

MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday 4 May 23
6pm – 8pm



1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledgement of Country was conducted by Councillor Masselos.

Present

Councillors	
Clr Paula Masselos	Mayor of Waverley
Clr Ludovico Fabiano	Councillor
Council Officers	
Emily Scott	General Manager
Annette Trubenbach	Executive Manager, Community Programs
Madly Bodin	Community Development Officer, Diversity
Rebecca Rodwell	Manager, Community Planning & Partnerships
Community Member/Organisations	
Anna Friedman	Resident
Baris Atayman	Australian Turkish Mutual Alliance
Emily Bogue	Resident (online)
Lana Kofman	JewishCare
Linda Deutsch	Expert
Margaret Teed	City East Community College
Marcia Monje de Castro	Resident
Raphael Crowe	Resident
Rozy Dorizas	Resident
Robert Farotto	Resident
S. Marie Denizard	Resident
Valentina Baú	Resident
Guests	
Doug Cronin	Our Race
Mengze Huang	Social Work Student

2. Apologies

Ben Thompson, Sharon Cassidy, Cllr Sally Betts, Cllr Angela Burrill

3. Acceptance of previous minutes & business arising

Moved: Valentina Baú **Seconded:** Lana Kofman **Carried**

No business arising.

4. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

The Mayor explained the difference between pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests. Further information is in the briefing pack which was sent to all members.

There were no declarations from committee members.

5. Introductions and Induction of New Members

- Group Activity:

Each MAC member introduced themselves to the group and provided feedback about motivation to join the MAC and what they are looking forward to discussing. Responses include:

- Anti-racism – what can we do to continue projects that were started in the last term?
- Creating opportunities for older people from diverse backgrounds, i.e. exercise, inter-generational projects, storytelling.
- Creating community through inclusive events and opportunities for connection.
- Concerns about housing affordability.
- Different communities are in silos, breaking down barriers.
- Discussions around policy and strategy.
- Don't want children to face discrimination.
- Enabling people to meet their potential.
- Strategic programming and initiatives.
- Terms of Reference
The objectives, principles and attendance requirements were outlined (presentation attached)
- Cultural Diversity Strategy Overview
Cllr Masselos briefly spoke about the Waverley Cultural Diversity Strategy which has resilience as its strong foundation and creates a benchmark for other Councils. Many plans and policies relate to the Strategy and use it as a reference point for cross council implementation.

There are 5 key focus areas – Leadership and planning, Connected and welcoming, No place for racism, Inclusion and equity, Unlocking opportunities.

6. Quarterly Update

- **Artist talk and art competition**
As part of our 'United to End Racism' competition, we held an artist talk with Emmanuel Asante and Shiva Dadvar who were last year's winners and have had their murals displayed on the seawall. The audience was engaged and supportive, and for Shiva it was the first time she publicly spoke about her art. Feedback suggests that it was great to hear from the Mayor and see her leadership in this space. The artists enjoyed the experience.

Leila Beigli & Nawres Jabbar have been successful in the 2023 competition and will start working on their murals shortly. They have both received a \$600 prize to contribute to the costs of the work and transport to Bondi. They will also have a walkthrough and mentoring session with one of the successful artists from last year.

- **International Students Update**
The project is aimed at ensuring international students and younger migrants feel **welcomed**, have a **sense of belonging and connection** to the local area, and know how to **access supports**.

Our Social Work Student, Mengze, has been working on this project, and to date has:

- consulted with stakeholders;
 - developed a consultation survey;
 - began promoting volunteer positions for current/former international students to support the project.
- **Voice to Parliament Campaign**
Council is hosting a community forum on May 10 with Ruby Langton Batty, Craig Foster, Michael Ingrey and Cllr Paula Masselos as panel members to discuss the Uluru Statement and upcoming referendum.
 - **Author Talk**
As part of the Anti-Racism strategy, the library will be hosting an author talk with Eda Gunaydin, facilitated by Sheila Ngoc Pham on May 18. Eda is the author of the book [Root & Branch: Essays on Inheritance](#), a winner of the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Non-Fiction. In this thought-provoking book, Gunaydin delves into the complex relationship between identity, culture, and language in the context of migration and belonging.
 - **Communication Supports Policy**
Previous feedback from the committee has been incorporated into the document. A hard copy version was distributed to everyone to encourage anyone who hadn't contributed to contact Madly with their comments. Endorsement of this policy will be sought from the Executive Leadership Team in the next few weeks.

7. Ethical Storytelling – Presentation from Our Race

Doug Cronin presented on the mission of Our Race.

Our Race is a social enterprise that promotes the development of tools and techniques to enable storytellers and communities to be the creators and directors of their own stories and promote them in the wider community. Doug explained why individuals who are engaged by organisations to share their stories need to be better recognised and supported for the contribution they make. The presentation was followed by some questions and comments from the MAC.

8. Other Business/Correspondence

NIL

9. Meetings in 2023

Thursday 3 August, 6pm-8pm

Thursday 2 November, 6pm-8pm

Meeting closed 7:44pm.