

Subject:	Community Harmony Reference Group – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 4
File No:	COR2006/719	
Document Ref:	D15/66448	
Venue:	Acacia Room, 1A Pope St	
Date:	Thursday 25 th June 2015	
Time:	Started at: 6.00 pm Closed at: 7.00pm	
Chair:	Councillor Yedelian OAM	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith	
Staff Convenor:	Jonathan Nanlohy	

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 recognizes and values the diversity of the community

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Councillor Yedelian OAM	Chairperson	City of Ryde
	x	Councillor Pendleton	Delegate	City of Ryde
	x	Councillor Etmekdjian	Delegate	City of Ryde
x		Mr Hugh Lee	Community Representative	
	x	Ms Rose Torossian	Community Representative	
x		Mr Hassib Elias	Community Representative	
x		Mr Jon Soemarjono	Community Representative	
	x	Ms Ying-fan Yvonne Wang	Community Representative	
		Li Hua Chu	Community Representative	
x		Safar Sarmed	Community Representative	
x		Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
		Ivy Pang	Community Representative	
		Kim Lee	Community Representative	
	x	Baharak Sahebekhtiari	Manager – Community and Culture	City of Ryde
x		Jonathan Nanlohy	Section Manager – Social Policy and Planning	City of Ryde

Additional Attendees

Name	Position Title	Organisation
Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde
Robyn Gaspari	Community representative – guest of Agnes Shim	

Details**Action****Responsibility and Date**

1.	Present:	Noted.	
2.	Apologies:	Noted.	
3.	Confirmation of Minutes The minutes from the meeting of 26 th March 2015 were confirmed and endorsed.	Minutes confirmed and endorsed	

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>4. Matters Arising:</p> <p><u>Racism. It stops with me – barbecue</u></p> <p>The first of the above Racism - It stops with me, community barbecues will be held on 25th July 2015 between 11am and 1.00pm at the Ryde Multicultural Centre – Lions Park West Ryde.</p> <p>Ryde Multicultural Centre’s undertaking as a campaign partner for the Australian Human Rights Commission’s “Racism. It stops with me” campaign will be signed at the barbecue.</p> <p><u>Arresting Vulnerability</u></p> <p>Gunjan Tripathi has carried out research which has found that despite the generally high incomes of most residents of Ryde, that there are pockets of the community where people experience food insecurity and fail to eat regularly. There has been an increase in the number of people seeking relief vouchers from charity groups. Reasons for this include mortgage stress, unemployment etc.</p> <p>It is noted that funding for emergency relief services is moving from traditional providers to more broad based organisations with call centre arrangements.</p> <p>It is feared that the local knowledge of related support services may be lost.</p> <p><u>Racism stops with me – Unified Ryde video update and planning</u></p> <p>The Unified Ryde video was created with assistance from the Salvation Army, Macquarie University, Ryde residents, community leaders, has been completed and is being edited.</p> <p>The video was possible due to a grant provided by Council to the Salvation Army which worked in conjunction with Macquarie University.</p> <p>Lots of students in marketing, psychology etc. TEDx Macquarie University were involved.</p> <p>The video will be shown at the TEDx Macquarie University event to be held on 26th September 2015.</p> <p><u>Understanding Domestic and Family Violence in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities Workshop</u></p> <p>Jonathan advised that a workshop on Understanding Domestic and Family Violence in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities had been well attended by 29 community workers and community representatives, with a further 31 people on the waiting list.</p>	<p>Information regarding the barbecue to be circulated to groups in the community directory and through word of mouth.</p> <p>A decision needs to be made regarding the next community group to host a barbecue.</p> <p>The information was noted.</p> <p>Jonathan asked that the thanks of all involved be passed to those people and organisations which took part in the video.</p> <p>Jonathan to forward the link for the final video to members of this committee.</p> <p>Jonathan to provide details to this committee regarding the video which has been produced by the Community Migrant Resource Centre at Parramatta.</p>	

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>Council is planning to conduct family violence prevention workshops with Korean, Afghan and Iranian community members .</p> <p>The workshops are designed to raise awareness of the issue of domestic violence and the services available in Ryde and surrounding areas to assist sufferers.</p>		
<p>5. Social Inclusion</p> <p>Jonathan advised that Council’s website is currently being updated and that this provides a good opportunity to include information regarding community and social cohesion.</p> <p>Activities to engage the community outside of Community Harmony Day to be developed.</p>	<p>A planning session is to be included on the agenda of the next meeting of this committee.</p> <p>Community groups to be asked for their suggestions regarding including the community in activities to be staged at Top Ryde Shopping Centre.</p> <p>An approach can be made to the shopping centre to use their facilities outside of Community Harmony Day if good suggestions are received.</p>	
<p>6. General Discussion/Other Business</p> <p>1. <u>Racist posters located in City of Ryde</u></p> <p>Posters with an anti-Asian theme have been placed in various locations including on utility service boxes near Top Ryde in recently months.</p> <p>Council has met with local police representatives to formulate a response.</p> <p>Council rangers and staff are removing the posters when they are found.</p> <p>2. <u>Upcoming events</u></p> <p>Hugh Lee advised of the following events.</p> <p>The Chinese Senior Citizens at Eastwood now have a Facebook page as follows:</p> <p>Humans of Eastwood Link: https://www.facebook.com/humansofeastwood</p> <p>A Hong Kong Style Milk Tea Competition will be held: Date: Saturday July 25, 2015 Time: 10.00am - 2.00pm Venue: Eastwood Plaza</p> <p>"Eastwood Has Talent" will be held Date: Saturday August 15, 2015 Time: 10.00am - 1.00pm Venue: Eastwood Plaza</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>The committee agreed that action should be taken quickly to deter this type of activity.</p> <p>The following suggestions to deter future vandalism were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • artwork could be placed on the sites currently being targeted, • The matter to be raised at the next Principals meeting with Council • a Notice of Motion could be raised at Council by Cllr Yedelian, affirming Council’s leadership role against racism and supports an inclusive and cohesive community. • interested community leaders would be able to speak at Council to the above Notice Of Motion. • Local state and federal Members of Parliament could be approached to raise the issue of social cohesion in parliament. 	

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	Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
	4) AAAB Photo Competition Date: September 2015 (Final date to be confirmed)		
7.	Date of next meeting Thursday 24 September Thursday 26 November	Confirmed and Endorsed	