

MAYORAL MINUTES

Tuesday 25 February 2014

Beginning at 6:00pm for the purpose of considering and determining matters included in this agenda.



Rik Hart
General Manager

OUR VISION

A vibrant community, improving our quality of life by living and working in balance with our special bush and beach environment

OUR VALUES

Respect

Integrity

Teamwork

Excellence

Responsibility

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



5.0 MAYORAL MINUTES

ITEM 5.1	MAYORAL MINUTE NO 2/2014 - PROPOSAL TO APPLY FOR FUNDING UNDER THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S ANZAC CENTENARY LOCAL GRANTS PROGRAM
TRIM FILE REF	2014/037939
ATTACHMENTS	NIL

BACKGROUND

The Australian Government's Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program assists and encourages communities across Australia to undertake their own Anzac Centenary projects that commemorate the service and sacrifice of Australian servicemen and women in the First World War.

The Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program is a key element of the Australian Government's Anzac Centenary program through which funding of up to \$125,000 is available for each Federal Member of Parliament (MP) to support projects in their electorate commemorating the First World War.

I ask Council to apply for funding under this program to construct a fitting and meaningful war memorial that encapsulates the entire community's contribution to the World War 1 effort. The memorial which is currently being considered is a statue of a 'Little Girl Knitting Socks'. It would be a centre piece located in an area landscaped appropriately so as to create a unique sense of place. The area proposed is the reserve north of the Collaroy Surf Club among the WW1 heritage-listed pine trees.

During the First World War local organisations in Australia, including schools, church groups, knitting circles and individuals banded together to provide comforts to Australian troops overseas through the Citizens' War Chest Fund. Comforts included gifts such as food, entertainment, recreation facilities and clothing. During the First World War Australians knitted over 1 million pairs of socks as gifts for the troops. Other items such as scarves, vests and mittens were also provided. The "Little Girl Knitting Socks" commemorates this war time effort and reflects on war, sacrifice, those lost, and those contributing to the peace effort.

Fittingly, Warringah has a significant link to the war effort via the efforts of the widow Mrs EA Antill who later became Mrs EA Sargood. Mrs Antill was the Superintendent of the War Chest Fund Depot in Sydney through which many of the above goods were distributed to troops. With the Sargood Centre about to commence construction in Collaroy it would be timely and fitting that a statue with a direct link to Mrs Sargood and her tireless efforts during the war (which earned her the OBE) be constructed at Collaroy. The contribution on the home front during the World War 1 can never be underestimated and a monument such as this, constructed to commemorate the Centenary of Anzac, would also recognise the efforts of the entire community in supporting our fighting forces.

I look forward to working with the Collaroy Beach Services Club and relevant sub-branch as we bring new life to the nearly 100-year old heritage-listed pine trees planted at the site in memory of the fallen soldiers.

If Council is successful in the application, it is proposed that Mr Richard Stutchbury, a very talented local artist who pitched this concept to me some years ago, be engaged to complete the design for the memorial and the associated space, including the production of the statue.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council staff complete a funding application to the Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program to be submitted through the two local Federal Members of Parliament for the construction of a public art piece sculpture.
 2. The Mayor write to the Hon. Tony Abbott MP, Member for Warringah and the Hon. Bronwyn Bishop MP, Member for Mackellar seeking their endorsement of the proposal.
 3. Council staff work with the Collaroy Beach Services Club and other local RSL sub-branches and local artist Richard Stutchbury to develop a concept based on the "Little Girl Knitting Socks" if the funding application is successful.
 4. A short report be brought back to Council to determine the exact location of the sculpture.
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**Michael Regan
MAYOR**

