

Subject:	Community Harmony Reference Group – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 4
File No:	COR2006/719	
Document Ref:	D15/31052	
Venue:	Acacia Room, 1A Pope St	
Date:	Thursday 26 th March 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
		Councillor Pendleton	Delegate	City of Ryde
	x	Councillor Etmekdjian	Delegate	City of Ryde
		Mr Hugh Lee	Community Representative	
		Ms Rose Torossian	Community Representative	
x		Mr Hassib Elias	Community Representative	
		Mr Jon Soemarjono	Community Representative	
		Ms Ying-fan Yvonne Wang	Community Representative	
		Li Hua Chu	Community Representative	(from item 5)
		Safar Sarmed	Community Representative	
x		Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
		Ivy Pang	Community Representative	
		Kim Lee	Community Representative	
		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

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

1.	Present:	Noted.	
2.	Apologies:	Noted.	
3.	Confirmation of Minutes The minutes from the meeting of 27 th November 2014 were confirmed and endorsed.	Minutes confirmed and endorsed	
4.	Matters Arising:		

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p><u>Harmony Day</u></p> <p>Harmony Day held on 21st March 2015 was a great success with approx. 94,000 people attending the Top Ryde Centre over the weekend. A normal weekend trade figure would be 70,000.</p>	<p>Due to the success of Harmony Day it was noted that greater use of the Piazza area should be made by Council for similar activities.</p> <p>Photos of the event and financial report to be sent out with the minutes.</p>	
<p><u>Residents Information Pack - update</u></p> <p>The Pack is now being distributed. Amendments and updates should be sent to the library as staff there will be carrying out updates.</p> <p>It was noted that directories are being written to target specific groups rather than one large directory.</p>	<p>A soft copy of the Resident Information Pack to be sent out with the minutes</p>	
<p><u>Sector Development Training – dates</u></p> <p>Governance training for community groups will be carried out on 21st April 2015. This training will provide information on the role of the Chair, secretary, treasurer etc. It will feature constructive problem solving.</p> <p>Crowd Funding training will be held on 28th April 2015.</p>	<p>Details about the training sessions to be placed on Council’s website and sent to committee members.</p>	
<p><u>Harmony Day Soccer Police and Communities – update</u></p> <p>The soccer game will be played on 28th March 2015. Four teams will be taking part.</p>	<p>The information was noted. It was suggested that consideration be given to holding card games, backgammon, chess etc in the future to involve different cultural groups in shared interests.</p>	
<p><u>Racism stops with me BBQ and PACE Video – update and planning</u></p> <p>The first bbq was held in November 2014 in Gladesville.</p> <p>Next bbq to be held at Ryde Multicultural Centre</p> <p>Agnes, Elias and Clr Yedelian will take part in the PACE Video which is being organised through Salvation Army, Macquarie Uni and COR. The video will promote understanding and how to deal with racism.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>Police to arrange next bbq at West Ryde. Contact Jerry Papikian</p> <p>Jonathan to purchase banner to read “Racism stops with me” for display at the end of May/early June.</p> <p>Clr Yedelian OAM, Agnes Shim and Hassib Elias to take part in video.</p> <p>Email to be sent to all committee members asking if they wish to take part in video. Forms need to be completed for participation.</p>	
<p><u>ANZAC Day – update</u></p>		

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>A service will be held on Friday 24th April 2015 at the Ryde Cenotaph.</p> <p>North Ryde RSL will hold a service on ANZAC Day.</p> <p>The library is conducting sessions to explain the meaning of ANZAC Day.</p>	The information was noted,	
<p>5. Social Inclusion</p> <p>The group watched the video and were very impressed with the information provided and standard of presentation.</p>	Noted	
<p>6. General Discussion/Other Business</p> <p><u>Arresting vulnerability in Ryde – CALD Community Participation.</u></p> <p>It was noted that an increase in requests for emergency relief is being experienced.</p> <p>These requests are coming from people who don't usually use the service.</p> <p>Research shows there is a great deal of hidden financial stress in the community.</p> <p>It would be good to talk to community leaders to find out what is happening in their communities.</p> <p>It was noted there is a large group of Syrian refugees in the community.</p> <p>Many of these people can't work as they don't have the correct visas. They are not eligible for government support either.</p> <p><u>Upcoming events</u></p> <p>White Ribbon Day and Refugee Week were noted as upcoming events.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>Discussions to be arranged with Ivanhoe groups such as Salvation Army and the Ivanhoe Community Group. The information provided to be forwarded to this committee</p> <p>It was suggested that guests from various ethnic groups be invited to future meetings. The guests can contribute information about issues facing them and take information back to their communities.</p> <p>All members of this committee are to nominate guests to attend or invite guests to attend future meetings.</p> <p>Issues can be raised prior to the meeting so that they are listed on the agenda.</p> <p>The information was noted.</p>	
<p>7. Date of next meeting</p> <p>Thursday 25 June Thursday 24 September Thursday 26 November</p>	Confirmed and Endorsed	