

Maroondah Partners in Community Wellbeing Committee
Tuesday 20 November 2018
9.30-11:30 am
Meeting Room 4, Braeside Avenue, Ringwood

MINUTES

Present: Bill Wilkins (Chair & Community Representative)
Cr. Marijke Graham (MCC)
Cr. Samantha Mazzuchelli (MCC)
Christine Farnan (DHHS)
Edwina Ricci (Communities of Wellbeing Inc)
Jenny Royle (OELLEN)
Lara Gerrand (Women's Health East)
Laura Newstead (OEPCP)
Maggie Palmer (EACH)
Peter Feeney (Maroondah Healthy Ageing Network)
Vicki Bryce (Uniting Wesley)
Vik Naidu (Eastern Volunteers)
Belinda Lim (MCC)
Kirsten Jenkins (MCC)
Phil Medley (MCC)
Jeanette Ingram - guest speaker (MCC)
Monica Ashton - guest speaker (MCC)
Robyn Williams - guest speaker (MCC)
Judy Morris (MCC - Minute Taker)

Apologies: Jayde McBurnie (Women's Health East)
Jennifer Small (DET)
Rachel Hughes (EMPHN)
Vivienne Cunningham-Smith (Eastern Volunteers)

- 1. Welcome & Apologies (including acknowledgement of Country)** **Bill Wilkins**
Bill welcomed all Committee members to the meeting. Apologies as above were noted. Bill then provided the Acknowledgement of Country.
- 2. Declaring a Conflict of Interest** **Bill Wilkins**
Bill reminded members of the purpose of this item and invited members to advise of a conflict at any time. No declarations were made.
- 3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the last meeting** **Bill Wilkins**
The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed. These were accepted as an accurate record of proceedings. Moved: Kirsten Jenkins Seconded: Jenny Royle
- 4. Communities of Wellbeing - Strategic Plan** **Peter Feeney & Edwina Ricci**
Chairman, Communities of Wellbeing
Firstly, Bill congratulated Edwina for the recent acknowledgement for the work she has undertaken for community wellbeing.

Communities of Wellbeing conversations commenced in 2014 arising from Maroondah 2040 Community Vision process guided by the City of Wellbeing Steering Committee. There are 30 members on the Committee representing the sectors of education, business, finance, government, community services and sport. Communities of Wellbeing seeks to support people to flourish via education, training and partnerships, The Committee are seeking to forge further partnerships and obtain funding to pursue initiatives. At present, the group is developing a five-year Strategic Plan along with a two-year Implementation Plan, with the assistance of funding made available by the Victorian Government and Maroondah City Council.

Edwina then spoke about wellbeing being a collective journey. To help facilitate partnerships, input is required from a broad range of stakeholders applying a cross sector approach.

A questionnaire was distributed to committee members to find out what wellbeing looks like in their organisations. Questions included:

- What does wellbeing look like to the people that your organisation supports? What elements are most important?
- Of your current programs and initiatives, which ones are gaining the greatest traction and are showing the greatest impact?
- Which of your achievements or projects are you most proud of and why?
- What possibilities do you see for an organisation like Communities of Wellbeing to help you achieve greater impact in your work?
- What would you like to see from us in five years' time?
- From your experience partnering with community-based organisations - what risks should we consider when identifying our key priorities and planning for our future?

The Committee was asked to give any feedback as to what elements resonate and what may not resonate, or any other comments or questions, to Peter Feeney.

Currently, there is no online presence but there will be in the future. Consultants are assisting with the preparation of a Strategic Plan with a number of meetings already held. In December 2018, another workshop will be held where a draft plan will be discussed.

Edwina gave an outline on the Home of Positive Education (HOPE) program based at Heathmont Secondary College, that will also service the community. Geelong Grammar and Berry Street are also involved with the project. It was noted that once preliminary work has been completed the program can commence. More funding is required, which will be pursued after the 24 November 2018 State Government election. A community outreach facility is being made available at the school. Students have indicated they want the facility to look like a home so they can communicate in a relaxed environment.

Peter identified that the ongoing relationship with The Plus 10 schools program in Maroondah will continue.

Marijke spoke about the Master Plan for Croydon where there is a Community Wellbeing Hub proposed for the Croydon Community Precinct.

5. 20 Minute Neighbourhood Project Update

Monica Ashton

20 Minute Neighbourhoods Project Officer

Background information was provided explaining the concept of a 20 Minute Neighbourhood - one where people live locally and within a 20 minute walk, cycle or public transport trip from their home. Local amenities are accessible, eg shops, schools, parks, doctors and public transport.

As part of Plan Melbourne 2017-2050, the Victorian Government funded Maroondah City Council as a pilot project to consider 20 minute neighbourhood planning from a liveability perspective. Croydon South was chosen as the pilot neighbourhood (with the project area defined as an 800m radius from the corner of Eastfield and Bayswater Roads). Council is establishing a framework that can be applied to all neighbourhood activity centres across Maroondah.

The project has focused on identifying priority enhancements, building long term partnerships, facilitating capacity building and considering future works programming. Stakeholders have shown a keen interest in community programming and community led activation of community hubs.

The pilot project has involved two stages of community engagement:

1. Broad community engagement involving a community survey on liveability, an interactive spatial engagement platform (CrowdSpot) and the Croydon South Community Day event
2. Focussed stakeholder engagement with businesses, sporting clubs, community groups, education providers and interviews with stakeholders.

There have been consistent findings arising from the community engagement results, including high levels of satisfaction with the area and wanting to preserve positive aspects of the neighbourhood. A range of suggestions have been received regarding potential local infrastructure improvements.

The Liveability Survey identified that that key gaps were in areas of affordable housing, access to employment, community empowerment, and access to arts and culture.

A stakeholder workshop was held on 31 October 2018 where representatives from schools, conservation groups, sport and recreation, and indigenous groups attended.

Next steps for the project will involve reporting to Victorian Government, developing tools and indicators, establishing a neighbourhood planning toolkit, and promoting alignment across other projects including the Reimagining Tarralla Creek and Greening the Greyfields initiatives.

Question posed to the Committee - What recommendations would you give to the Victorian Government to support health and wellbeing in local neighbourhoods.

Suggestions included:

- Revisit learnings of the Bayswater North Community Renewal Project and Healthy Together Knox project
- Consider presenting on the project to the Maroondah Business Group and Maroondah Business Advisory Committee - learnings are applicable beyond just Croydon South
- Consider how a green environment can continue to be promoted in an area of increased growth
- Provide feedback on liveability definitions and framework to DELWP
- Walkability involves behaviour change, not just infrastructure
- Be aware of stakeholder / community consultation fatigue

Further discussion points from the Committee

- Community views on Eastfield Park - a community desire to retain and enhance diversity of uses. The community value the importance of community engagement at the outset of a project
- Rationale for why Croydon South was chosen as a particular community of interest for the pilot included strategic position and alignment with other funded projects.
- Knox Project on 'Mothers Living Well' in Bayswater - potential application in this area

- What is the strategy to get community involved? Could there be potential for a trader association and a Cheong Park stakeholder group
- Yarra Ranges is an example where there is a strong link between community grants guidelines and health and wellbeing priorities
- It is great to see Maroondah as a pilot site, but there have been some place based initiatives launched by the Victorian Government in recent times without an integrated long term approach.

Morning Tea

10:50 to 11:00 am

6. Maroondah Health & Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 - Year 1 Report **Belinda Lim** Social Planning and Development Officer

The first year of the action plan has been completed. A report has been prepared to highlight the achievements over the past 12 months. This report will be presented at Council in December 2018. A copy of the final report will be sent to the Committee.

Belinda would like to hear from anyone who is interested in presenting at future meetings of this Committee.

Due to time constraints, this item will be discussed more fully at the next meeting to be held in February.

7. Gender Equity Policy **Robyn Williams** Community Safety Officer

This policy responds to several acts and policies at international, Australian and Victorian levels.

Six years ago, work commenced on initiatives relating to gender equity and the prevention of violence against women (PVAW). Some initiatives have included:

- 1 Million Stars Project with 5,000 community members taking part
- A PVAW regional project with Knox and Yarra Ranges
- An early childhood focus on gender equity training and super hero shows for children which show respect and friendships
- The 'Screenagers' movie
- Development of the Our Codes, Our Clubs video and toolkit promoting gender equality in sport
- Hosting a range of White Ribbon events including Run Maroondah and the White Ribbon Cup at Ringwood Golf
- 16 days of activism campaigns, incorporating seven billboards across Maroondah along with a North Ringwood Community House VCAL students banner.

Data on family violence has shown a reduction in callouts in Maroondah, with a dedicated Victoria Police unit now in place. The Crime Statistics Agency reports that Maroondah is the second most prevalent LGA in the Eastern Metropolitan Region for family violence incidents.

A Council Plan 2017/18 priority action involved the development of a Gender Equity Policy. This Policy focuses on a framework of equity, not just equality. By promoting gender equity, both men and women benefit. The process involved internal consultation through staff workshops and all staff survey. This engagement identified some suggestions around how Council could improve gender equity across Council. Four key areas for action were identified: commitment, culture, services and conditions. The policy was adopted in June 2018. The Policy will help to ensure that Council services are delivered in ways that are accessible, inclusive, respectful and equitable.

Recent work in this space has included a grant being provided to local kindergarten, a Children's Week Superheroes Picnic, development of a Gender Equity Booklist in conjunction with EACH and Eastern Regional Libraries, along with a regional women's safety card. From 25 November until 10 December 2018, Council will participate in the 16 days of activism campaign with seven positive messaging billboards installed.

The next steps involve developing an action plan to support policy implementation and seek funding. Council is also actively seeking opportunities to work in partnership with other organisations. Work will continue with other areas of Council and the community, including early childhood educators, Women's Health East and EACH.

Further discussion points from the committee

- Potential links with schools delivering Respectful Relationships Program

8. Our Codes Our Clubs

Jeanette Ingram

Sports and Recreation Planning and Policy Officer

Council started work on the project in November 2016. The Municipal Association of Victoria contributed grant funds to the project. Council has worked in partnership with Knox, Yarra Ranges Councils, EACH, Inspiro Community Health Service and Outer East Youth and sporting clubs across three municipalities.

During 2017, the group worked on the project and developed four key outcomes as part of Stage One Initiatives. The project has resulted in a:

1. Findings report;
2. Club resource; for sporting club committees to create gender equality and prevent violence against women.
3. Short film; and
4. Self-assessment Audit Tool

The MAV, Knox and Maroondah's websites have made the short film titled 'Equality is the Game' available for viewing. The film highlights the stories of local clubs across a range of codes who have implemented changes to promote gender equality and the benefits they have experienced by creating a place for women in sport. Last year, the Eastern Football League showed the film across grounds during their finals series. It was also shown at the MAV Gender Equality Showcase in 2018.

We are now commencing Stage Two initiatives with a focus on creating a place for women in sport. A sporting clubs workshop involving over 70 clubs is being held on 21 November 2018 with a focus on: Leadership, Club Culture and Women's Engagement/Membership. Council has also received 48k in Victorian Government funding to implement a Gender Equity in Sport Pilot Project. This project will focus on primary intervention for the prevention of violence against women for clubs using the Jubilee Sporting Pavilion. This Pavilion has also received \$2million in improvement works to create more female friendly facilities. A Memorandum of Understanding with clubs will be formed once the female friendly facilities has been completed. There are a broad range of female friendly facility upgrades in other sporting facilities across Maroondah being implemented at present.

9. Information Share

All

This item postponed due to time constraints.

The meeting closed at 11:45 am

Next Meeting: 2019 dates to be circulated