

| MINUTES Title: Waverley Arts, Culture & Creativity Advisory Committee Location: Queens Park Room, Waverley Council Chambers | | Date: Monday 20 November 2023 | Time: 6:30pm-8.10pm |
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| <p>Participants: Mayor Cr Paula Masselos (Chair), Cr Tony Kay, Ben Thompson (Director Community, Culture & Customer Experience), Tanya Goldberg (Executive Manager Arts, Culture & Events) Michaela Boland, Alex Bowen, Nerida Campbell, Donna Hewitt, Isabell Hudson, Sam Marshall, Antonia Pesenti, Benjamin Schostakowski</p> <p>Guests: Todd Fuller (Curatorial and Gallery Assistant), Chris Bendall (Artistic Director Bondi Pavilion), Alice Farley (Acting Manager Arts and Culture), Alistair Graham (Executive Manager Community, Library & Recreation Venues)</p> <p>Apologies: Cr Elaine Keenan, Aleema Ash</p> | | | |
| Chair: Mayor Cr Paula Masselos | | Minute Taker: Alice Farley | |
| No | Subject | Minutes | |
| 1. | Welcome & Apologies | Meeting commenced 7.07pm Mayor Cr Paula Masselos (Chair) welcomed all and delivered an Acknowledgment of Country. Apologies recorded as Cr Elaine Keenan and Aleema Ash. | |
| 2. | ACCAC establishment | Members introduced themselves, stating occupation, professional background and connections to Waverley and the arts. Tanya Goldberg explained the purpose of the committee and outlined the Terms of Reference, attendance at meetings and feedback requirements via email in between meeting dates. 2024 Meeting calendar will be confirming in the coming weeks but ACCAC regular meeting day will likely be a Wednesday. T Goldberg went through the decision-making process and conflicts of interest. Committee decisions are made by a majority and recorded in that manner. | |

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| | | <p>Conflicts of interests must be disclosed at the earliest opportunity. Conflicts can be pecuniary or non-pecuniary, significant or non-significant. Sitting on the committee means members and their immediate relatives cannot apply for any grants, opportunities or engagements with Council for the duration of the member’s term. Council’s Governance team can advise on conflict of interest matters.</p> <p>T Goldberg also highlighted that the committee must not speak to the media in their capacity as committee members.</p> <p>ACTION: Mayor Cr Paula Masselos asked for a fact sheet on conflict of interest to be circulated to the group. FOR NOTING: Cr Tony Kay asked for conflict of interest to be added as a standing item to the agenda.</p> |
| 3. | Arts and Culture overview | <p>T Goldberg presented on Arts and Culture department at Waverley; Waverley Council’s Arts and Culture Plan 2021 – 2026, year-round programming, visual arts and public art, Bondi Festival, Bondi Pavilion creative program, sector engagement and local creative community arts development.</p> <p>Presentation summarised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The core music output includes the Bondi WAVE, Sunshine Singers choir, Classic Hits concerts, Live at the Pav series, courtyard music pop-up outdoor entertainment and Street Performers policy. - The Nib Literary Award is Waverley Council’s annual literary prize that has support from Principal Sponsors Mark and Evette Moran and community partner Gertrude and Alice Bookstore Café. In addition to this \$40,000 national award, the team also programs literary talks throughout the year at both the Bondi Pavilion and Waverley Library. - Visual Arts portfolio is made up of the Waverley Artist Studio, Bondi Pavilion Art Gallery, Waverley Art Gallery, Bondi Story Room, Waverley Art Prize, Waverley Youth Art Prize and Public Art programs. - Bondi Festival is Council’s annual winter arts festival. Held across three weeks in June, in 2023 the festival attracted over 69,000 attendees to its events and over 300,000 visitors to Bondi. - Contemporary performance programming includes theatre, family shows, comedy, and cabaret performances. - Local Creative Collaborations program – a new initiative resulting from the Arts and Culture Plan for the Waverley local creative community to connect and create at Bondi Pavilion. |

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| | | <p>Presentation also addressed some key challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reaching and building new audiences - Launching a new venue during current cost of living crisis and changing audience behaviours across performing arts national and globally post-covid. - Balancing the program with free and low-cost events and activities with higher-priced theatre programming and investing in new works and programs. - Growing our resource base through sponsorship and funding opportunities. <p>Committee question:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How is First Nations work included in programming? T Goldberg explained that Waverley Council works closely with the Gujaga Foundation on Indigenous projects and this year employed a First Nations producer for Bondi Festival. We are currently working with the Gujaga Foundation on some public art projects and regularly consult them and Waverley’s Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Community Development Officer on projects and programs. <p>Cr Tony Kay noted the Waverley Arts and Culture Plan 2021 – 2026 is available on the website.</p> |
| 4. | Bondi Pavilion venue update | <p>Alistair Graham gave an update on Bondi Pavilion. Bondi Pavilion has been operating for just over a year. The building contains a mix of community/cultural facilities, including multipurpose rooms, theatre, art gallery, story room, pottery/radio/music studios, courtyards, bar, balcony, public amenities, food/beverage/retail tenancies.</p> <p>A dedicated team of 13 run day-to-day operations including venue hire, operations and facilities, event planning, ticketing, production, delivery, and promotion (venue, event and precinct). Venue is open 6am to 10pm, 7 days a week.</p> <p>In addition to the Arts and Culture team, other hirers include individuals, businesses, promoters, agencies, arts organisation, non-profits and other Council department. They also manage the relationship with the Bondi Pavilion Clay Studio and Eastside Radio, both of whom were awarded the licences to operate from the Pavilion, and the three food and beverage operators – Glory Days, Surfsh and Promenade.</p> <p>Since January, there have been 2,200+ bookings across the High Tide, Seagull and Ocean Rooms and the Theatre, this is very busy for a relatively small number of spaces. There’s far more demand for space than space is available during peak times of early mornings and evenings during the week and on weekends. More availability during the day, although venue is attracting more meetings, conferences and planning days, which moves towards filling the gaps. Looking ahead to next</p> |

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| | | <p>year, the schedule is filling up quickly, with limited availability in some spaces at certain times, and some interesting new events under consideration.</p> <p>Committee questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are Pavilion’s foot traffic numbers? A Graham confirmed Waverley is currently investigating various tracking methods. - What is the usage of the two Music Studios? A Graham confirmed that the two music studios are used consistently, with greatest use coming from the 12-week Arts and Culture program Bondi WAVE. Recordings have been conducted on a casual basis. The Music Studios will have a special open day / launch day in the new year. Members will be sent invites. <p>Ben Thompson added that the theatre is networked to the music studios and radio station so venue can live broadcast and record concerts and performances.</p> <p>Cr Paula Masselos asked if the committee members were all familiar with Bondi Pavilion.</p> <p>ACTION: Bondi Pavilion tour to be arranged for committee members who would like one, proceeding next ACCAC meeting.</p> |
| 5. | Waverley Artist Studio 2024 | <p>Todd Fuller provided background on the Waverley Artist Studio program – a competitive application process for 6 fully subsidized 12-month studio spaces at the Waverley Woollahra Art School and Bondi Pavilion. 77 artists have been through the program since it began in 2010. Studio artists work with the community and council staff including sustainability, library, seniors centre, exhibitions, sea wall, childcare and school holidays programs and festivals. Studio outcomes include exhibition (Waverley Library and Bondi Pavilion Gallery), artist talks, workshops, school holidays programs, judging (Youth Art Prize) and community engagement.</p> <p>The call for applications was conducted from August to September 2023; 62 applications were received. On 13 October 2023, a peer review panel of current studio artists reviewed the applications and selected their top 10: 6 applicants and 4 reserves.</p> <p>The committee reviewed and discussed the top 10 applications as suggested by the peer review panel.</p> <p>Nerida Campbell declared a conflict of interest; recusing herself from the discussion and voting.</p> |

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| | | <p>VOTE: The committee unanimously endorsed the panel’s suggested list.</p> <p>ACTION: A report will now go to council based on this committee’s recommendations of artist placements.</p> |
| 6. | General business | <p>Cr Paula Masselos invited all members to the Mayor’s End of Year party on Thursday 14th December 2023, 6pm. ACTION: Invites will be sent to all members. Please follow the RSVP instructions on the invite.</p> <p>All members invited to the opening of the next Bondi Pavilion Gallery exhibition – Earth, Sea and Sky on 9 December 2023, 3pm. The exhibition will run until 28 January 2024. ACTION: Invites will be sent to all members. Please RSVP via the registration link.</p> <p>Chris Bendall informed the committee that applications are currently open for the second round of the Local Creative Collaborations EOI. The key focus of this round is to provide opportunities for creative development of new performing arts works in the Bondi Pavilion’s Yalagang Room. Applications close 8 December 2023. ACTION: Members to inform their networks about the Local Creative Collaborations EOIs.</p> <p>Chris Bendall also invited all members to the Waverley Local Creatives End of Year Meet and Greet on Tuesday 12 December 2023, 6pm. ACTION: Invites will be sent to all members. Please RSVP via the registration link.</p> |
| 7. | Meeting closed | Meeting closed 8.21pm |