

Subject:	Heritage Advisory Committee – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 7
File No:	CLR/07/8/101/1/19	
Document Ref:	D21/132950	
Venue:	Via MS Teams	
Date:	Wednesday, 18 th August 2021	
Time:	5.30pm	Started at: 5.33pm Closed at: 7.10pm
Chair:	Councillor Christopher Gordon	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	Naomi L'Oste-Brown – Acting Senior Coordinator – Strategic Planning	
Circulation:		

Committee Role:

The primary role of the Heritage Advisory Committee is to provide advice to Council about the preservation and enhancement of items and places within the City of Ryde that are of natural, indigenous, cultural, social, aesthetic or historic significance.

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Councillor Gordon	Chairperson	City of Ryde
		Councillor Clifton	Deputy Chairperson	City of Ryde
x		Mrs Lyn Langtry	Community Representative	Ryde-Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society
	x	Mrs Betty Willis	Community Representative	Ryde District Historical Society
x		Kim Phillips	Community Representative	Ryde District Historical Society
x		Dr Peter Mitchell	Community Representative	
x		Ms Suzanne Marks	Community Representative	
x		Ms Beth Kosnik	Community Representative	
x		Ms Cate Fisher	Community Representative	
		Toni Courtellis	Community Representative	
		Rose Torossian	Community Representative	
x		Linda Evans	Community Representative	
		Jim Vaughan	Community Representative	Brush Farm Historical Society

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Michael Edwards	Heritage Advisor	City of Ryde
x		Angela Phippen	Local Studies Librarian	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to Mayor and the Councillors	City of Ryde
x		Naomi L'Oste Brown	Acting Senior Coordinator – Strategic Planning	City of Ryde
x		Dyala Govender	Manager – Urban Strategy	City of Ryde
x		Stephen Alderton	Acting Senior Coordinator – Parks Planning	City of Ryde

Details**Action**

1.	<p>Present:</p> <p>Those present are as above.</p> <p>Councillor Gordon provided an acknowledgement of Country.</p>	Noted

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	Details	Action
	Apologies: Apologies as above.	Noted.
3.	Confirmation of Heritage Advisory Committee Minutes and matters arising. The minutes from the meeting of 16 th June 2021 were confirmed.	Noted.
4,	<p>Naming of Janet Park</p> <p>Stephen Alderton gave a presentation to the committee of the recent Council resolution to investigate renaming of Janet Park. A summary of the discussion is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At its meeting of 27th April 2021, Council resolved in part that “the City of Ryde through consultation with Ryde Historical Society and staff Historians, ascertain the full name of the woman that Janet Park was named after and through the NSW Geographical Names Board apply to formerly have that woman’s surname added to the name of the park.” - Angela Phippen and members of the Historical Society have attempted to find relevant background, but it has not been possible to discern the person after whom the park was named. - Council carried out a works upgrade to the park earlier this year and installed a number of new pieces of playground equipment - There are a number of parks for which the origin of the name cannot be determined at this stage. - In relation to Janet Park, there are four names now proposed. - These names have also been provided to the Status of Women Advisory Committee for comment - The suggested names are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Beatrice Sutton Park - after the first woman elected to Ryde Council 2. Vera Lindsay Park – after the second matron of Ryde District Soldiers Memorial Hospital 3. Grace Secombe Park – after a renowned pottery artist from Eastwood 4. Marie Byles – first women admitted as a solicitor in NSW who had a practice in Eastwood. - Following input from this committee and the Status of Women Committee, a report will then go to Council on the suggested name change - Should Council decide to change the name, a process through the Geographical Names Board will be commenced - The RDHS was thanked for its assistance in this project. - All names nominated are from the RDHS records of Women in Ryde. - All the women nominated are deceased as per Council’s policy in this regard - A suggestion was made regarding the naming of the park after an Indigenous woman but a suitable candidate had not been identified. - There are a number of parks (7) which are named after women for which the history of the naming choice is unknown. - Committee members suggested that social media be used to see if anyone in the community has knowledge of the original names used - Lyn Langtry suggested that John Booth be approached for background information as he was a Councillor at the time the decisions were made. - Perhaps plaques could be installed in the parks when they are renamed showing pictures, history etc.. - The committee agreed that it was not appropriate to make a decision or recommendation at this point, and that further consideration is necessary of the suggested names. - It was agreed that committee members would consider further information and provide their recommendations / responses to Michael Edwards, who will collate and provide a response to Stephen Alderton. 	The information was noted

Details	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kim will send the stories behind the 4 women nominated and after received, people can then vote knowing the background. - Michael Edwards will then forward information from Kim Phillips to the committee members. 	
<p>4. Ryde Heritage Hub – Update</p> <p>Michael Edwards provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The next event to be held at the hub is being planned but a date cannot be finalised given current restrictions. - It is hoped an event can be held before the end of 2021 - The theme of the event will be “Understanding the history of one’s property” with a focus on researching the history of houses. - Research shows that when people understand the significance of their property, they are more likely to have a greater sense of ownership and desire to maintain the property as the house takes on a personality. - In particular, a house name often increases the attachment of people to their home, whereby they are more likely to take an interest in their home - Angela Phippen and members of RDHS will provide data and online data from other sources will also be available - There will be a series of presentations and an opportunity for Q and A - A random property will be selected beforehand as a ‘case study’ and the process required to research its history will be explained - The Committee will be advised as planning proceeds - The RDHS has the names of approx. 200 to 300 homes - Prior to the 1930’s, names were used in place of house numbers - Facebook and TWT are sources that the Society intends to use to see if people have more information about their house names 	Noted
<p>5. Update on Ryde Local Heritage Assistance Fund 2021</p> <p>Michael Edwards and Naomi L’Oste-Brown addressed the committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first round of funding is complete with close to \$70,000 expended - This is great result and encourages heritage works - The feedback has been good with recipients thanking Council for funding which has allowed them to do works they may not have otherwise. - Enquiries have been received re the date for the next round of funding. - Letters will soon be sent to property owners with fact sheets and advice regarding the type or works that are eligible - It is expected that a second round of funding will be made available early in the new year. 	Noted
<p>6. Ryde Heritage Advisory Committee – Review of Term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was noted that due to the delays in local council elections, that this committee has served a three year term. - Councillor Gordon thanked Michael and all staff for their work over this time - He also thanked the staff who worked on the heritage study and for having dealt with a very challenging process that was fraught with much emotion from within the community, both for and against the heritage listing process. 	Noted
<p>7. Report from Community Representatives</p> <p>Lyn Langtry - Flora and Fauna Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The society hasn’t been able to meet due to COVID restrictions - It is still keeping an eye on different State and Commonwealth issues 	All reports were noted

	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Visitor Centre is closed, but there has been a lot of car and bike traffic in the Field of Mars and this is of concern - It might be necessary to have Council's Rangers to check on this - Lots of dogs have been noted in the area too - On a positive note, 10 ducklings and a wallaby have been sited <p>Peter Mitchell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meetings of the Bennelong Putney Group have been postponed on a number of occasions - A drone image of the coastline of Sydney is being released weekly and a link will be sent to Michael for distribution <p>Kim Phillips – Ryde District Historical Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Society members have been mainly working from home and there have been no open days. - Members have created two more local history books – one on Brush Farm with help from a Macquarie University student and one on the history of Bensonville - More work will take place next week and students from the University will be involved. <p>Angela Phippen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Angela has also been working from home - She is working on coordinating on the digitisation and transcribing of oral histories available through Amplify - Only a small percentage of the oral histories had been transcribed prior to this - A typed transcript can be created from oral histories through use of a software program used by NSW Library however the tapes often have a 90% error rate so this is not successful - Some of the staff at home have been working on the 36 interviews that needed to be transcribed - The Azure Program will then be used for more recent oral histories and the error rate should be less - One interesting fact of social interest that Angela has noted is that people in their 70's nearly always report that they are all happy with their life - Even women who couldn't continue at school because their fathers gave the money to sons to go to medical school etc seem happy <p>Linda Evans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Macquarie University's new history museum was opened on 2nd June 2021 - Not much has happened since then - A museum manager has been appointed who it is hoped will be in charge of outreach programs. - This might mean the committee can visit the museum at some point - Yann who was undertaking the majority of 3D scans for the museum has returned to France at the start of COVID. He has now taken a position in Belgium and will not return to Australia. - Linda is now Director of Bachelor of Arts program so will no longer convene the cultural heritage unit – which sends students to RDHS. <p>Cate Fisher</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advised that she will be resigning at the end of this term of the Committee - She also noted the ongoing works at Meadowbank Education Precinct 	<p>Michael Edwards to distribute video link by email to committee members</p>
8.	General Discussion/other business	Noted

Details

Action

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lyn Langtry thanked Cllr Gordon for his chairmanship and his passion for heritage - She also thanked Michael, Naomi and all staff who have assisted the Committee over its term. - Michael provided information to the group regarding a c1906 prefabricated timber cottage on Lord Howe which he has been researching and discovered that the same company (Hudson Bros) manufactured many timber kit cottages which were erected in Ryde. Michael asked the committee for any information that they may have regarding known surviving examples. 	
9.	<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled for after the Local Government election which will now take place on 4th December, having been postponed from 4th September 2021.</p> <p>The swearing in of the new Council will take place on 13th January 2022.</p> <p>A new Advisory Committee cannot be established until after this date.</p> <p>If delays are experienced with the above process, then this committee could continue in its current form to approve heritage grants etc.</p> <p>New Advisory Committees will be established after the election and members for each committee sought.</p>	Noted