

Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday 13 September 2018, 9:30 am – 11:30 am

Attendees:

Cr Kylie Spears (Chair), Cr Tony Dib, Michelle Egan, Angela Fitzpatrick, Cara Hudson, Judith Lenthall, Ron Major, Jacob Matthew, Jenny Newman (from 10:20 am), Ross Taylor

Support:

Fiona BurrIDGE (MCC), Phil Medley (MCC), Jack Mulholland (MCC), Judy Morris (MCC, admin support)

Guest speakers:

Item 3 - Noelene Greene, Senior Community Development Officer (MCC), and Fiona BurrIDGE, Community Development Officer (MCC)

Item 4 - Rosemary Joy, Arts Activation Coordinator (MCC)

Item 6 - Jack Mulholland, MetroAccess Community Development Officer (MCC)

Item 7 - Vivienne Fraser, Environment Planner (MCC)

1. Opening of meeting

Welcome by Cr Kylie Spears

1.1 Apologies:

Amelia Milroy, Andrea Salmon, Melinda Spencer

2. Welcome to:

Angela Fitzpatrick – a new committee member. Angela introduced herself, spoke about her current committee memberships and noted she has been working in health and disability for fourteen years. Each member introduced themselves to Angela and spoke briefly about their background/current interests.

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 26 July 2018

One correction to be made to Amelia's name in Item 2.

Minutes moved by: Cara Hudson

Seconded: Ron Major

Adam Cooper, Team Leader Youth and Children's Services (MCC) provided feedback via email, on the suggestions made by the Committee regarding the No Wrong Door portal. Yarra Ranges Council is managing the review and recommendations of this portal and therefore Adam has passed the feedback to them.

3. Disability Policy and Action Plan 2018-2021 consultation

Noelene and Fiona advised that the current Disability Policy and Action plan is nearing completion so work has commenced on the next Disability Policy and Action Plan 2018-2021. A Community Engagement Plan is being developed which outlines Council's engagement process. Engagement will be undertaken with the general community, local disability groups, local disability organisations and within Council.

Consultation commenced last year at Maroondah Festival and we are currently working on a survey which will be available to the community in hard copy and online.

ACTION: Fiona to send the survey link to the Committee for distribution once it is available.

Consultation with the Committee was based around this survey.

There were two parts to the consultation:

1. General information on making Maroondah more inclusive (completed individually)
2. Key issues facing people with disabilities in Maroondah, suggested ways that Council could deal with these issues, and what Council is doing well for our disability community (completed in groups).

Feedback from each group is attached to these minutes. Further suggestions can be emailed to Fiona.

ACTION: Fiona to send consultation form with the minutes for further feedback opportunities.

4. Rawcus Flash Mob - Ringwood Town Square

Rosemary advised that Rawcus is a theatre group of people with and without disabilities. In 2011, they ran a flash mob at Federation Square, and will be running one for Ringwood Town Square on 31 October 2018, 12:00 midday with rehearsal held beforehand at 10:00 am. There will be a series of workshops/rehearsals for community participation. Rehearsals will only be held on a Monday and Wednesday as they were the only days Rawcus was available.

An exhibition of Rawcus photos will be shown as well as a display showing the development of the flash mob. Your DNA will also be involved in the workshops to assist participants. A flyer has been designed with booking information. There will be a maximum of 200 participants.

ACTION: Fiona to forward the flyer to the Committee.

The Flash Mob will be videoed showcasing Ringwood Town Square and displaying how welcoming and accessible it is. A workshop has been held for local secondary school teachers as Rawcus would like to involve local secondary students.

Registrations are now open and you can register via Maroondah City Council's website.

Jenny spoke about The World's Biggest Dance held in Lilydale. The choreography was videoed so everyone could practice. The choreography for the Flash Mob won't be complicated so anyone can follow on the day.

5. BREAK

6. Update on Recent Award Nominations

On Wednesday 5 September 2018 Council was awarded the '2018 LGPro Aged and Disability award for outstanding project' for the Pathways for Carers program.

Jack recognised Kim Henderson, NDIS Transition Coordinator and Fiona Burrige for their important contributions to the Pathways for Carers program. Pathways allows carers to connect with other carers, walk and talk in a natural environment, and has a guest walker attending each walk. The group finish at a local café and chat over a drink. It allows carers to feel connected, develop friendships, and feel empowered. The Pop Culture Conversation Club has commenced through conversations at the walks. Six Councils in Melbourne's east run the Pathways for Carers program. It is led by carers with Council playing a supportive role. This is one of the reasons why the project is so successful.

There were also two nominations in the '2018 Victorian Disability Awards - Volunteer'. Our committee member and volunteer carer of the Tuesday Pathways for Carers walk, Melinda Spencer was a finalist in this category and Woody Marriott, facilitator of Eastern Disability Action

group who has worked/volunteered in disability space for 54 years, was the winning entrant. Congratulations to both volunteers who work tirelessly for our community.

7. Tarralla Creek Trail

Vivienne Fraser, Environment Planner

The Re-imagine Tarralla Creek project was outlined to the group. Vivienne attended the meeting to obtain input into the project around accessibility.

The project is based on the principle that nature is medicinal. Council has been working with Melbourne Water to open the waterways with the old creek being renewed. Initial naturalisation will consist of 1.2 km of creek in Croydon South. Input will also be provided by Yarra Valley Water.

There is a \$3M budget to deliver the project with the final project cost anticipated to be approximately \$5M. Additional funding is being sought.

Objectives are to beautify a green wedge, provide alternative water sources for ovals, improve recreational facilities, and make a welcoming space for people to visit.

The aim is to make spaces for recreation and passive enjoyment eg picnic areas, native play, and increase habitat in the area. Consideration will be given to physical barriers, signage, bathroom access, parking.

Options were given for the group to participate in the consultation process. Several options were available ie Pathway for Carers Walk 18 Sept, a site visit on 17 October, other working groups such as Eastern Disability Advisory Group. The Mullum Mullum Indigenous Group will also be doing a site visit.

Any feedback/ideas can be emailed to Fiona Burridge, reimagingyourcreek@melbournewater.com.au or by calling Vivienne Fraser on 9298 4369.

Some suggestions from the Committee:

- Bring back bird hides at varying heights so they are accessible for all abilities ie people in wheelchairs. Like Coolart on Mornington Peninsula or Edithvale
- Extra hard surface next to seats to fit a wheelchair
- Fish viewing area
- Grading for wheelchair access
- Some rough areas may need Lilydale toppings for wheelchair access and should be wide enough for easy access
- Think about mediums used for natural, sensory experience
- Ringwood Lake Park is a good example of a natural environment with sensory experience.

ACTION: Committee Members to email any sample pictures or other ideas to Fiona Burridge.

Consultation will continue throughout October; detailed design will be completed November with works commencing in late 2019.

8. Discussion on 'Break up lunch' options for the next meeting

Fiona Burridge, Community Development Officer

The last meeting for the year will be held on 15 November 2018 and consist of a 1-hour meeting with a 1-hour break up lunch. Several options were discussed and it was decided that the

meeting will be held in a Realm meeting room with lunch catered. It was suggested that a social enterprise café cater for lunch.

Proposed meeting dates for 2019 - 7/3, 16/5, 18/7, 12/9, 21/11

9. Members update

Ross Taylor, NEAMI representative

This is the last meeting Ross will be attending as he has accepted a new position at Launch Housing in South Melbourne. Unfortunately, NEAMI will be unable to provide a representative for the Committee going forward due to changes within the organisation. Cr Spears thanked Ross for his contribution to the Committee.

It was noted that Maroondah's Affordable and Social Housing Policy is now adopted and will be online soon. Council's Draft Gambling Policy has been out on public exhibition and is set to be adopted at the 17 September 2018 Council Meeting.

A postcard was distributed for Council's 20-Minute Neighbourhood Planning Pilot Project which aims to enhance local neighbourhoods as great places to live, work and play. A 20-minute neighbourhood is one where residents can walk, cycle, ride or take local public transport to access most of their daily needs including shops, childcare and schools, parks, doctors and public transport, within a 20-minute journey from home. Croydon South was chosen for this pilot project and consultation has commenced with a successful Community Day held on Saturday 8 September at the Eastfield shops. There is an online survey which people can complete. This will be available for the next four weeks.

Discussion took place around advertising for the event. Fiona suggested that members regularly check Council's What's On Calendar of Events on Council's website to help keep up to date on what is available in the local community.

10. Close of meeting

Cr Kylie Spears

The next meeting will be held on 15 November 2018.