

Subject:	Status of Women Working Group	Page 1 of 6
File No:	CLR22/60/10	
Document Ref:	D24/73857	
Venue:	Pope Street meeting room and via TEAMS	
Date:	Thursday 1 st June 2023	
Time:	6.00pm	Started at: 6.08pm Closed at: 7.15pm
Chair:	Sue Verhoek - Senior Coordinator Community Services	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	Orit Mirkin – Project Support Officer	
Circulation:	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 Mayor Yedelian	City of Ryde
	x	Jessica Matthews	Community Representative	
x		Cate Sinclair	Community Representative	
x		Brenda Gaddi	Community Representative	
		Geeta Rani	Community Representative	
	x	Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
		Kitty Ng	Community Representative	
	x	Rose Torossian	Community Representative	
		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 Officer	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde

Details**Action**

1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p><u>Acknowledgment of Country</u></p> <p>Sue Verhoek provided the Acknowledgement of Country.</p>	Noted
2.	<p>Minutes of the meeting 15 February 2023</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting held on 15 February 2023 were received and noted.</p> <p>Action Item from previous meeting</p> <p>Women and Politics Forum -Staff will contact the group mentioned by Brenda to find out if there are service providers in the Ryde area. Contact</p>	Noted

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Details		Action
	<p>will be made with Community Migrant Resource Centre, as they might provide a similar service.</p> <p>The library ran sessions re the provision of electoral advice and these events were well attended.</p>	
3.	<p>Frequency of meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This item was deferred from the previous meeting as Cate Sinclair was not present. - Cate felt momentum would be greater if meetings were held more frequently than quarterly - Sue advised that staff provide support for 5 working groups so it would be difficult to support additional meetings of this group. - It was suggested that the members of the working group could meet more regularly and report to the quarterly meetings of this group if they wished to - Penny advised that three workshops had been run previously following government grant support. The workshops were held for: women in STEM, financial independence and marketing for small business - It was noted that following these workshops the groups had wanted to continue their meetings. - With the departure of Jan Bouhali, the groups have not been meeting. - Clr Pedersen has raised a Deskhel to ask how future meetings of the groups can be facilitated – perhaps through this group even, if additional meetings are held - Cate offered the Northern Centre as a venue to host the groups - Clr Pedersen has also approached CMRC to see if they can provide assistance for the groups - Brenda advised some of the large businesses might provide assistance and support also. - She has a contact at Optus who she is happy to speak with re support 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Brenda to speak with her contact at OPTUS re support for business groups of women who wish to meet</p>
4.	<p>16 Days of Activism / White Ribbon Day planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cate asked about planning for this event - She advised planning is underway with the DV groups and she doesn't want to impinge on any plans Council may have - Sue advised that Council currently has no plans for events this year. - It was suggested that Cate speak with Council staff to coordinate what could be done by both groups - The boundaries for Ryde PAC have recently altered - It will still include Hunters Hill, but will now take in areas like Telopea and Dundas rather than the Hills Shire 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Sue to provide Clr Pedersen with a possible contact for the printing of paper bags</p>

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Details		Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A new brochure has been produced relating to sexual offences and training will increase in the area of coercive control - PAC rep Chanta is looking for brown paper bags to print messages for White Ribbon Day - Clr Pedersen found bags in a bottle shop that had been printed and used for State of Origin - Sue also has a contact re printing which she will provide to Clr Pedersen 	
<p>5. Community Events coming up</p> <p>Refugee Week</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Exop 20th June - Health Talk 21 June - Zumba dance fit 21st June - Finding freedom craft 22nd June - Savings and rebate talk <p>NAIDOC Week</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional games at Ryde Park on 3rd June - Guided walks at Glades Bay 4th June - 2 dance performances at Top Ryde on 4th and 7 July - Boat making and story telling 6th July - Elders at Meadowbank Sat 8th July - Harmony Day flyer will also be sent to the members of the Working Group 		Noted
<p>6. Jean Hailes Women’s Health Week – 4 to 8 Sept. 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Runs for an entire week - Orit looking for suggestions re speakers etc - The topics for the week are as below: - 4th Sept – check me out - womens health checks - 5th Sept – Pain drain – how to cope with pain - 6th Sept Menopause talk - 7th Sept – health in the workplace – mental health etc - 8th Sept – food for thought – recipes and nutrition tips for women - It was noted that last year menopause workshops with a local doctor were held with support in a number of languages 		

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	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Could do this again - Psychological street talks were suggested - Perhaps contact Macquarie Hospital for speakers and assistance - Have local doctors who specialise give talks, perhaps one from Eastwood, one from Gladesville etc. - Perhaps do podcasts with CMRC again - Make a video which can be reloaded onto Council’s website and listened to throughout the year - Perhaps do 5 videos over the 5 day - Perhaps knit together different cultures – eg herbs from Asia. How can eastern and western medicine be shared for all - Look at different approaches to menopause East vs West - Perhaps get a psychologist to talk about the psychological well being of women - The Maxim Street practice might have doctors happy to talk - Could have Q and A session with a group of doctors and video it - Perhaps a talk about “sandwich generation” and how to deal with issues - Also older women who look after grandchildren and have issues 	
7.	<p>“Let’s Come together to end Domestic Violence & Abuse” Posters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launching a campaign on this topic soon - Will have posters for public spaces, libraries, RALC etc - The group was shown the poster to be used - The poster decision arose following bin stickers which were used last year - Members are invited to look at the details available through the QR code and make suggestions re any changes - Stickers can be obtained through website - There will be an article and photoshoot to launch the campaign for poster and will mention the stickers - Could a sticker be sent out with the rates - Staff will ask about this – A5 size - If not to be included, then a message re availability of stickers - Also hoping to have the same message on Council vehicles ie utes, vans, trucks - Stickers and flyers will be available at different events 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Staff to make enquiries re issuing stickers through rates or a message</p>
6.	<p>General Business</p> <p>Clr Pedersen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advised she has been re-elected to the Executive of ALGWA - ALGWA will be running workshops before 2024 election to help women get elected - Penny is also on the Board of LGNSW and advocates for more women to become CEOs. 	<p>Noted</p>

	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very few women end up in final cut of the interview process currently - Ryde has lost a lot of senior women. She believes we need to help the women we have move up through the ranks of local govt - It was noted Council has recently hosted a number of delegations from Korea - One of these was made up of mainly women. - There are 11 women and 9 men on that Council due to a quote system which applies for women, people with a disability and young people. - Ryde will be hosting the LGNSW conference in 2024, - She is looking for ideas about how to engage with participants, where can they stay, where can they eat etc. <p>Cate Sinclair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - also has Korean delegation attending the Northern Centre - Is still trying to obtain funding to continue programs such as SafeT which has exceeded the number of clients expected to be seen - Hopes to arrange a round table with relevant government ministers - Noted that housing is a major issue at present - Social housing blocks are proposed for West Ryde and Macquarie - The working homeless is a group increasing in number. 	
8	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for 23rd August 2023 6:00pm - 7.30pm in the Committee Room – Level 1A Pope St, Ryde and via TEAMS</p>	