

MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday 24 March 2021
6pm – 8pm
Queens Park Room – Waverley Council Chambers



1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledgement of Country was conducted by Cr Paula Masselos.

Present

Councillors	
Cr Paula Masselos (Chair)	Councillor
Cr Leon Goltsman	Councillor
Council Officers	
Emily Scott	Acting General Manager
Annette Trubenbach	Executive Manager, Community Programs
Madly Bodin	Community Development Officer, Diversity
Rebecca Rodwell	Manager, Community Planning & Partnerships
Community Member/Organisations	
Emily Bogue	Resident
Lana Kofman	JewishCare
Linda Deutsch	Resident
Ludovico Fabiano	Resident
Margaret Teed	City East Community College
Patricia Jenkins	Expert
Rachel Tanny	COA Sydney
Raphael Crowe	Resident
Robert Farotto	Resident
Rozy Dorias	Resident
Tito Schoel	Resident
Valentina Bau	Resident

Apologies

Clr Angela Burrell, Clr Tony Kay, Clr Dominic WY Kanak

2. Acceptance of previous minutes

Moved: Rozy **Seconded:** Margaret **Carried**

3. Introductions and inductions

- Group activity & introductions
- Terms of Reference
- Code of Conduct for Council Volunteers, WHS induction

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the new MAC and everyone had the opportunity to introduce themselves and identify their motivation for joining the committee and what specific topic was important to them.

Madly reminded the group of the objectives of the committee and principles of collaboration outlined in the terms of reference, along with the code of conduct and WH&S induction.

Setting the scene for the new MAC term, Council would like to ensure Multicultural Waverley is front and centre of everything we do. We want the MAC to be innovative, forward thinking, dynamic and challenge Council's role in supporting a contemporary view of multiculturalism.

4. Racism Not Welcome Campaign

At the February Council meeting, Council unanimously agreed to the following motion.

That:

1. Councils refer the 'RacismNOTWelcome' campaign package to the Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) for discussion and guidance on ways to implement the 'RacismNOTWelcome' street sign and associated campaign in the Waverley local government area.
2. In assisting the MAC, Council and its officers undertake any liaison with Inner West Council that can facilitate Waverley's involvement in the 'RacismNOTWelcome' campaign.
3. A report come back to Council with recommended actions.

The Diversity Community Development Officer spoke with Inner West Council who provided the following feedback;

- They have received significant spontaneous feedback, mostly positive
- They have been inundated with requests for information from other Councils
- They are developing a toolkit and website for other Councils to use and it is part of a broader Council strategy
- There is strong interest from Newcastle Council, City of Sydney and Parliament of NSW around the campaign

Initial suggestions from the MAC to incorporate into the campaign included:

- using additional forms of communication in public spaces such as street art
- collaborating with community groups and precincts
- considering round table discussions with community members

- exploring the use of various expressions while calling out and defining racism (including overt and casual racism, unconscious bias)
- potentially aligning this campaign with other campaigns to increase its impact

The MAC will further discuss the campaign at the May meeting to determine next steps.

5. Cultural Diversity Strategy and Action Plan

The consultants have provided two summary reports (to be distributed following the meeting) including a best practice review and summary report. They have also been consulting extensively with the community, services and businesses. The Diversity Community Development Officer has been driving internal consultation. Internal and external surveys have also been distributed. The MAC will have an out of cycle meeting on 28 April with the consultants for an update on the strategy progress.

6. Council Update

- Mill Hill Community Centre is currently closed while the Boot Factory restoration is taking place. The community centre will also be upgraded as part of the project. Seniors Centre activities have been moved to the library and Mill Hill staff are working from Chambers.
- Beach etiquette – the Mayor, Madly and Matt Du Plessis (Manager, Lifeguard Services and Beach Safety) met with ‘Turbans 4 Australia’ to discuss beach safety.

7. Reports

- South East Sydney Multicultural Water Safety Committee has created a website dedicated to water safety directory with multilingual resources (print and video) and contact details of the organisations involved (www.watersafe.org.au). Madly is exploring whether we can utilise space in Bondi Junction station to promote beach safety messages.
- The Local Government Multicultural Network Anti-Racism Working Group has been a positive forum to learn, share and develop best practices on anti-racism initiatives. Madly shared an article by Luke Pearson and Mick O'Loughlin on Indigenous X and will be sharing outcomes or learning opportunities as they arise.
- Harmony week activities – Harmony Concert was cancelled due to rain and has been rescheduled to the 11th of April.

8. Other Business/correspondence

- Update on Indyreads – Robert presented on projects he is involved with the State Library of NSW on assessing and selecting ebooks with his Italian Book (through the Dante Alighieri Society Sydney Club). The ebooks will be made available to all the libraries based in NSW.

- Council is considering how to acknowledge champion surfer Pauline Menczer, who grew up in Bondi and did not receive prize money despite being a world champion.
- Council is working on an event to acknowledge the 80-year anniversary of the Battle of Crete.

9. Meetings in 2021

'Out-of-cycle' Zoom meeting on Cultural Diversity Strategy: Wed 28 April, 6pm -7.30pm.
Regular MAC meetings in May, Sep, and Dec.

Meeting closed 8pm