

**MINUTES OF VISUAL AMENITY
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
HELD TUESDAY 24 MAY 2022**

PRESENT:

Councillors
Mayor Cr Carolyn Corrigan (Chair)
Cr Pip Friedrich

Community Representatives
Susie Agoston
Jane Roennfeldt
Alan Toner

Staff
Dominic Johnson, General Manager
Di Lawrence, Director Community Development
Steve Smith, Manager Environment & Open Space
John Cheeseman, Manager Cultural Services

APOLOGIES: Reg Richardson

MINUTES: Leah Morgan, CD Administration

The meeting commenced at 9.00am

	MATTERS DISCUSSED	ACTION
1.	<p>WELCOME</p> <p>Madam Mayor welcomed to the meeting new and former Committee Members. She thanked everyone for their interest in the Committee and stated that she looked forward to working collaboratively with members to fulfil the Committee's Charter.</p>	Mayor
2.	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Reg Richardson</p>	
3.	<p>COMMITTEE MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS</p> <p>All Committee Members and attending staff members introduced themselves and outlined their particular interest in the Committee's deliberations.</p> <p>Madam Mayor spoke about Indigenous signage around Mosman and the need for replacement and improvement of current signage.</p>	
4.	<p>CODE OF CONDUCT AND DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST</p> <p>The General Manager informed members of their responsibilities and obligations under Council's Code of Conduct, previously circulated to all members.</p>	All

<p>5.</p>	<p>OVERVIEW OF COMMITTEE CHARTER</p> <p>It was noted that the Committee Charter is now focussed on revitalising and replacing current signage as well as potentially establishing new signage to interpret places and stories of indigenous history and heritage in Mosman. This project is dependent on external funding and the intent is to lodge an application in the next funding round for grants administered by the Mosman Environmental Foundation.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>OVERVIEW OF MOSMAN ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION AND PROJECT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY</p> <p>Di informed the committee of the Mosman Environment Foundation, established with monies bequeathed by Mosman resident Don Seaton. It was set up to raise money and fund environmental projects around Mosman. The aim of a funding application will be to link the Foundation’s objectives with deliverables and outcomes from the proposed indigenous signage project. The elements of education and public awareness will be important, alongside acknowledging and celebrating Mosman’s indigenous heritage.</p> <p>The scope of the project will need to have regard for the level of available funding. At this stage it is expected that an application for funds in the vicinity of \$20,000 will be considered.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>FUNDING APPLICATION</p> <p>Council staff will prepare a funding submission for lodgement by the funding deadline of 31 July 2022. Committee members discussed important elements of crafting the submission, including clarity and conciseness, appropriately demonstrating how protection of the environment and the natural landscape relates to protection and respect for Aboriginal heritage, linking existing flora with previous practises of indigenous inhabitants (bush tucker), and giving consideration to other examples of interpretative signage in Greater Sydney.</p> <p>It was mentioned that Woollahra and Waverley local government areas have signs that are worth a look. The plinth sign acknowledging Bungaree on Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (SHFT) land at Georges Heights was also mentioned, together with National Parks and Wildlife Service NSW (NPWS) signage at Middle Head and SHFT signage denoting the Bungaree Walkway on Trust land.</p> <p>It was noted that major stakeholders/landowners including Taronga Zoo, SHFT and NPWS have an active interest in the indigenous heritage of Mosman. The Metropolitan Land Council will also be an interested party as the project progresses.</p>	<p>Di</p>

	<p>The level of available external funding will mean that the project will potentially start small, with a view to building a foundation for further grants and further work in future. The Committee discussed the existing signage at Balmoral and agreed that, as current signage is not ideal, the location would be an excellent site for signage renewal. Susie tabled some photos of existing Balmoral signage for the Committee’s information.</p> <p>There are a range of opportunities for other locations where signage could be established or renewed, particularly along Mosman’s foreshores. The Mosman Aboriginal Heritage Study conducted in 2005 provides some great insights into the wealth of potential locations and also highlights the importance of education and interpretation going forward. All new signage must be culturally appropriate and be deliverable within budget. Other considerations such as QR codes on signage, linking to additional online information about the area’s Aboriginal heritage, were also raised.</p> <p>Di informed the committee that, while the closing date for funding applications is 31 July, the announcement of successful applications is scheduled for 31 August. At that time and, subject to funding, the Committee will be able to discuss in more detail potential locations and type of signage to be delivered.</p> <p>A meeting of the Committee will be held prior to the closing date for funding applications to enable members to review Council’s application for this project and to provide feedback prior to its lodgement.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Tuesday 26th July at 9am.</p>	<p>All</p>

The meeting closed at 9.50am.