

NOTES

ART, CULTURE & HERITAGE STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP MEETING

held in the Guringai Room, Civic Centre on

THURSDAY 27 APRIL 2017

**Notes of the Art, Culture & Heritage Strategic Reference Group Meeting
held on Thursday, 27 April 2017
in the Guringai Room, Civic Centre
Commencing at 5.15pm**

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Michael Regan (Chair)	Implementation Advisory Group
Hugh Burns	Environment Local Representative Committee
Jim Boyce	Manly, Warringah Pittwater Historical Society
Julia Davenport	Resident – Manly Ward
Laura Greaves	Resident – Manly Ward
Martin Hardy	Resident – Narrabeen Ward
Richard Magee	Resident – Narrabeen Ward
Martin McCallum	Resident – Pittwater Ward
Lorrie Morgan	Resident – Pittwater Ward
Gina O'Neill	Resident – Manly Ward
Penny Philpott	Resident – Frenchs Forest Ward

Council Officer Contacts

Mick Darda	Executive Manager Place Management
Sherryn McPherson	Administration Officer Governance

Visitors

David Kerr	General Manager – Planning, Place and Community
Michael Hedger	Director Manly Museum and Art Gallery
Alicia Terry	Arts and Cultural Development Officer
Zoe Johnson	Arts and Cultural Officer

Quorum

Majority of members (excluding vacant positions)

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received Julie Hegarty, John G Pearson, Neil Evers, Stewart Wauchop, Caroline Glass-Pattison, Stefanie Schöninger and Sharon Cartwright

2.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

3.1 NOTES OF ART, CULTURE & HERITAGE STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP HELD 23 FEBRUARY 2017

DISCUSSION

Questions:

Question 1: Can you please provide an update on the Pittwater Road Conservation Area Review?

Response: This item was addressed at Council meeting on 26 April 2017. A copy of the report can be found on Council's website

<http://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/council/meetings>

The Council resolved to:

1. *Endorse the update on the Pittwater Road Conservation Area Review project.*
2. *Commence community engagement with landowners and other interested stakeholders in the vicinity.*

Question 2: Is the condition of the Heritage listed Steyne Hotel being monitored by Council? It appears to have some compliance issues.

Response: This item will need to be reviewed and further investigated by Council's Heritage Advisory Officer and Compliance department.

Question 3: In regards to the Tender process of Manly heritage items. 100 items were put out for consultants to respond to in November 2016, 3 consultants responded and a decision was to be made in early December 2016, has anything happened?

Response: The project is currently on hold until a best practice method is established. Council is working on updating the inventory list and has met with the heritage advisors from 3 former councils to establish the best process moving forward in regards to updating the Heritage sheets without further engaging and spending additional funds on consultants.

Question 4: Is there a removable heritage list and who is responsible for the items that were accumulated by the former Manly, Warringah and Pittwater Councils?

Response: Yes, there is a register and the assets are accounted for. Council's heritage items will be maintained by Heritage Officers. Council is still in the process of managing ownership of items. David Kerr, Michael Regan and Mick Darda further liaise with Jim Boyce in regards to this issue after the meeting.

DECISION

That the Notes of the Art, Culture & Heritage Strategic Reference Group held 23 February 2017, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, are hereby confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

(Michael Regan / Jim Boyce)

Note:

Mr Dick Persson, Administrator joined the meeting at 5.20pm.

NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL MERGER SAVINGS FUND

Mr Dick Persson, Administrator addressed the group on this item.

DISCUSSION

The Northern Beaches Council Merger Savings Fund is estimated to have saved up to 6 million dollars since the Councils have merged and this amount will potentially rise over the next four (4) year period. The Northern Beaches Merger Savings Fund will provide an on-going pool of money for projects that will directly benefit the community and will be executed through a range of projects.

The Administrator's Council Merger Savings Fund proposal will be presented through media releases and in the Manly Daily for community feedback.

4 strands of expenditure for the Fund will be going out for comment with proposals to fund activities or projects in the following areas:

1. Arts and culture
2. Events
3. Youth
4. Environment

Within the arts and culture strand the Administrator identified the following projects/programs:

- Public art to be displayed on the new Coastal Walkway, including participation by local artists. A four year program with an annual budget of \$500 000.
- Develop a new creative space (similar in concept to the Curl Curl creative space) in Avalon or Newport.

The Administrator asked that the SRG develop a Directions Paper to assist the incoming Council in prioritising arts and cultural planning for the future.

There was discussion and feedback related to:

- Extending the community-funded Pittwater Youth Art award across the new LGA.
- Developing a working group to assist council in planning for these investments in arts and culture.
- New cultural development should for the whole LGA. It can use previous council plans as a base.
- B-Line – To go further than Mona Vale / Newport.

Note:

Dick Persson, Administrator left the meeting at 5.45pm and did not return.

5.0 UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

Mick Darda – Executive Manager, Place Management addressed the group on this item.

DISCUSSION

- 3.1 That the Art, Culture and Heritage SRG request the referral the definition of ‘history’ and heritage’ by Jim Boyce to the Administrator be adopted.** The draft Heritage Strategy is not a suitable location for the suggested definitions by Jim Boyce as there is no terminology schedule with the strategy, the strategy is a Heritage strategy devised by the Heritage Officers to protect the heritage values of the NBC and the items identified in Schedule 5 of the Manly, Warringah and Pittwater LEP. Therefore, in terms of the Heritage Strategy, the term Heritage does not mean “Heritage are those physical items of historical significance that have survived from the past”.

4.2

1. That staff consider the adaptive re-use of built Council assets for cultural use facilities for disposal. Consideration for active re-use for cultural or other users is current practice and will continue to operate.
2. Jim Boyce requested a progress/summary report on all heritage activities be provided at every SRG meeting. This is not practical given the current resource allocation for the SRG meetings.
3. Kate Lewis to provide members with a spreadsheet for rating the SRGs priority areas. The spreadsheet was completed and provided for online feedback and input to 14 March workshop.

5.1

1. That the Art, Culture and Heritage SRG request that senior staff, while working through the new structure, combine the areas of cultural activities and the library together into the same business unit. Feedback was provided to the Executive Management Team through the consultation period.
2. Members requested a list of activities as to what constitutes the arts from the three former Council’s cultural plans. See the Draft Directions Paper

DECISION

That the update on the actions from the last meeting be noted.

4.0 AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 DEVELOPING THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN - UPDATE

Mick Darda – Executive Manager, Place Management addressed the group on this item.

DISCUSSION

The development of the CSP is currently in Stage 2, with a Discussion Paper released and various community forums held throughout the Northern Beaches. Almost 300 people have attended forums so far, and provided valuable feedback on the draft goals and strategies. All 11 SRGs were consulted in their February 2017 meetings through a series of workshops on draft goals and strategies for the Discussion Paper. Consultation details and the full Discussion Paper can be found at <http://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/communitystrategicplan2>

All comments from the SRGs were considered and analysed. The comments were generally thoughtful and helpful in understanding that Council was on the right track with the Discussion

Paper goals and strategies.

The comments varied in relevance from strategies for the 10-year CSP, to actions for Council's next Operational Plans and Delivery Programs and actions that Council could consider in future service delivery.

The next steps in developing the CSP include a focus group to be held in April, further refinement of the goals and strategies and production of the draft CSP document in May-June. This will then be exhibited for final community feedback in July-August 2017.

DECISION

That the Strategic Reference Group note the information update on the development of the Community Strategic Plan.

4.2 DRAFT HERITAGE STRATEGY - BRIEFING

David Kerr, General Manager - Planning, Place and Community addressed the group on this item.

DISCUSSION

The Northern Beaches Council is in the process of creating a new Heritage Strategy for the Local Government Area.

The former Councils managed their heritage strategies in various ways due to the differing structures of each area. The Strategic Planning Team are in the process of reviewing the policies and procedures for Heritage Management. The Strategy will be broken down into the following four (4) key areas:

1. Understand – Identify heritage assets and understand
2. Protect
3. Support
4. Promote

The draft Heritage Strategy will be workshopped at the next SRG. Following the workshop, a report will be put to Council seeking approval for community consultation and exhibition period prior to being endorsed by Council.

Questions:

Question 1: Is Council responsible for the maintenance of the cemetery and does it fall under our depreciation schedule within the budget?

Response: The question was taken on notice

DECISION

That the SRG note the information presented on the draft Northern Beaches Heritage Strategy.

4.3 SRG IDEAS ON ART CULTURE AND HERITAGE - UPDATE

Mick Darda – Executive Manager, Place Management addressed the group on this item.

DISCUSSION

This item be deferred and the group will meet and further discuss this topic and present an overview at the next meeting.

DECISION

That the Group organise a meeting to discuss the supplied outcome listing on the 10 priorities and the group would provide business case.

4.4 ART CULTURE AND HERITAGE SRG DIRECTIONS PAPER - WORKSHOP

DISCUSSION

The aim of this workshop is to acknowledge and build upon the work completed to date by the Strategic Reference Group (SRG) on the issues and priorities for 'Arts, Culture and Heritage' which will assist with the development of the draft SRG Directions Paper for the incoming Council.

DECISION

1. That the workshop conducted on April 27 with the Arts, Culture and Heritage SRG to review and add to the work conducted to date on the key issues and priorities for 'Arts, Culture and Heritage'. This workshop will contribute to the development of an Arts, Culture and Heritage Key Issues Paper for the incoming Council.
2. That a copy of the results will be reviewed and feedback will be provided back to the group once collated. Further opportunities for feedback will be available and included into a future discussion paper which will be presented to the new Council. The results are attached to the meeting notes at **Attachment 1**.

The meeting concluded at 7.09pm

This is the final page of the Notes comprising 7 pages
numbered 1 to 7 of the Art, Culture & Heritage Strategic Reference Group
meeting held on Thursday 27 April 2017 and confirmed on Thursday 29 June 2017

Arts, Culture and Heritage SRG Workshop notes 27 April 2017

Task:

To assess how effectively the strategic directions addressed previously identified issues.

General feedback

- Value for money or “Bang for buck”. This could be captured in a goal that encompasses leadership/best practice/good governance
- There is merit in being bold
- Opportunity to brand Northern Beaches as the artistic heart of Sydney

Goal 1: Celebration and activation

To create a sense of life and vibrancy in our communities through cultural events, celebrations and 'happenings'

Goal	General feedback
Celebration and activation	<p>More unusual events More studio/workshop spaces, exhibitions/conventions (see Goal 2) Foster "Community ownership" This goal is audience focused – it focuses on the end product, rather than the creativity that is the driver for achieving these outcomes.</p> <p><i>Enable</i> the creation of cultural events, celebrations and happenings by (a) the community, (b) council</p>

Strategic direction	Feedback
Facilitate a public space activation program that actively involves and engages the local community across the northern beaches, with particular attention to non-urban areas or areas outside of CBD areas.	<p>Positive. More outside of Manly CBD.</p>
Facilitate and promote unusual use of our public domain.	<p>Positive. Promotion as stand-alone/integrated activity.</p>

Encourage and promote neighbourhood managed creative and social events	Promotion as stand-alone/integrated activity.
Encourage a broad range of activities that enable social interaction, stimulate wellbeing, and support people at each stage of their life	
Facilitate and promote lively community 'happenings' in our public places drawing on a combination of elements and activities	Promotion as stand-alone/integrated activity.
Encourage and promote music and performance art in public and private places	Promotion as stand-alone/integrated activity.
Work with the community to deliver creative and cultural services and events- with particular attention to multicultural celebrations	
Extend the promotion of council and community run activities, infrastructure and services	<p>Promotion as stand-alone/integrated activity.</p> <p>Branding Northern Beaches as cultural hub</p> <p>Awareness campaign to let public know what resources are available e.g. Corso stage</p>

Goal 2: Creative spaces and places

To create environments which are welcoming, surprising and good for people

Goal	General feedback
Creative spaces and places	<p>This goal might benefit from being teased into two goals: one which addresses questions of <i>place</i> (place branding, local character, human scale, built environment) and another which addresses the desire for increased <i>cultural space</i> for the development and presentation of cultural produce.</p> <p>Scope to make the language more aspirational, for example “to create environments which welcome, celebrate and connect people”.</p> <p>Generated discussion about good design - how the form of a cultural space ought to follow its function.</p>

Strategic direction	Feedback
Improve the quality of the built environment and enhance the relationship between the community and their landscapes through an increased sense of belonging and place distinctiveness	<p>Great direction, which can only be achieved in conjunction with community and other parts of Council.</p> <p>This direction is linked to human scale and safety – relevant to the place making SRG</p>

Identify, encourage and promote localised villages – local, welcoming places where people can socialise and connect	Yes, a successful local creative brand perpetuates local creative industry. Must build on existing character of place. Natural environment and green design essential.
Strategic direction	Feedback
Incorporate an element of surprise and humour into our built environment; promote the use of colour, light, green design and music to enliven our buildings and public places	Natural environment and green design essential.
Ensure that public places and community buildings cater for a diverse range of needs and purposes and are accessible and appealing to people from different age groups and cultural backgrounds	Programming and design are mechanisms for making a place attractive, but cannot change a place in isolation. Social planning issues, such as demographics, accommodation and employment all bear upon the appeal and diversity of a place.
Develop hubs for creative and artists to use as spaces for workshops, seminars or creative get-togethers	Positive. Scope to drill down into needs based upon creation (workshops, studios, rehearsal space) and presentation (theatres, performance stages, shopfronts, galleries etc.) This strategy should also sit under goal 5 – should be recognised that open space/built environment are not necessarily pre-requisites for developing creative networks. Links to goal 5 - specific feedback identifies the need to facilitate access to venues/facilities for developing collaboration/creation for young artists

Encourage facilitate and support community members and local businesses to be actively involved in the design, development and care of our public spaces	
Collaborate with the local business community to activate unused spaces	
Strategic direction	Feedback
Facilitate, promote, and support the creative industries, local galleries, exhibition spaces, music and performance spaces	Cromer Depot and WAC Manager's Cottage for Creative Industries/Artists Residencies Vivid type event for Northern Beaches
Extend and promote the use of council facilities and spaces for community purposes Alternative text: Review the usage of existing Council and community assets with a view to expanding or diversifying their usage for creative/cultural outcomes.	Use school facilities rather than in addition to Council's (more detail under Goal 5)

Goal 3: Public art and creative expressions

To integrate public art and creative expressions into our places, projects and programs

Goal	General feedback
Public art and creative expressions	

Strategic direction	Feedback
Promote a broad understanding of public art that is inclusive, diverse and accessible	Yes – important to build council and community literacy to ensure that a broad, innovative range of creativity can be supported on the Northern Beaches
Encourage and support the development of a diverse range of permanent, temporary and ephemeral artworks in public spaces	<p>Remove the barriers to delivering work in public spaces, such as fees, regulations etc.</p> <p>Language needs to be tweaked to encourage a broad reading of “art”. “Creative outcome” would be preferred, as it encompasses performance, stencils, circus, design, street furniture, creative landscaping, lighting etc.</p> <p>Utilitarian public art works desirable in pocket parks in Dee Why</p>

Strategic direction	Feedback
Support the integration of public art in Council's capital works program to create high quality, innovative, distinctive and relevant public places	Language needs to be adapted to clarify that public art be considered in capital works projects in the planning phase
Improve access to funding opportunities for public art, including incorporation into capital works projects and encourage inclusion in private developments. This may also include promoting opportunities for community members to access other funding sources and grants for public projects	Utilise planning instruments as a mechanism for encouraging public art. For instance, in the LEP and DCP Formalise usage of section 94 funding for arts/cultural outcomes
Support the arts in all its forms	Too general and more a value
Embed creative design in council-led works programs	By including creative design in its own right, we can encourage creative landscaping that enhances the public domain and celebrates the existing place character.
Establish a cultural hub to attract visitors and unite community	Proposed additional strategic direction/vision statement

Goal 4: Valuing our heritage

To respect, protect and preserve our heritage of the Northern Beaches, in the built and natural environment, indigenous and non-indigenous

Goal	General feedback
Valuing our heritage	<p>Confusion about terminology when discussing history/heritage/heritage assets and legal implications of each word.</p> <p>Recognition of potential for eco and cultural tourism (which needs to be balanced in conjunction with preservation and conservation)</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - replace “heritage” with “history” because history incorporates fixed and intangible heritage e.g. Aboriginal history - add explanation of complexities of history

Strategic direction	Feedback
Creation of an organisation wide heritage policy and procedure which prescribes how heritage issues are managed and communicated	Keep language on strategic level.

Develop a program for the identification, assessment, management and promotion of heritage places throughout the LGA.	Operational rather than strategic? Could specify wording Indigenous and non-indigenous and remove point 5, plus include celebrate in goal 6.
Lead by example through the best practice management of Council owned heritage places	
Engage with the community on heritage issues and encourage a collaborative approach to heritage conservation	
Recognising, protecting and preserving Aboriginal heritage and history	
Collaborate with the local Aboriginal community to promote the northern beaches' Aboriginal cultural heritage and contemporary art	Include celebrate in this point, as deemed suitable by the Aboriginal community
Include 'heritage' as a consideration in the development of programs and cultural activities	More specifics required. Operational?
Maintain and build access to Council's existing collection	An additional strategic direction has been proposed which recognises Council's current work with collection management (Manly Art Gallery & Museum, local studies units, Manly Environment Centre etc.)

Goal 5: Collaboration and Capacity building

Promote cultural development by empowering our community to be adventurous and open to new ideas and perspectives
– whilst strengthening the skills and collaboration of creatives, historians, the local business community and other stakeholders.

Goal	General feedback
Collaboration and capacity building	<p>This goal generated a lot of discussion on operational matters, particularly relating to schools. Strategic direction 9, Goal 2 addresses these.</p> <p>The strategic directions seem to be aligned to two different principles or goals. Some address pathways for artists to develop, be it through education, networks or opportunities to present their work.</p> <p>The strategic directions relating to partnerships and leverage relate more to effective governance. Possibility to separate into two goals?</p> <p>Greater opportunities were identified as an issue for artists - yet there is no strategic direction that overtly identifies Council funding or grants program to incubate emerging talent.</p>

Strategic direction	Feedback
Through visionary leadership, stimulate an organisational culture within Council that embraces change, innovation and collaboration	This speaks to good governance - potentially a separate goal?

Strategic direction	Feedback
Encourage, facilitate and support community members to take leadership on creative initiatives, programs and projects	Operational feedback relating to schools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborate with arts teachers association (and history etc.). - Engage with schools to fit with curricula to help develop more engaged, community-minded citizens - After-hours access to school facilities
Promote and facilitate creative events and opportunities for community members, businesses and Council staff to learn new techniques, tools and knowledge	There is some cross-over between this strategic direction and the next.
Facilitate and support community forums, partnerships and networks for cross collaboration and knowledge-sharing with Council, local businesses & community	
Ensure that Council's policies and protocols are supportive to, and do not unduly hinder, creative processes and initiatives	This speaks to good governance - potentially a separate goal?
Collaborate with community members on projects - from early in concept and design stages to implementation and evaluation	

Facilitate the establishment of partnerships and networks between and within creatives and the creative industry	
Support local artists, historians - and creative and heritage groups - to access facilities and networks to meet the needs of the community	
Leverage Council's varied cultural infrastructure to ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to access arts and culture on the Northern Beaches.	Feedback recognised that the libraries are an essential part of the community coming together. Libraries are our largest pool of cultural infrastructure. Together with Glen Street and MAG&M, good governance should see cultural outcomes being delivered broadly.
Link in with national or Sydney-wide events for satellite offerings on Northern Beaches	Speaks more to good governance