

Subject:	Reconciliation Action Working Group – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 4
File No:	CCS/21/68	
Document Ref:		
Venue:	Via MS Teams	
Date:	Wednesday, 31 st August 2022	
Time:	6.00pm	Started at: 6.07pm Closed at: 6.50pm
Chair:	Jessica Herder	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	Sean Willenberg	
Circulation:		

Working Group Role:

The role of the Reconciliation Action working group is to:

- Provide advice, input and feedback for the City of Ryde Council's Reconciliation Action Plan
- Assist in the implementation and review of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan.
- To work with Council to develop and promote appropriate celebrations of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture including Sorry Day, National Reconciliation week and NAIDOC week.

Working Group Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Clr Penny Pedersen	Councillor	City of Ryde
	x	Alison Salt	Chairperson	
		Michelle Lawrence	Community Representative	
x		Jessica Herder	Community Representative	
x		Guarav Patni	Community Representative	
		Lilian Hong	Community Representative	
x		Kylie Tarleton	Community Representative	
x		Melanie Gould	Community Representative	
		Adam Whereat	Community Representative	
x		Jordan Hodgson	Visitor to the meeting	
x		Selena Timothy	Visitor to the meeting	
x		Connor Carlson	Guest presenter	
x		Sue Verhoek	Senior Coordinator Community Services	City of Ryde
x		Sean Willenberg	Community Project Officer Social Inclusion	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde

Details**Action**

1.	<p>Welcome and apologies and Acknowledgement of Country</p> <p>In the absence of the Chair – Alison Salt, Jessica Herder acted as Chair for the meeting</p> <p>Jessica Herder provided an Acknowledgement of Country.</p> <p>Those present and apologies are as noted above.</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting held on 13th October 2021 were adopted.</p>	Noted.
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Details	Action
<p>2. Introduction of new committee members</p> <p>Adam Whereat from Walanga Muru at Macquarie University could not be present but was welcomed to the Committee.</p> <p>Melanie Gould from Sydney Primary Health Network was welcomed to the Committee.</p>	Noted
<p>3. Presentation by Wayne Charters from Walanga Muru</p> <p>Connor Carlson who was representing Wayne Charters, provided the following information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walanga Muru at Macquarie University assists Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and also works in the community. - Connor is the Aboriginal Pathways officer and has held this position for 4 months - One of his roles is to arrange camps – usually 2 per year, but this year there will be 3. - Camp 1 – is for Yr 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students across the country. It runs for 1 – 2 weeks and students experience activities at university, meet people and work on various programs - Camp 2 – is for Yr 11 and 12 students. It is called Camp Aspire and is faculty based so students can learn about the degree they want to undertake. - Camp 3 is an entry pathways program providing alternate entry to university. Students are interviewed by a panel. - Connor also spoke about different programs offered eg - CLS program – Culture, leadership, scholarship. - It is offered to students in yrs 7 – 10 - Connor has a relationship with various schools (30 at present) where students undertake 6 sessions to help gain them access to scholarships to university. - He also arranges one off events such as campus tours, career expos, sale of merchandise, attendance at events to educate people about the assistance available, arranging community lunches to build bonds, especially after COVID, weaving and dance workshops, providing support for people wanting to lodge applications to show aboriginality. - He also mentioned the critical thinking course for Yr 11 students. Students complete a year of philosophy study and if they achieve a credit or higher, they are offered early entry to university. - This takes the pressure off them in Yr 12. - Gary asked if the camps could be offered to a wider group in the community 	<p>The information provided was noted.</p> <p>Connor can be contacted on wmpathways@mq.edu.au and the</p> <p>Discussion regarding expanding the camps offered by Walanga Muru will be held off line.</p>
<p>4. Update to terms of reference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Terms of Reference were noted. 	Noted.
<p>5. Development of Innovate RAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sean advised that Council had completed its reflect RAP and was now to commence the Innovate RAP, 	Noted

Details	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This would strengthen relationships in the community - Council will register with Reconciliation Australia and will be assigned an officer to assist in the process. - Council will also engage a consultant - The Innovate RAP has a two-year lifespan, - Sean asked the group to provide suggestions if they know of anyone who may be interested in acting as a consultant. - Clr Pedersen will provide details of a contact she has. 	
<p>6. Discussion of Weavers and Careless plaque in Settlers Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jess showed the group a photo of a plaque erected in 1948 in recognition of William Careless and James Weavers. - She asked if the plaque could be updated or additional information provided near the plaque, given some of the wording which appears on it. - It was noted that Peter Mitchell or Angela Phippen can probably provide some historical background regarding the erection of the plaque and the wording provided. 	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>Peter Mitchell to be asked to provide advice regarding the plaque and the wording on it prior to any further action being taken</p>
<p>7. RAP reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sean advised that the Reflect RAP report is due by 30th September 2022. - The report will form part of the Australian reconciliation barometer report which measures attitudes towards reconciliation etc. 	<p>The information was noted.</p>
<p>8. General Business</p> <p>Jess asked about Council's NAIDOC celebrations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sean advised the events were well received. - Council conducted walks with Leanne King who lead tours along the Parramatta River and provided background information on the Darug people - Different guides were engaged on the walks and gave different perspectives from Aboriginal and colonial viewpoints. - A music workshop was conducted with lyrics written on reconciliation - Melanie advised she had been involved with an all women event at Meadowbank Park in late May where bush tucker was a feature - Peter Mitchell gave a talk at Field of Mars - Not part of NAIDOC week, but Melanie thanked Council for a grant which recently allowed an event to be held for "support the girls" 	<p>The information was noted</p>
<p>9. Next Meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting of this Committee will be held on Wednesday 23rd November 2022 in person and via MS TEAMS</p>	<p>Noted.</p>