

<b>Subject:</b>	Status of Women Working Group	Page 1 of 6
<b>File No:</b>	D22/60/10	
<b>Document Ref:</b>	D22/154568	
<b>Venue:</b>	TEAMS	
<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	
<b>Time:</b>	6.00pm	Started at: 6.06pm      Closed at: 7.25pm
<b>Chair:</b>	Sue Verhoek - Senior Coordinator Community Services	
<b>Meeting Support (MS):</b>	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
<b>Staff Convenor:</b>	Orit Mirkin – Project Support Officer	
<b>Circulation:</b>	Working Group members and website	

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

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Councillor Penny Pedersen	Councillor	City of Ryde
x		Jessica Matthews	Community Representative	
	x	Cate Sinclair	Community Representative	
x		Brenda Gaddi	Community Representative	
x		Geeta Patni	Community Representative	
x		Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
		Kitty Ng	Community Representative	
		Rose Torossian	Community Representative	
x		Chavalin Svetanant	Community Representative	
x		Akhila Nagarajan	Community Representative	

**City of Ryde Staff**

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Sue Verhoek	Senior Coordinator Community Services	City of Ryde
x		Orit Mirkin	Project Support Office	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde

**Details****Action**

1.	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p><u>Acknowledgment of Country</u></p> <p>Sue Verhoek welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided the acknowledgement of country.</p> <p>Orit Mirkin was welcomed to the meeting. Orit will be providing support for this working group.</p>	Noted
2.	<p><b>Minutes from previous meeting – 24<sup>th</sup> August 2022</b></p> <p>The minutes from the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2022 were confirmed.</p>	Noted Geeta and Jess

Details	Action
<p><b>3. Actions</b></p> <p><b>16 days of activism</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council is partnering with CMRC and the multicultural ambassadors this year for 16 days of Activism.</li> <li>- This will allow more work to be done with the CALD communities.</li> <li>- The multicultural ambassadors have undertaken training to assist with this work.</li> <li>- On 23 November 2022, a photo will be taken with community and civic leaders to stand united against domestic violence. This will be promoted on social media.</li> <li>- Activities for this year include a mindful mediation session for men designed to help them reduce stress</li> <li>- Relationships Australia will hold separate workshops for men and women on healthy relationships.</li> <li>- A screening of 'The Dowrie Project' put together by NSW Police will be held at Top Ryde Events Cinema. Following the screening there will be a Q and A session.</li> <li>- Council has undertaken filming with CALD representatives to help get the message to cultural community members that DV is not acceptable and where people can get help.</li> <li>- The Ryde/Hunters Hill DV Interagency has worked with the Liquor Accord to print coasters with Make a Stand branding.</li> <li>- There may be some outreach through the Lisa Harman Foundation re. purple nail painting</li> <li>- Letters were sent to schools and churches seeking support but little response. Need to approach earlier for 2023.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted</p>
<p><b>4. Venue booking/subsidies of community halls</b></p> <p>Geeta spoke on this issue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Geeta runs a program for mums and children who come from disadvantaged backgrounds and are from the CALD community.</li> <li>- Geeta is established as a sole trader, as there is too much responsibility, as a not-for-profit.</li> <li>- Geeta enquired as to whether Council could provide support to people like her who organise community activities including funding and free venue hire.</li> <li>- Geeta is arranging a mums and bubs event for 60 people, which is currently gold coin donation.</li> <li>- Geeta was informed that as she is a sole trader, she cannot apply for a Council community grant.</li> <li>- It was suggested that Geeta contact CMRC and ask them to auspice her projects for a community grant.</li> <li>- On 29 November, CMRC is holding a women's event and Geeta was encouraged to attend.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted</p>

Details	Action
<p>5. <b>International Women’s Day 2023</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Akhila noted that last year it was necessary to start planning very early and would like to start planning now.</li> <li>- Sean and Orit will undertake planning after the current events are completed including 16 Days of Activism and Social Inclusion Week.</li> <li>- The theme for IWD in 2023 is #embraceequity</li> <li>- An event will be held on a Saturday close to 08 March 22. This allows people who work to attend and or/bring their daughters.</li> <li>- Thought should be given to how the discussion on equity can be incorporated into the program.</li> <li>- Suggestion for a financial broker involved in the banking sector to speak on products available to women.</li> <li>- Agnes was asked to nominate speakers who would appeal to the Korean community.</li> <li>- Agnes suggested a guest speaker that the Australian/Korean Committee has heard before. This speaker is a woman from North Korea that escaped and now lives in Australia. An interpreter will be required.</li> <li>- Speaker suggestions included Ronnie Khan of Oz Harvest, CEO of Macquarie Bank, a trauma counsellor with a YouTube channel, that lives locally, Nessa Turnbull Roberts, Indigenous woman, Chelsea Watego the author of Another Day in the Colony, Brittany Higgins or Grace Tame.</li> <li>- Perhaps a Korean dance performer</li> <li>- Afghan woman who Penny has heard before could be invited to speak about their experiences living in Afghanistan.</li> <li>- Suggestion to include Handbags for Dignity or a dignity box for attendees to donate items.</li> <li>- Working group members to email their suggestions for speakers to Orit.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>6. <b>Childcare service for working group mothers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sue confirmed that childcare can still be arranged for Council’s working groups if required.</li> <li>- Now that the meetings are hybrid most members will join online rather than require childcare for in-person attendance.</li> <li>- To date, no working groups members of former advisory committee members have requested this service.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>7. <b>City of Ryde – upcoming events</b></p> <p>Orit provided information regarding some of the upcoming events which may be of interest to the group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Three white ribbon events will be held for Council staff to raise awareness on DFV.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted</p>

Details	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 18 November 22 there will be a BBQ for the Operations Centre staff with a guest speaker on.</li> <li>- On the 22 November 22 a morning tea at Pope Street for library staff and customer service staff with guest speakers</li> <li>- 22 November 22 at the North Ryde office there will be a lunch with speakers</li> <li>- There will also be a donation drive amongst staff to raise money to provide vouchers for fuel and other necessities for the women’s refuge in the City of Ryde.</li> </ul>	
<p>8. <b>General Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brenda spoke about a project her organisation is undertaking and sought support to contacting a local high school that might want to partner with her – suggestions were Ryde Secondary College and Riverside Girls High.</li> <li>- Cllr Pedersen raised the recent ALGWA conference where many attendees spoke about harassment, stalking, bullying etc in the workplace. This matter was then raised at the recent Local Government Conference.</li> <li>- The NSW Parliamentary Report will be released soon.</li> </ul>	Noted
<p>9. <b>Next meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 15 February 2023</li> <li>- 6:00pm - 7.30pm</li> <li>- Committee Room – Level 1A Pope St, Ryde and via TEAMS</li> </ul>	