

<b>Subject:</b>	Community Harmony Reference Group – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 7
<b>File No:</b>	CLR/07/8/101/1/8	
<b>Document Ref:</b>	D18/96043	
<b>Venue:</b>	Council Chambers 1 Pope Street, Ryde	
<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2018	
<b>Time:</b>	6.00pm	Started at: 6.00pm      Closed at: 8.15pm
<b>Chair:</b>	Councillor Zhou	
<b>Meeting Support (MS):</b>	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
<b>Staff Convenor:</b>	Jonathan Nanlohy	
<b>Circulation:</b>		

**Committee Role:**

The primary role of the Community Harmony Reference Group is to:

- Provide advice to Council to ensure that Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) residents in the City of Ryde are able to participate actively in all aspects of community and civic life and that Council recognises and values the diversity of the community

**Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference**

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Councillor Simon Zhou	Chairperson	City of Ryde
x		Councillor Peter KIm	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
	x	Councillor Sarkis Yedelian AOM	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
	x	Councillor Christopher Moujalli	Councillor Representative	City of Ryde
x		Hugh Lee	Community Representative	
x		Adele Garnier	Community Representative	
x		Hassib Elias	Community Representative	
		James Kim	Community Representative	
x		Rossella Tisci	Community Representative	
x		Safar Samed	Community Representative	
	x	Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
x		Richie Howitt	Community Representative	
		William Seung	Community Representative	
x		Kevin Pagaddinnimath	Community Representative	
	x	Lesley Tomasulo	Community Representative	
	x	Nathan Moulds	Community Representative	
		Anthony Ching	Community Representative	
		Caroline Xu	Community Representative	
		Peter Zangari	Community Representative	
		Ana Borba	Community Representative	
x		Alice Chik	Community Representative	

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Jerome Laxale	Mayor	City of Ryde
x		Angela Jones-Blayney	Director Customer and Community Services	City of Ryde
x		Liz Berger	Senior Coordinator Communications	City of Ryde
x		Gunjan Tripathi	Senior Coordinator Social Development & Capacity Building	City of Ryde

x		Jonathan Nanlohy	Community Projects Coordinator (Sector Development)	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde

**Details**

**Action**

1.	<p><b>Welcome and apologies</b></p> <p>Those in attendance and apologies are as above.</p> <p>Clr Zhou welcomed all present to the first meeting of this committee.</p> <p>He acknowledged Clr Laxale, Mayor and thanked him for his attendance.</p> <p>Clr Zhou stated that he believes this committee has an important purpose. He believes it will be of assistance through taking an active interest in what Council does and providing advice to assist in decision making.</p> <p>He stated that in the past the committee has done a good job and believes this will continue.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p>
2.	<p><b>Statement of Vision</b></p> <p>Councillor Zhou provided his vision statement to the group and emphasised the following points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The committee should focus on ensuring the availability of relevant information to all groups in the community</li> <li>- Information, where possible, should be provided in numerous languages</li> <li>- It is hoped to commence an ambassador program</li> <li>- The Community Harmony Expo held at Eastwood was cited as an excellent example of multi-cultural harmony in action</li> <li>- There were 45 languages spoken at the expo and in future years Clr Zhou would like to see even more diversity and colour at the expo.</li> <li>- Clr Zhou would like to build harmony through sport and singled out the AAAB soccer match held recently as a good example of this.</li> <li>- He stated the importance of supporting this type of event.</li> </ul>	<p>The information was noted.</p>
3.	<p><b>Welcome and Introductions</b></p> <p>The members of the Committee introduced themselves to their neighbour who then provided a brief introduction as follows:</p> <p>William Seung</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is president of the Korean Society and a member of the Korean Chamber of Commerce. Has held a position on the Multicultural Council of NSW</li> </ul> <p>Safer Sarmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local resident for 30 years.</li> <li>• Member of the Afghan community and works with this group regularly.</li> </ul> <p>Alice Chik:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lives in Ryde and works at Macquarie University.</li> <li>• Originally from Hong Kong and speaks Cantonese.</li> <li>• Is interested in multilingual Sydney and is editing a book on this topic</li> </ul> <p>Councillor Jerome Laxale (Mayor of the City of Ryde):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Born in Mauritius and didn't speak English until he started school.</li> <li>• Local resident and Mayor</li> </ul>	<p>The information was noted.</p>

Details	Action
<p>Hugh Lee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous member of this committee</li> <li>• Previous chair of Lunar New Year Committee and involved with running AAAB soccer matches.</li> <li>• Would like to see a greater number of multi-cultural sporting events</li> </ul> <p>Clr Simon Zhou:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active in multi-cultural community</li> <li>• Understands the community and is a first generation immigrant.</li> <li>• Would like to see a vibrant and active multi-cultural community in Ryde</li> </ul> <p>Anthony Ching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dentist in Eastwood</li> <li>• Member of Ryde Community Forum which organises the Moon Festival.</li> <li>• Works with charity organisations</li> </ul> <p>Badia Butt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of Lebanese background and has expertise in organising events.</li> <li>• Would like to be of assistance when events are planned.</li> </ul> <p>Rosella Tisci:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of Italian background and resident of Eastwood</li> <li>• Is studying social inclusion as part of her PhD</li> </ul> <p>Hassib Elias:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is a lawyer and was originally from Palestine.</li> <li>• Has been involved with this committee for seven years.</li> <li>• Provides assistance to settlement services who assist people from Iran and Syria</li> </ul> <p>Clr Peter Kim:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A local doctor with Korean background</li> <li>• Has a strong involvement with the local Korean community</li> </ul> <p>Ana Borba:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Originally from Brazil and now works at Macquarie University</li> <li>• A local resident who wants to help the multilingual community</li> </ul> <p>Peter Zangari:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First generation Italian background</li> <li>• Involved with young Italian groups and has two young children</li> </ul>	
<p>4. <b>Review of Community Harmony Reference Group achievements</b></p> <p>Jonathan outlined the previous actions and achievements of the Community Harmony Reference Group as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supported Refugee Welcome Zone</li> <li>- Carried out work with asylum seekers and prepared a welcome guide/pack</li> <li>- Worked to assist with resettlement of Syrian refugees</li> <li>- Supported Council in becoming a partner of “Racism Stops with Me”</li> </ul>	<p>The information was noted.</p>

Details	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Made a film with the assistance of the Salvation Army and Macquarie University re: anti-racism.</li> <li>- Arranged a BBQ at the multicultural centre as a campaign partner of above</li> <li>- Supported numerous Harmony Day events</li> <li>- Took part in and arranged the Community Expo at Eastwood.</li> <li>- Provides a range of multilingual information</li> <li>- Has been involved in programmes aimed at the prevention of domestic and family violence</li> <li>- Held BBQs with the police and different ethnic communities</li> <li>- Arranged visits to local courts where procedures relating to domestic violence were explained.</li> <li>- Undertook both practical and symbolic work</li> </ul>	
<p>5. <b>Adoption of Terms of Reference</b></p> <p>The relevant sections of the Terms of Reference unique to this committee were explained including that the committee can act in an advisory capacity to Council only.</p>	<p>The Terms of Reference were adopted.</p>
<p>6. <b>Meeting schedule for 2018</b></p> <p>Meetings for this committee will be held as follows:</p> <p>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018                      Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018                      Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2018                      Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018</p>	<p>The information was noted</p>
<p>7. <b>Working Parties</b></p> <p>The establishment of working parties will be listed for discussion at the next meeting.</p> <p>It is hoped to establish working parties of interest to committee members. The working parties can then work in tandem with groups and projects already underway in the community.</p> <p>It was noted that funding often becomes available for different projects through a number of sources in the community.</p> <p>If committee members become aware of funding opportunities they are encouraged to alert staff, even if between meetings, who can pass this information to other committee members.</p> <p>It was noted that Community Club Grants are now open.</p> <p>A suggestion for a future working party is a funding working party.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>An expression of interest to be sought in relation to the establishment of various working parties.</p>
<p>8. <b>Agenda Items</b></p> <p>Standing items to include reports from working parties.</p> <p>The next meeting is to consider standing items to be included on the agenda.</p> <p>Feedback is also sought on Council initiatives in the CALD community.</p> <p><u>Community Strategic Plan</u></p> <p>This is to be circulated to Committee members at the time it is placed on public exhibition.</p> <p><b>Community Harmony Expo – Eastwood</b></p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Jonathan to seek information from committee members re standing items required and Council initiatives in the CALD community.</p> <p>Jonathan to arrange circulation of Community Strategic Plan</p>

	Details	Action
	<p>Hassib Elias thanked staff and organisers for their work in arranging the expo held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018. He hopes in future years it can be made even more inclusive and larger.</p>	Noted
9.	<p><b>Key Dates</b></p> <p>Some of the key dates of interest to members of this committee include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Harmony Day</li> <li>- White Ribbon Day</li> <li>- Social Inclusion Day</li> </ul> <p>Jonathan will issue a calendar invite to committee members for each of the above events.</p> <p>It was noted that the Volunteer Awards presented by Council are now open with nominations closing on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018.</p> <p>Nominations can be made via Council’s website. Nominees should be volunteers who make a difference.</p> <p>It was noted that Club Grants close on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018.</p>	Jonathan to send calendar of invites for relevant dates and also the presentation date for volunteer awards.
10.	<p><b>Meeting Procedures</b></p> <p>Jonathan explained the format of the agenda and the way in which it is formulated.</p> <p>The committee can make recommendations but has no authority.</p> <p>The minutes of the committee are a public record.</p> <p>It was suggested that guest speakers could be invited to address the committee at future meetings.</p> <p>Staff who undertake a role of interest to this committee could be approached to be guest speakers.</p>	Noted
11.	<p><b>Next Meeting:</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Community Harmony Reference Committee will be held on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018</p>	Noted.