastal Management Advisory Committee (11759111)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Davis / Hamilton

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee nominate Jodi Edwards to be a representative on the Coastal Management Advisory Committee to be endorsed by Council.

CARRIED

6.5 Airport Business Park Road Naming Report (11759114)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Lawler / Petreski

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

- 1. RECEIVE and NOTE the Airport business park naming report; and
- provide recommendations for suitable Dharawal language words to be used as road names for the Shellharbour Airport Business Park by close of business 19 November 2021; and
- 3. NOTE this will be reported to the next meeting of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee for determination by the committee.

CARRIED

6.6 Verbal Report

Applications received for a new Public Art Commission for the Lake Illawarra Art trail

Presented by Jamie Dawson Manager Community Engagement and Activation

Ms Jodi Edwards Declared a Pecuniary Interest in this item and left the meeting.

Mr Dawson provided a presentation that included a visual display of the proposed sculptures, background of the artists and examples of their previous works. The purpose of the presentation was to seek advice and feedback from AAC members in moving forward with Public Art piece for the Art Trail.

Six high quality submissions have been received, four with an Aboriginal background and 2 non-Aboriginal artists who proposed mentorship connections with local Aboriginal artists in the development of their work.

Ms Ross was impressed with the applications and put forward her comments on the importance to commission a local artist to represent the significance of the work and connection to local the community.

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This position was also strongly supported by Mr Davis and Mr Bird.

Mr Dawson advised that this feedback will be provided to the Public Art Advisory Panel who will determine the successful applicant.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Davis / Aunty Lindy

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. RECEIVE and NOTE the presentation provided by Jamie Dawson and that all feedback, including the AAC's recommendation that Council should commission local artists where possible will be provided to the Public Art Advisory Panel.

CARRIED

Mr Bird requested it be NOTED that this recommendation was carried unanimously.

Ms Edwards returned to the meeting at 3:54pm

6.7 Verbal Report Shellharbour Interpretive Play Space – Rear of Civic Centre

Presented by Katrina Owers Civic Centre Activation Manager, Shellharbour City Council

Ms Owers provided a presentation on the proposed new Shellharbour Interpretive Play Space that will be located to the rear of the Civic Centre.

An artist impression sketch was displayed of the final draft concept plan with a layout of the play space.

Mr Bird asked if QR codes will be included to which Ms Owers responded QR codes will be incorporated as part of the new space.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Petreski / Hamilton

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

- 1. RECEIVE and NOTE the presentation provided by Katrina Owers; and
- 2. acknowledge and thank Ms Jodi Edwards for her contribution and work in bringing this concept idea forward.

CARRIED

6.8 General Business – Aboriginal Interpretive Centre and Aboriginal Employment Strategy

Ms Jodi Edwards asked why there was no report for the Aboriginal Interpretive Centre and the Aboriginal Employment Strategy.

Action - The Mayor requested that the Aboriginal Interpretive Centre and the Aboriginal Employment Strategy be standing items on the Agenda for future Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meetings.

6.9 General Business – Shell Cove Marina Official Opening Ceremony and Signage

Ms Jodi Edwards expressed her disappointment in the lack of consultation with the Aboriginal Advisory Committee and the official opening of the Shell Cove Marina and with the lack of reference to Aboriginal heritage and culture in the Shell Cove signage.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Edwards / Davis

The Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

- 1. NOTED the comments made by Ms Jodi Edwards and expressed their disappointment in relation to invitations not being provided to the AAC committee members on the official opening of the Shell Cove Marina;
- 2. that the Chief Executive Officer will be asked to contact Ms Edwards directly on the issues raised around the opening and lack of signage relating to Aboriginal culture, significance and history within the Marina area precinct;
- 3. that the Chief Executive Officer be invited to attend the next meeting of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee to addresses the issues raised at this meeting; and
- 4. will receive an explanation on the lack of consultation relating to signage and that this be reviewed and bought back to the committee to address at the next meeting.

CARRIED

- 7. Items for Information
- 8. Next Meeting

1 March 2022

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In conclusion the Mayor thanked the committee for their support and the opportunity to Chair meetings of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

Meeting closed at 4:25pm