

Subject:	Multicultural Advisory Committee – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 4
File No:	CLR/07/8/101/1/8	
Document Ref:	D19/29697	
Venue:	Meeting Room, Level 1A Pope Street, Ryde	
Date:	Thursday 28 th February 2019	
Time:	6.00pm	Started at: 6.05pm Closed at: 7.10pm
Chair:	Councillor Simon Zhou	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	Jonathan Nanlohy, Community Projects Coordinator (Sector Development)	
Circulation:		

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 recognises and values the diversity of the community

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Councillor Simon Zhou	Chairperson	City of Ryde
		Councillor Bernard Purcell	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
		Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
		Councillor Christopher Moujalli	Councillor Representative	City of Ryde
		Hugh Lee	Community Representative	
x		Adele Garnier	Community Representative	
x		Hassib Elias	Community Representative	
		James Kim	Community Representative	
x		Rossella Tisci	Community Representative	
x		Safar Samed	Community Representative	
		Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
		Richie Howitt	Community Representative	Resigned
		William Seung	Community Representative	
x		Kevin Pagaddinnimath	Community Representative	
		Lesley Tomasulo	Community Representative	
	x	Nathan Moulds	Community Representative	
		Anthony Ching	Community Representative	
		Caroline Xu	Community Representative	
x		Peter Zangari	Community Representative	
		Ana Borba	Community Representative	
	x	Alice Chik	Community Representative	
	x	Badawe Abboud	Community Representative	
	x	Huiting (Lisa) Liu	Community Representative	
		Tony Tang	Community Representative	

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
	x	Angela Jones-Blayney	Director – Customer and Community Services	City of Ryde

x		Lindsay Godfrey	Manager – Community and Ranger Services	City of Ryde
	x	Jonathan Nanlohy	Community Projects Coordinator (Sector Development)	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde
x		Sue Verhoek	Senior Coordinator Community Services	City of Ryde

Details

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1.	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Introductions</p> <p>Clr Zhou welcomed those in attendance to the first meeting for 2019.</p> <p>Lindsay Godfrey and Sue Verhoek were introduced to the group.</p> <p>Those in attendance and apologies are as above.</p>	Noted.
2.	<p>Previous Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th November 2018 were confirmed.</p>	Noted.
3.	<p>Council initiatives with CALD communities</p> <p><u>Community Ambassador Program – Update Business Case:</u></p> <p>Lindsay advised that the Business Case for the Community Ambassador Program has been submitted to Council. Funding of approximately \$30,000 per year for two (2) years is being sought. The program will create a trained volunteer scheme for CALD speakers who will assist members of the CALD community. The funding sought will provide consultation, the identification of Ambassadors and the training process.</p> <p>Consideration of the proposal by Council is expected over the next couple of months.</p> <p>If successful, funding will commence on 1st July 2019.</p> <p>Clr Zhou suggested that initial contact seeking potential volunteers be made through the members of this committee.</p> <p><u>CALD Womens Domestic Violence visit - Gladesville</u></p> <p>On 25th March, 2019 an information and support services visit will be held from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm in the Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre, Building 39, Gladesville. The information session for community workers, community members and Afghan Women focusses on DV police and court processes as well as DV support services.</p> <p>This is the 8th session held over the last 3 years.</p> <p>All community groups are invited to pass on details of the visit and have their members attend.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>The information was noted.</p>
4.	<p><u>Working Parties</u></p> <p><u>Racism – it stops with me campaign – update and PACE submission with Macquarie University</u></p> <p>Adele Garnier provided an update on this issue.</p> <p>A sum of \$6,000 has been provided by the City of Ryde to allow an investigation to be carried out amongst higher education students in the City of Ryde on the above</p>	The information was noted.

Details	Action
<p>topics.</p> <p>Over the next few months, Adele and Alice will conduct interviews with approx. 400 people seeking responses about discrimination, the type of discrimination suffered ie verbal and the location where the abuse took place. The information gathered will then be shared with relevant groups eg police, council, and umbrella groups of Racism – it stops with me.</p> <p>The majority of interviews will be conducted in two locations.</p> <p><u>Harmony Day – 21 March 2019</u></p> <p>Harmony Day 2019 will be run in conjunction with the Community Migrant Resource Centre (CMRC) and will take place in Eastwood Plaza</p> <p>The event will take the form of an expo with over 50 providers expected to provide information and activities for children and families. Performances will also be held.</p> <p>The group discussed encouraging a wider group of performers in future years. It was noted that previously, the majority of performers have been of Chinese origin.</p> <p>A diversity of performances is to be encouraged this year if not too late.</p> <p><u>Racist comments – Matter of Urgency at Council</u></p> <p>Councillor Zhou provided background to a Matter of Urgency which he raised at the Council meeting of 26th February 2019.</p> <p>Comments had been made during a Senates estimates committee meeting by Senator Barry O’Sullivan which were considered racist.</p> <p>Cir Zhou advised that he had been approached by the local Chinese community who were concerned that Australia appeared to be making the above comments, not a single politician and as a result he raised the matter at Council.</p> <p>Council resolved to seek an apology from Senator O’Sullivan for his offensive comments.</p> <p>The members of the Committee endorsed the actions of Council in calling out the racist remarks made by a politician.</p> <p><u>Domestic Violence – White Ribbon Day Council Accreditation Update</u></p> <p>A base line survey morning tea was held on Monday, 26 November 2018 to establish organisational attitudes to domestic violence. It was also a way of gauging how much staff understood about domestic violence.</p> <p>There was a high (34%) response rate by staff. An audit of Council’s anti violence policies, procedures and processes is now underway.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>The information was noted.</p> <p>Committee members are asked to spread the word about the event.</p> <p>The information was noted.</p> <p>This Committee supports the actions of Council in seeking an apology from Senator O’Sullivan.</p> <p>The information was noted.</p>
<p>5. Agenda Items</p> <p><u>Citizenship Ceremonies – update and demographics</u></p> <p>Information was provided to the group regarding the statistics from Citizenship Ceremonies.</p> <p>These figures below relate to the 6 months between July 2018 and February 2019.</p> <p>551 people became Australian Citizens at City of Ryde Citizenship ceremonies. Of those 551 new citizens, the top 5 Countries of origin for citizenship were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SOUTH KOREA 93 16.88% ▪ INDIA 83 15.06% 	<p>The information was noted.</p>

Subject:	Minutes – Multicultural Advisory Committee Meeting – 28 February 2019	Page 4 of 5
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Details

Action

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PHILIPPINES 61 11.07% ▪ CHINA 44 7.99% ▪ IRAN 35 6.35% <p>There are also a number of emerging communities which are growing in the COR.</p> <p><u>Congratulations – Hassib Elias – Ryde Citizen of the Year</u></p> <p>The City of Ryde Citizen of the Year recognises outstanding service to the community over an extended period of time.</p> <p>Clr Zhou congratulated Mr Hassib Elias who is the Ryde Citizen of the Year 2019. Hassib is President of the Palestinian Association of Australia and has been tireless in his support of migrants and refugees, particularly in the local area. Hassib is also a founding member of this committee</p> <p>Mr Elias has lived and served the local community for 48 years.</p> <p>Mr Elias spoke briefly about the work he has carried out in the community and advised he was delighted to receive the Citizen of the Year Award.</p> <p>He advised he will continue to serve the local community in practical ways such as assistance to new arrivals with finding employment, housing and access to services</p> <p>Hassib provides not only practical assistance but has promoted cultural, educational and social assistance to newly settled migrants in the local area.</p> <p>He stressed that he is happy to provide assistance to people of any religion or nationality.</p> <p><u>Congratulations - William Seung – OAM</u></p> <p>The Chair noted that Mr William Seung – a member of this committee, was awarded an OAM for service to the Korean community in the Australia Day Honours.</p>	
		The Chair thanked Mr Elias for his comments and said stories such as his encourage people to follow his example.
		The information was noted.
6.	<p>Other Business</p> <p>City of Ryde consultations</p> <p><u>Social Plan and Creativity Strategy</u></p> <p>An overview of the Social Plan and Creativity Strategy was provided.</p> <p>The Social Plan will investigate the social needs and aspirations of people in the Ryde LGA and identify key trends and the social influences that impact on peoples’ quality of life. The strategy will incorporate the volunteer strategy and youth strategy.</p> <p>The Creativity Strategy will drive the delivery of an achievable program of initiatives that will contribute to the cultural and creative life of the City.</p> <p>Both documents will be updated regularly and will inform the Community Strategic Plan, Operational Plan and Delivery Program.</p> <p>A comprehensive community engagement plan has been designed and will commence in late February 19.</p> <p>Engagement forums will be held with various Council Advisory Committees, faith organisations, creative groups and individuals, service providers and school administrators. A range of tools and techniques will be used including phone and online surveys and intercept and telephone interviews.</p> <p>An online survey will be available for community members and will be promoted at citizenship ceremonies and other Council events.</p>	The information was noted.

Details	Action
<p><u>Masterplan for Blenheim Park, ELS Hall Park, Greenwood Park and Booth Reserve</u></p> <p>Council is seeking feedback on the draft Masterplans for a number of parks. The Masterplans will identify the current and future sport, recreation and leisure needs of the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Masterplan for Blenheim Park. Closing date for submissions is 3rd March. - Draft Masterplan for ELS Hall Park, Greenwood Park and Booth Reserve. Closing date for submissions is Sunday 17 March. <p><u>International Women’s Day – Women in Business Forum – 8th March</u></p> <p>The International Women’s Day Women in Business Forum will be held on Friday 8 March 2019, at CSIRO, Bradfield Road, West Lindfield from 10.00am – 2.00pm. The International Women’s Day Forum highlights the City of Ryde’s commitment to supporting women’s leadership in business. Speakers include Andrea Watson CEO of Sparrows.io and Dr Cathy Foley CSIRO’s Chief Scientist.</p> <p><u>International Womens Day Forum – Balance for Better – 9th March 2019</u></p> <p>International Women’s Day #BalanceforBetter Forum will be held on Saturday 9 March, Ryde Civic Hall from 9.30am-1.30pm. The program has high profile speakers Dee Madigan and Jenna Price, local panelists and emerging artists, lunch and morning tea are free.</p> <p><u>Update from members</u></p> <p>There was no additional information provided by Committee members.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>The information was noted.</p> <p>The information was noted.</p> <p>The information was noted.</p>
<p>7. Meeting Dates for 2019</p> <p>The meeting dates for 2019 are as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, 30 May 2019 • Thursday, 29 August 2019 • Thursday, 28 November 2019 	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>8. Next Meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting of the Multicultural Advisory Committee will be held on 30th May 2019</p>	<p>Noted.</p>