



Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

Monday 15 July 2024
3.30pm

Minutes

Arts and Culture Advisory Committee Minutes

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Present: Councillors: Isabelle Shapiro (Chair) attendance via teleconference
Merrill Witt

Community

Representatives: Simon Chan (Industry Representative)
Prof. Ian Howard (Industry Representative)
Graham Humphrey (Community Representative)
Elizabeth Lewin (Industry Representative)
Christoph Muecher (Community Representative)
Lulu Pinkus (Industry Representative)

Staff: Patricia Occelli (Director – Community and Customer Experience)
Vicki Munro (Manager – Community & Culture)
Jody Rodas (Manager - Woollahra Libraries)
Maya Jankovic (Coordinator – Community and Culture)

Others: Jenny Thompson (Senior Consultant – Institute for Regional Futures)
Jane Britten (Local History Team Leader)
Alison Wishart (Local History Librarian)
Justine Henderson (Manager – Communications and Engagement)
Linda Caporusso (Event Coordinator)
Pippa Mott (Woollahra Gallery at Redleaf)

Meeting opened: 3.35pm held in person at Woollahra Library at Double Bay.

1. Opening

The Chair declared the meeting open and welcomed all those in attendance.

As Cr Shapiro was attending the meeting remotely, Director, Community and Customer Experience chaired the meeting. It was agreed that Items 7.1 and 7.2 be discussed in reverse order.

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair read the following Acknowledgement of Country:

I would like to acknowledge that we are here today on the land of the Gadigal and Birrabirragal people, the traditional custodians of the land. On behalf of Woollahra Council, I acknowledge Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people attending today and I pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

3. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Sarah Swan.

Apologies were also received from Industry representatives Alison Renwick and Amanda Love.

4. Disclosures of Interest

Nil

5. Late Correspondence

Nil

6. Confirmation of Minutes

Item No: 6.1
Subject: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ARTS AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING 25 MARCH, 2024
Author: Maya Jankovic, Coordinator Community & Culture
Purpose of the Report: To present the Minutes of 25 March 2024 for confirmation by the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee.

(Shapiro/Pinkus)

Resolved:

THAT the Minutes of the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee meeting held on 25 March 2024 be confirmed.

7. Items for Discussion

Item No:	7.1
Subject:	DRAFT WOOLLALHRA ARTS AND CULTURE STRATEGY AND 4 YEAR ACTION PLAN
Authors:	Maya Jankovic, Coordinator Community & Culture Vicki Munro, Manager Community & Culture
Purpose of the Report:	To seek feedback from members of the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee on the draft Woollahra Arts and Culture Strategy.

Discussion:

Consultant Dr Jenny Thompson, Senior Consultant at the University of Newcastle's Institute for Regional Futures presented the outcomes of the consultation and development of Council's first Arts and Culture Strategy and four-year action plan.

The Strategy has been written to align with both Creative Australia and Create NSW strategic documents, which will enhance future funding opportunities. It has five key focus areas:

- Celebrate
- Participate
- Activate
- Lead and Advocate
- Sustain

Committee members were encouraged to provide further feedback until Monday 22 July 2024.

Points raised included:

- Need for a more ambitious vision to be identified at the start of the Strategy with high impact projects highlighted.
- Acknowledgement of financial constraints and the need for the Action Plan to be achievable.
- Consider developing an annual Arts Festival around the opening of the Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, and by grouping events together and/or incorporating a weekend opening for local galleries.
- Need to raise profile of the Woollahra Gallery at Redleaf and review business model. Noting Action 1.4 addresses this.
- How will the strategy respond to projected increases in population and density?
- Consider philanthropic and other opportunities e.g. Voluntary planning agreements. Noting Actions 3.1 and 5.1 address this.
- The role of the Arts and Culture Committee in response to the draft Arts and Culture Strategy.

(Chan/Shapiro)

Resolved:

THAT the Committee:

- A. Noted the report and presentation provided by the University of Newcastle's Institute for Regional Futures on the draft Woollahra Arts and Culture Strategy and 4 Year Action Plan.
- B. To provide feedback on the draft Woollahra Arts and Culture Strategy and 4 Year Action Plan, by Monday 22 July 2024.

Item No: 7.2
Subject: **DRAFT EVENTS POLICY AND DRAFT EVENTS STRATEGY SEEKING FEEDBACK AND ENDORSEMENT.**
Author: Linda Caporusso, Event Coordinator
Purpose of the Report: To provide members of the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee with an update on the amended Events Policy and the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Events Strategy.

Discussion:

Manager Communications and Engagement presented the Draft Events Policy and Draft Events Strategy developed as a result of the 2023 Events Service Review. Each year Council hosts hundreds of events including:

- Public events organised and funded by Council.
- Public events organised by external parties that are funded or formally supported by Council.
- Third Party events managed by external parties using our venues or places for hire, requiring Council approval, permits or similar.

The purpose of the policy is to outline the broader promise to the community on events and to guide decisions, procedures and event delivery. The policy includes:

- Events assessment criteria to be used by Council for considering new event ideas.
- An events framework with actions that will help support, deliver and improve events.

The Strategy's four focus areas are:

- Enhance community lifestyle and culture and promote recognition of Council's brand.
- Increase local social and economic benefits.
- Foster partnerships and collaboration.
- Drive excellence and continuous improvement.

(Chan/Shapiro)

Resolved:

THAT the Committee:

- A. Noted and endorsed the draft Events Policy and draft Events Strategy.
- B. To provide feedback on the draft Events Strategy and draft Events Policy by Monday, 22 July 2024.

Item No: 7.3
Subject: **WOOLLAHRA GALLERY AT REDLEAF UPDATE REPORT**
Author: Pippa Mott, Director Woollahra Gallery at Redleaf
Purpose of the Report: To provide an update report on the Woollahra Gallery at Redleaf for the period September 2023 to June 2024.

Discussion:

The Gallery Director presented the biannual Gallery update report, covering the period September 2023 to June 2024. The Gallery has attracted 35,000 visitors since its November 2021 opening, with attendance for the 1 January to 30 June 2024 being 6,983 people. During the reporting period, the Gallery has curated 35 exhibitions.

Since September 2023, Gallery public programming has expanded to serve a wide range of creatives and community members and has included monthly artist talks, Poetica Petit, weaving and sculpture workshops etc.

While the Gallery's profile and visitation continue to grow, key challenges are:

- For-hire, for-sale model (to be reviewed as part of the Arts and Culture Strategy).
- Managing the high rotation of exhibitions.

The Committee was advised that the Director, Woollahra Gallery at Redleaf, Pippa Mott had resigned and will be leaving Council following delivery of the 2024 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize.

Cr Shapiro thanked Pippa for her dedication and hard work during the time of her tenure.

(Howard/Chan)

Resolved:

THAT the Committee received and noted the report.

8. General Business

The Manager Woollahra Libraries updated the Committee on Council's resolution of 8 July, 2024 to revise the Woollahra Council Plaque Scheme's criteria to promote equal representation of women. A paper will be presented to the next meeting of the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee on this matter.

9. Advisings

Nil

10. Next Meeting

Timing of the next meeting is to be advised post Council Elections in September. Following the appointment of a new Council, there will be an Expression Of Interest issued for Committee membership.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 5.11 pm.