

MEETING RECORD

Subject:	Inclusion and Access Working Group
File No:	CLR/22/60/5
Document Ref:	D24/16049
Venue:	MS Teams
Date:	Wednesday 7 th February 2024
Time:	6:00pm Started: 6.02pm Closed at: 7.05 pm
Chair:	Sean Willenberg – Coordinator Community Development
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors
Staff Convenor:	Jennie Dang – Community Development Officer – Seniors and Disability Inclusion
Circulation:	Working Group members and website

Committee Role:

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
		Clr Sarkis Yedelian OAM	Mayor - COR	
x		Clr Pedersen	Councillor - COR	
		Clr Han	Councillor - COR	
		Joe Bechara	Community Representative	
		Aida Yazdani	Community Representative	
	x	Emilie Lemasson	Community Representative	
x		Jeongmin (Cecilia) Park	Community Representative	
x		Sarah McFayden	Community Representative	
x		Kim Roots	Community Representative	
x		Gaynor Starkey	Community Representative	
x		Alexis Klein	Community Representative	SSI Ignite Ability

City of Ryde Staff

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Sean Willenberg	Coordinator Community Development	City of Ryde
x		Jennie Dang	Community Development Officer – Seniors and Disability Inclusion	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde

Details

1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p><u>Acknowledgment of Country</u></p> <p>Sean Willenberg provided the Acknowledgement of Country.</p>	Noted.
2.	<p>Minutes from the last meeting – 1st November 2023</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting held on 1st November 2023 were adopted.</p>	Noted.
3.	<p>Staff Change – introduction of Jennie Dang</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sean advised that Kim Harris has left Council and Jennie Dang is now the staff convenor. - Jennie Dang has been appointed to the position of Community Development Officer – Seniors and Disability Inclusion. 	Noted.

MEETING RECORD

Subject:	Minutes - Access and Inclusion Working Group – 7 th February 2024
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4.	<p>Guest Speaker – SSI Ignite Ability – Alexis Klein</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The role of SSI Ignite Ability is to support people with a disability, or their family and carers, who want to start a business. - To date over 30 businesses have been assisted with their start up through the program. - Participants are assisted to build skills on how to set up a business including business, marketing and financial management skills. - The service is free and includes virtual workshops each month. - The program services greater Sydney for in-person and anywhere remotely. - Ignite works with people who have a physical and/or intellectual disability. - Current funding is likely to end in June 2024, but it is hoped that the program can continue, especially the online component. - No expo days planned at present. 	<p>Alexis will advise Sean when the next Expo day is to be held.</p> <p>Jennie will send a copy of the presentation to the members.</p>
5.	<p>Council Updates</p> <p><u>Zero Barriers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purpose of Zero Barriers is to increase the capacity of businesses to be more inclusive and accessible. - 20 local businesses currently registered including 6 new businesses in Eastwood. <p><u>Social Inclusion Week and International Day of People with Disability</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Several activities were held during the week including Delta Dogs, Music and Magic show and inclusive sports at the RALC. - A Community Expo was held showcasing opportunities to promote services and providing information about local social connection groups and organisations. 200 people attended the day. <p><u>Community Grants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grant applications are now open and close on 23rd February 2024. - Assistance is available on how to apply for a grant and project eligibility. 	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
6.	<p>Community Education on Disability Awareness</p>	

MEETING RECORD

Subject:	Minutes - Access and Inclusion Working Group – 7 th February 2024
-----------------	--

Details

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The provision of community education is an action from the City of Ryde Disability Inclusion Action Plan. - Last year, two Disability Awareness training sessions were held and attended by 45 community organisations. - Six Disability Awareness sessions were held for Council staff with 76 employees attending. - It was suggested that Council connects with Side by Side for the workshops with Council supporting by promoting what is being done in the community would be beneficial. - Side by Side is about to commence a mentoring group regarding governance and civil roles for people with an intellectual disability. - Chambers of Commerce should be engaged to support inclusion in the business community. Perhaps a person with disability could address the Chambers. - Sydney FC has shown interest in being engaged in this area. 	Noted.
7.	<p>Upcoming Events:</p> <p><u>International Womens Day</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council event will be held on Saturday, 09 March 24 at North Ryde School of Arts. - The theme this year is ‘Count her in-Invest in Women, Accelerate Progress’. - There will be guest speakers, performances, and an interactive session. - The link to register for the event will be sent to the members. <p><u>Seniors Festival</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Festival will be held from 11-24 March and will include over 20 activities including open days at both Brush Farm House and Willandra. - A music and morning tea event will be held at North Ryde School of Arts <p><u>Harmony Day</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will be held on 22 March at North Ryde School of Arts from 4pm to 7pm. - There will be 4 cultural dance workshops including Chinese, Korean, Latin American and Bollywood. There will also be children’s craft activities. <p><u>Youth Week</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will be held from 11-21 April, during the school holidays. 	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

MEETING RECORD

Subject:	Minutes - Access and Inclusion Working Group – 7 th February 2024
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Details

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A skate jam will be held on the 13 April, Battle of the Bands on the 17 April and all-ability karaoke jam on the 20 April. - Council will be partnering with local youth service providers to hold activities for LGBTQIA+ young people and young carers. - There will also be a range of activities held at Council libraries and school holiday programs at various parks. 	
8.	<p>General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Side by Side Advocacy is holding a workshop in May for people with an intellectual disability focusing on supported decision making at home. There are also regular meetings to discuss the civic roles course. - Concern was raised regarding the recommendation of the Disability Royal Commission and the suggestion that people be placed in group home situations rather than individual accommodation. Cecilia noted she is available to provide feedback from the meetings. - Spinners and Weavers received a grant to engage 10 people in a creating scarves project. - Sarah raised the need for Council and other groups to consider the needs of people with a range of disabilities when undertaking public domain projects. Recent advice about a new park in Thistle Street and noted that it would be good if the park was accessible. - When undertaking public domain works there needs to be consideration of accessibility issues for children and adults. - The footpath in Pidding Road is overgrown and the overhanging trees makes access difficult. The footpath needs to be made pf non-slip materials, especially for when wet. - Service NSW will be conducting an online presentation on the 10 April regarding companion cards and other matters of interest. - Council is currently recruiting for a person with an intellectual disability to work in Council’s Community Services team. 	Noted
9.	Next Meeting: Wednesday 1st May 2024	Noted