

MIN NO

MINUTES OF THE ABORIGINAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF ASHFIELD COUNCIL, HELD ON LEVEL 6, CIVIC CENTRE, 260 LIVERPOOL ROAD, ASHFIELD ON THURSDAY 16 AUGUST 2012, COMMENCING AT 4:30 PM.

PRESENT

Councillor Cassidy in the Chair, Councillors Lofts and McKenna, Irene Williams, Therese Heffernan, Patricia Blackman, Debbie Lennis, Janelle Scott, Clabon Allen, Peter Cross, Warren Jaimeson, Fleur Herskovitch, Mr Michael Harrington (Manager Waste & Recycling Contract Projects), Ms Nexhmije Shala (Group Manager, Community Programs & Services), Ms Nellette Kettle (Director Corporate and Community Services), Anthia Hart.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LOCAL ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY

"Let us acknowledge that we are meeting on country for which the members and elders of the local Aboriginal community have been custodians for many centuries, and on which Aboriginal people have performed age old ceremonies. We acknowledge their living culture and unique role in the life of this region."

APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

Heffernan /Cross

An apology for non attendance was received and accepted from Councillor His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Kennedy, Gerard Howard

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures were made.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Confirmed

Cross/Lennis

The minutes of the Aboriginal Consultative Committee Meeting held on Thursday 21 June 2012 were confirmed.

GUEST SPEAKER

Guest speaker, Council Officer Mr Michael Harrington, Manager of Waste and Recycling Projects addressed the Committee requesting 3 or 4 Aboriginal names for consideration for naming of unnamed lanes in the Ashfield Council Area.

RECOMMENDATION

Cassidy/Lofts

- 1/2 That the sub-Committee decide on 3-4 suitable names (in order of preference) and liaise directly with Michael Harrington as soon as possible.**
- 2/2 That Mr Michael Harrington be thanked for his presentation.**

STAFF REPORTS

**ABORIGINAL CULTURAL AWARENESS BOOKLET AND
RECOGNITION OF THE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY POLICY.**

ACC 6.1

RECOMMENDATION

Allen/Jaimeson

- 1/2 That the Sub-Committee meet to discuss the 'Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Booklet' and 'Recognition of the Aboriginal Community Policy' and provide any feedback on these documents to the October Committee meeting.**
- 2/2 That the Sub-Committee meet and prepare draft wording for the plaque, to be brought back to the October Committee meeting.**

2012 NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS.

ACC 6.2

Ms Scott thanked Council and Committee for the range of NAIDOC events and activities and Ms Lennis for the display of artefacts and items from her personal collection.

Ms Heffernan thanked Council for naming the activity rooms after foundation members of the ACC.

Ms Lennis thanked Council for the bus trip to Ku-ring-gai National Park.

RESOLVED

Scott/Lennis

That the Committee note the information contained in this report.

**BUILDING THE SISTER COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE
PEAK HILL ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY WORKING PARTY.**

ACC 6.3

Councillor Lofts reported that Ashfield Boys High (ABH) staff had discussed the sister community concept with the Peak Hill community representative at the activity room opening event and there was interest in furthering the relationship. Ms Scott will liaise with Ms Louise Finnigan from ABH regarding establishment of an inter school relationship.

There was discussion about having artists from the Peak Hill community visit within the council Artist in Residence program.

RECOMMENDATION:

Lennis/Cross

That the Sister Community agreement attached to the report be endorsed by the Committee and be reported to Council for endorsement to formalise the relationship with the Peak Hill community.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Mr Warren Jaimeson advised that it would be difficult for Council to realise the RAP action that refers to flying the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander flags, in Ashfield Park, as there is only one flagpole. This information was noted and Ms Nellette Kettle advised that a comprehensive report about flagpoles in the Ashfield Council area will be the subject of a report to Council in March 2013. Ms Kettle undertook to investigate Ashfield Park as a priority.
- The sub-Committee reported that the information on the Greenway signage for the Cadigal Reserve was appropriate although the image did not relate to the text. The family unit image in the Brown Street Car park mural would be more suitable.
- There was discussion about the tree trunk in Ashfield Park and if this was still being considered for an Aboriginal art installation. Council Officer Mr Harry Diversi, Tree Technical Officer has prepared a report that does not support installation of artwork on the tree trunk 'in situ' and has proposed an alternate site. Ms Fiona Robbe, (landscape architect, horticulture and play space design) has suggested the tree trunk in a concept design for the a story-telling area in the Ashfield playground. Ms Hart will follow this matter up and a report will be prepared for the next meeting.

- Information has been forwarded to the Roads & Maritime Services that describes the location and concept for a 'gateway' installation at the corner of Liverpool Road and Frederick Street. The work will indicate directions and distance to landmarks of Aboriginal significance.
- Members of the Committee reiterated their view that an Aboriginal Liaison Worker is necessary at Ashfield Council to support Aboriginal employees and to be the contact for enquiries regarding Aboriginal matters. Ms Kettle indicated that the Council has requested a report from the General Manager on this matter.
- There was discussion about meeting protocol and it was acknowledged that people have many reasons why they may arrive late or leave early but in either case, this should be conveyed to the Chair.
- Councillor Lofts reported that Council was asked at the recent LGSA Conference to withdraw the RAP motion that related to an Aboriginal person, with full voting rights to be represented on all NSW Councils. There was discussion as to the timing of this motion.
- Ms Nellette Kettle advised that the Aboriginal Employment & Retention Strategy was well developed and the draft document would be forwarded to Mr Peter Cross and Mr Warren Jaimeson.

RECOMMENDATION:

Jaimeson/Cross

- 1/4 That the Acting Director, Works and Infrastructure be asked to provide information to the Committee on the feasibility of the tree trunk as an art installation in Ashfield Park.**
- 2/4 That the sub-Committee will determine wording for the 'gateway' installation.**
- 3/4 That the General Manager request SSROC to employ an Aboriginal Liaison Officer who would service Ashfield and other Councils.**
- 4/4 That the action, 'Advocate for an Aboriginal person, with full voting rights, to be represented on all NSW Councils and that this person be elected by Aboriginal people of the local area or appointed by the State Government of the day' be retained in the RAP document.**

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THURSDAY 16 AUGUST 2012**

PROCEEDINGS TERMINATED AT 6.10PM

Chairperson of the meeting of Aboriginal Consultative Committee
when the Minutes were confirmed

Chairperson

Date