

Reconciliation Action Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes



Thursday 30 November 2023

6pm-8pm

Queens Park Room

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

Councillor WY Kanak acknowledged country.

Present

Councillors	
Clr Dominic WY Kanak	Councillor (Chair)
Clr Ludovico Fabiano	Councillor
Council Officers	
Emily Scott	General Manager, Waverley Council
Ben Thompson	Director, Community, Culture and Customer Experience
Annette Trubenbach	Executive Manager, Community Programs
Rebecca Rodwell	Manager, Community Planning & Partnerships
Matilda Brown	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Development Officer
Anne McGoverne	Strategic Planner (Heritage)
Community Member/Organisations	
Earl Weir	Member
Gene Ross	Member
Dr Sarah Jane Moore	Member
Brad Franks	Member

2. Present/Apologies

Clr Paula Masselos, Kirsty Beller, Liz Tierney, Walangari Karntawarra, Micheal Mahoney

Damien Barnes resigned from the committee effective 1 November 2023.

3. Acceptance of previous minutes and matters arising



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Minutes 20 September 2023 were moved and accepted via email

Moved – Earl **Seconded** – Gene

No matters were raised.

4. Referendum Outcome

The committee discussed the impact of the referendum and considered how the momentum and positive contributions from supporters of the 'yes' campaign could lead to action and change. The committee will continue to work on this in the coming months.

For anyone requiring support/someone to talk to, 13 Yarn is available for Aboriginal people.

<https://www.13yarn.org.au/>

The support from the committee in Council's Referendum Education Campaign was noted.

5. Whale Dreaming Project

This item was carried over.

6. Cultural Audit and Heritage Study Discussion

Anne McGoverne attended the meeting. Anne is Waverley's Heritage Strategic Planner and project officer for the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study which has recently been approved by the executive leadership team. Anne is also working on a Heritage Grant to seek funding to support the project.

The committee members who attended the briefing about Bronte Surf Club were impressed with the extensive research that had been prepared by Jefa Greenaway. It was agreed that the committee would seek a briefing with Jefa and that the Cultural Heritage Study could potentially build on this research.

The committee suggested that:

- Many Aboriginal perspectives need to be represented.
- It should be written by Aboriginal people.
- Oral and aural sources should be sought.
- Truth telling is a key component.
- Consider working with Woollahra and Randwick for a Coastal Sydney perspective.
- The tangible and intangible should be reflected.
- Important to include local stories ie Yalunga Festiva, Building Bridges Concert, Survival Day and Ruby Hunter connection.
- Heritage as an act of resistance.

The study will need to meet requirements of the NSW Planning System, and an important aspect will be how we manage significant sites now and in the future.



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7. Event Planning and Feedback

Dawn Reflection

Planning for the event is underway with the Gamay Dancers and Uncle Lloyd Walker confirmed. We are still confirming event details and have sourced an improved sound system. We will invite participation from la Perouse Elders and will make transport available if needed.

Gene will follow up with the Surf Club regarding the BBQ.

We will organise an online catch up in early January to update the committee on progress for the event.

8. Other Items

Elsa Dixon Trainees

We have had three Aboriginal students from Matraville undertaking work experience at Council over two weeks. This experience is to determine whether these students are interested in undertaking a school based traineeship with Council in 2024/25. The students are working in the Open Space and Early Education areas.

Hey Kunanyi

Last weekend, Dr Moore performed her one woman show at the Bondi Pavilion Theatre with eight songs telling eight stories about navigating nature. Aboriginal attendees made up 23% of the audience. The piece was developed through an Artistic Residency at the Pavilion when it reopened in 2022. Dr Moore indicated that this was a great experience both culturally and professionally. She hopes to take the show to Garma and Archie Roach Festivals. Ben congratulated Dr Moore on her performance.

9. Meetings in 2024

To be confirmed.