

MINUTES

ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP



2.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST 2015

PRESENT	
Cr Jill Merrin	Uncle Richard Archibald
Jade Kennedy	Leanne Olive

IN ATTENDANCE	
Armando Reviglio – Community & Cultural Development Manager (Acting)	Jody Clark – Community Worker
Annie Edgar – Administration Support Officer (Minutes)	

1 WELCOME

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None declared.

4 APOLOGIES – Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Lord Mayor Cr Gordon Bradbery, Sharralyn Robinson, Sue Savage, Basilia McGaw and Derek Hardman.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 20 MAY 2015 – confirmed.

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Armando did follow-up with Ted Collins re Leanne's request – awaiting a reply – will chase up.
- Item 9 in previous minutes- awaiting advice from Land Council.
- Invite Renee Campbell to next meeting.

7 ABORIGINAL AMBASSADOR FOR AUSTRALIA DAY

Jody advised that Wollongong City Council (WCC) were considering having an Aboriginal Ambassador for Australia Day this year. Jody noted that WCC were considering using Christine Anu and/or Deborah Mailman, further that these people were being considered as they were seen as being semi-local.

The Reference Group did not consider either Christine or Deborah to be local. They then discussed that a local person would be more appropriate and discussed Uncle Bruce Olive being the Ambassador for all his sporting achievements. Leanne (Uncle Bruce's niece) said it would be unlikely he would agree to the title.

The role of the Ambassador was discussed, several award and media events, no payment.

The Reference Group then discussed how they found it difficult to reconcile having any Aboriginal Ambassador for Australia Day no matter who that might be. The Group found the idea to be culturally inappropriate, insensitive and tokenistic.

8 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER UPDATE

The meeting watched a video screening of the Flash Mob event which was held in NAIDOC week 2015.

Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Week luncheon at the Botanic Gardens was a lovely day, very informal and enjoyed by over 30 Elders and children from Bulli and Corrimal.

NAIDOC Regional Awards Dinner will be hosted and held by Shellharbour City Council next year.

The Family Fun Day at “the Land” was a good day however there were some traffic issues.

Employment Opportunities

Council is currently recruiting four school-based trainees from schools in the Illawarra. The traineeships are available to students in Year 10 who are intending to go to Year 12 and will provide 100 days of paid work over two years while the students undertake a Certificate II in Business Administration as part of their HSC.

One of the traineeships is being funded under the Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Program. This position will be working in the Information Management and Customer Service sections of Council. This position is specifically provided for Indigenous students. We are looking for people with a genuine interest in working in an office environment, liaising with customers and dealing with documents.

The other three traineeships will be working in the Libraries sections of Council. These traineeships are open to all students however Indigenous students are strongly encouraged to apply. We are looking for people with a genuine interest in books, ability to undertake cataloguing of books and items and helping people use technology such as smart phones.

Flyers advertising these opportunities will soon be sent to all careers advisors in local high schools. It is expected that all trainees will commence at the beginning of Term 4, 2015 (mid October).

Illawarra 200

- Aboriginal themed twilight markets
- Aboriginal themed movie nights- two are planned. The first is 7 November opposite Port Kembla Pools - playing Bran Nue Dae and a short film on the Chookie Dancers – plus arts and crafts - Elders storytelling tent - didgeridoo playing competition. Bus to run from Coomaditchie. The second night will be at either Corrimal or Thirroul in late November/early December.

9 WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Reference Group members were left to discuss this agenda item, they will discuss further and circulate and feed into a new document. We will be using the current list of approved Elders until the new document is formulated.

10 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was general discussion on the DRAFT Hill 60 Landscape Master Plan and whether all of the relevant Aboriginal community member’s names were given to consultants to discuss cultural heritage needs/issues. The Reference Group members fed back that Council is to find ways to ensure consultants are provided with all the names to consult within the Aboriginal Community to ensure everyone has their say in the consultation process. Jody to write up suggested improvements to the consultation process and Cr Merrin may take forward as a Councillor motion if it is a legislation requirement.

11 NEXT MEETING

Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting to be held at 2.00pm on Wednesday 25 November 2015.

12 CLOSE

The meeting concluded at 3.40pm.

ACTION SUMMARY

Item	Action	Officer	Status
12.4	Sandon Point Joint Management Committee – role of and authority clarity of. Invite Renee Campbell to the next meeting.	Armando Reviglio	Ongoing
	Improvement to the process – Hill 60 Management Plan	Jody Clark	