

MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday 2 November 2023
6pm – 8pm



1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledgement of Country was conducted by The Mayor, Councillor Paula 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
Matilda Brown	Aboriginal Community Development Officer
Rebecca Rodwell	Manager, Community Planning & Partnerships
Community Member/Organisations	
Anna Friedman	Community Member
Emily Bogue	Community Member
Lana Kofman	JewishCare
Margaret Teed	City East Community College
Marcia Monje de Castro	Community Member
Raphael Crowe	Community Member
S. Marie Denizard	Community Member
Valentina Baú	Community Member
Rozy Dorizas	Community Member

2. Apologies

Ben Thompson, Clr Angela Burrill, Clr Leon Goltsman, Linda Deutsch, Baris Atayman, Robert Farotto

3. Acceptance of previous minutes & business arising

Minutes were moved by Valentina and seconded by Marcia via email.
No business arising.

4. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

NA

5. Support for the local Jewish community

An expression of interest was shared with local community organisations, for a grant of up to \$10,000. Two organisations applied for direct support to the community, and Council will award part of the grant to each of the organisations.

6. The Voice Reflection and Discussion

1. Share with the MAC some resources around supporting the Aboriginal community.
2. Connect with volunteers and other Council's about next steps.
3. Consider how Council can acknowledge the hurt/disappointment eg at Dawn Reflection or some kind of healing ceremony.

7. Cultural Diversity Strategy 2021 - 2031

Anti-Racism Strategy – Stage 2

Following Stage 1 implementation of our Anti-Racism strategy, we will be working on the second stage. We want to ensure our community is safe, inclusive and engaged. Suggestions included:

- Sharing messaging on local radio and in the Beast publication.
- Incorporate anti-racism into the Mayor's Social Inclusion award.
- Partnership with schools.
- Targeting sporting groups.
- Spoken word competition/music competition/poetry slam.
- More events.

Ethical Storytelling Staff Workshop

21 Council Officers attended the Ethical Storytelling workshop in August, which was based on the information that Doug from Our Race presented to the MAC. This was an empowering process for the two artists involved in the workshop (Emmanuel and Shiva). Very positive feedback was received after the workshop.

Community Engagement Activities with Artists

Engagement with 2 artists who were successful in the 2023 anti-racism art competition.

Leila will be sharing her story and skills through 2 art & storytelling workshops with a group of women from Ukraine, with the support of Shiva. Both artists are being coached by Our Race thanks to a contribution made by Settlement Services International. The workshops will be delivered in partnership with Women's Circle East Sydney, which specifically focuses on supporting recently arrived Ukrainian women.

Nawras has attended the Bronte Early Education Centre to start sharing her story and art and is creating a book for a storytime project at the centre.

International Friends in Bondi

The purpose is to help young migrants feel **welcomed, connected** to the local area, and **supported**. 'Sculptures by the Sea' meet up held, and International Friends in Bondi Volunteers attended the

Waverley volunteer expo in September.

One more activity prior to Christmas and will have the capacity to schedule more regular meet ups once the team has access to the Mill Hill Community Centre.

Language Assistance Program

Three Council Officers in customer facing roles have successfully completed the Community Language Aid test, which enables them to share everyday information at a basic level in a language other than English. Languages certified include Hebrew, Russian and Spanish. More Council Officers are expected to be certified.

8. Update on last brainstorming session

Follow up on actions taken from last meeting Brainstorming Session with Manager Children's Services:

- Rewrote the flyer.
- Engaging with the convenor of the Cross-Cultural Maternity and Child & Family Health Services Working Group to promote Family Day Care as an opportunity for women to generate an income while caring for children under five years old.

Since our previous meeting, a pilot scheme supported by Thrive Refugee Enterprise has been announced by Family Day Care Australia to support educators from refugee backgrounds in starting a Family Day Care business.

9. Planning for Global Table

This year we are hoping to expand the food offering and have market stalls providing economic opportunities for people from culturally diverse backgrounds.

Suggestions from the committee to enhance the event included:

- Sharing positive stories.
- Can we do more within existing budgets?
- Events create opportunities for connection – we could be doing more.
- Culinary tables/lunch with refugees/multicultural cooking classes.

10. General Business

Upcoming Events

Discussion on a range of relevant events that are coming up in the LGA. The best way to receive information about what is happening in the LGA is through signing up to the Bondi Pavilion website and Waverley Weekly.

Point of Reflection

The importance of carefully considering the language used when discussing global conflict and its impact on local communities

The Mayor spoke that Council needs to focus on supporting the local community.

A suggestion was made to share resources around mental health with the community.

Action – Collate and promote resources around mental health and availability of support

Meeting closed 7:35pm.