

MINUTES OF THE ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 22 March 2022
Location: Council Chambers, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4:11pm

The following members were present:

Mr Jared Brown - Chairperson
Mayor Amanda Findley
Clr Liza Butler
Clr Moo D'Ath
Clr Evan Christen
Clr Patricia White
Clr Tonia Gray
Clr John Kotlash (Remotely)
Ms Sylvia Timbery
Ms Janet Atkins
Ms Nicole Moore
Ms Kalinda Wills
Mr Charlie Ashby
Mr Alfred Wellington - Jerrinja LALC
Mr Shane Brown (Remotely)
Ms Sharlene Cruickshank (Remotely)
Ms Valda Corrigan (Remotely)

Others Present:

Michael Paine – Manager – Community Connections
Rodney Broad – Community Capacity Builder - Aboriginal
Brooke Aldous – Senior Governance Officer
Michael Roberts – Manager – Environmental Services
Peter Swanson – Lead – Land Management
Lili Hutchinson – Social Infrastructure Planner
Colin Wood – Manager – Certification & Compliance (via teams)

The Chairperson opened the meeting and Acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land and paid respect to Elders past and present, welcomed everyone present and commenced a moments silence.

Apologies / Leave of Absence

An apology was received from Mr Jason Groves.

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (Sylvia Timbery / Sharlene Cruickshank)

That the Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee held on Monday 25 October 2021 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Declarations of Interest

Nil

PRESENTATIONS

AA22.1 Presentation by City Lifestyles - Overview of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee

HPERM Ref:
D22/78489

Mr Rodney Broad – Community Capacity Builder – Aboriginal provided a presentation in relation to:

- Overview of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee
- Terms of Reference
- Strategic Plan
- Relevant Policies and Procedures
- Overview of what is Operational / within the Committees/Boards interest / clarification of appropriate recommendations under the Committees/Boards delegation

AA22.2 Presentation - Governance - Brief Induction

HPERM Ref:
D22/78510

Ms Brooke Aldous – Senior Governance Officer provided a presentation in relation to the Code of Conduct:

- Code of Conduct
- Code of Meeting Practice
- Delegations
- Declaration of Interests

REPORTS

AA22.3 Notification of Council Resolution - Aboriginal Advisory Committee Re-establishment

HPERM Ref:
D22/87478

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive the Notification of Council Resolution – Aboriginal Advisory Committee Re-establishment report for information.

RESOLVED (By consent)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee receive the Notification of Council Resolution – Aboriginal Advisory Committee Re-establishment report for information.

CARRIED

AA22.4 Aboriginal Advisory Committee Representative on Shoalhaven Arts Board**HPERM Ref:
D22/103589**

The Committee discussed the Arts Board membership position and it was suggested that the position be open to a member of the community who may have expertise in their field.

Recommendation

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee appoint (insert name), as the new representative on the Shoalhaven Arts Board, as a designated Aboriginal Local Member for the term of membership, being four (4) years, in accordance with the Shoalhaven Arts Board Terms of Reference.

RECOMMENDATION (Nicole Moore / Clr Butler)

That:

1. Council request the Shoalhaven Arts Board conduct a public EOI process for the position of Aboriginal Representative on the Shoalhaven Arts Board, for the term of membership, being four (4) years, in accordance with the Shoalhaven Arts Board Terms of Reference.
2. A report be submitted back to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC) on the outcome of the EOI process for endorsement.

CARRIED

AA22.5 Boongaree Reconciliation Garden - Project Update and Request for Further Concept Design Guidance**HPERM Ref:
D22/54726****Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. Are informed of the background and current status of the Boongaree Reconciliation Garden project.
2. Participate in discussion with Council staff and provide advice for the concept design of a Reconciliation Garden at Boongaree.
3. Nominate representatives to include in the project stakeholder group that the committee believes would add cultural value and depth to this project.

RESOLVED (Kalinda Wills / Sylvia Timbery)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. Are informed of the background and current status of the Boongaree Reconciliation Garden Project.
2. Participate in discussion with Council staff and provide advice for the concept design of a Reconciliation Garden at Boongaree.
3. Nominate Jared Brown and the Community Capacity Builder – Aboriginal as representatives (and connection between the AAC Members) to be included in the Project Stakeholder Group that the Committee believes would add cultural value and depth to this project.

CARRIED

AA22.6 Aboriginal Advisory Committee Membership Audit and Expression of Interest Report.

**HPERM Ref:
D22/87556**

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee

1. Accept the audit of membership of the AAC conducted by Council staff.
2. Accept the notification of 4 vacant community membership positions:
 - a. Patricia Lester
 - b. Leonie Ebzery
 - c. Natalie Lloyd
 - d. Kalinda Wills
3. Support the Expression of Interest to be conducted to fill the 4 vacant community membership positions.
4. Accept the re-nomination of expired members to sit for another term on the Committee
 - a. Janet Atkins
 - b. Sylvia Timbery
 - c. Shane Brown
5. Nominate a member of the Committee to be the committee representative on the assessment panel for the next round of the EOI – *Name of Community Member to be inserted at the meeting.*

RESOLVED (Charlie Ashby / Sharlene Cruickshank)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee:

1. In relation to Membership Audit, staff conduct formal consultation/notification with all members regarding clarification of membership including their preferred meeting times;
2. Accept the re-nomination of expired members to sit for another term on the Committee, noting that all members will be formally contacted regarding membership:
 - a. Janet Atkins
 - b. Sylvia Timbery
 - c. Shane Brown

CARRIED

AA22.7 Aboriginal Advisory Committee Action Table Update - March 2022

**HPERM Ref:
D22/97040**

Michael Paine – Manager – Community Connections addressed the meeting in relation to matters on the Action Table, the following comments were made:

AA19.6 – Community Capacity Builder – Aboriginal will liaise with Social Infrastructure Team, who hold the Plaques and Memorials Policy, there is a sign ready to be installed at Greenwell Point, however, staff are waiting for feedback from Jerrinja LALC. Action to remain open.

AA19.18 – Ongoing Action

AA21.17(part3) – Michael Roberts – Manager Environmental Services addressed the meeting and advised that, staff have put in a Capital Bid to prepare a Plan of Management. New Action Item

see AA22.8.

AA21.18 – Council staff are awaiting receipt of the LALC's EOI. Once received Council staff will distribute to the wider community.

AA21.19 – Capacity Builder Aboriginal will continue to reach out to Nowra LALC

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee accept and receive the Update on Actions report for information.

RESOLVED (By consent)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee accept and receive the Update on Actions report for information.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

AA22.8 Additional Item - Budget Bid Plan of Management for Cullunghutti

During the Action Table Item AA21.17 a discussion was held in relation to Cullunghutti and the need for Budget in order to develop a Plan of Management.

It was suggested that following Councillors becoming more informed on the history of this matter, a Working Group be established.

RECOMMENDATION (Clr D'Ath / Clr White)

That:

1. Council consider the Capital Operational Budget request of \$50,000 to resolve issues with respect to Cullunghutti and do so through the next quarterly review.
2. A formal discussion between Jerrinja LALC, NPWS and elected Council be organised, with regard to issues around Cullunghutti Plan of Management.
3. The Aboriginal Advisory Committee and Councillors be provided with a copy of the "Cullunghutti: The Mountain And It's People 'A documentary listing of Cullunghutti Mountain from 1770 to 1920 a report for the community' – Produced for the Office of Environment and Heritage (Nowra) in April 2013" written by Kate Waters. Noting the budget implication of approximately \$800 to be taken from the Community Connections Budget.

CARRIED

The following matters were raised in General Business:

- A question was raised in relation to the invitations and attendance of the last NAIDOC Awards. Staff advised that due to COVID-19 the numbers were kept at a minimum. The next Awards will be hosted by Wollongong. Council allocates a budget for NAIDOC and other Cultural events/programs.
- A question was raised regarding if Councillors receive Cultural Training as part of their Induction Program? Staff confirmed that Councillors will receive the training as part of their Induction program.

- Jared Brown advised the AAC that he met with Ron Carberry regarding his membership application which was unsuccessful. He advised Ron that he can apply through the next round of Expression of Interest. It was suggested that as part of the EOI application process, staff and available members have an informal discussion with the applicants prior to any formal interview process.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 6.41pm.

Jared Brown
CHAIRPERSON