

## Waverley Arts and Culture Advisory Committee Minutes

Monday 17 July 2023

Bronte Room, Waverley Council Chambers and ZOOM

<b>Chair: Cr Elaine Keenan</b> <b>Minute Taker: Tanya Goldberg</b>		
<b>Participants:</b> Danella Bennett, Michaela Boland, Alice Farley, Alistair Graham, Mark Gould, Cr. Tony Kay, Jonathan Nolan, Sophia Thalys, Ben Thompson, Faith Wieland, <b>Guests:</b> Armando Chant, Elizabeth Reidy <b>Apologies:</b> Chris Bendall, Su Goldfish, Cr. Paula Masselos		
<i>Item</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Minutes</i>
1.	Welcome & Apologies	<p>Meeting commenced 6.43pm.</p> <p>Chair gave an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed all, noting this is the last time that this committee will gather. Introductions around table.</p> <p>Apologies from Chris Bendall, Su Goldish and Cr Masselos (Mayor)</p>
2.	Visual Arts / Public Art Committee update	<p>Presentation from Waverley Artist Studio resident Armando Chant regarding his use of the Bondi Pavilion Artist Studio space and the development of his professional practice.</p> <p>Armando spoke to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- His experience in the Waverley Artist Studio program, the importance of the program and the location of the Bondi Pavilion studio to his practice and his developing work. He spoke to the value of being part of a cohort with other Studio artists, and of the opportunity to work like this for a year, on site, with both an individual and group experience. He expressed the huge benefit for artists to develop their professional experience in a guided way through the studio.</li> <li>- The light in the studio has a unique value to him as his work relates to light. So hard for artists to find spaces that provide the ideal conditions to make work, making this an exceptionally valuable residency.</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The benefit of meeting the other studio artists, connecting with a new community, and being able to fully embrace his artistic work as his profession, and that the studio space facilitates that.</li> </ul> <p>Discussion centred around questions relating to connection to other artists at the Pavilion as well as the interaction of the community passing by, and the connection of the Artist Studio to the Art Gallery. Also discussed was the importance that Bondi Pavilion is a space of art creation that can facilitate an understanding of the art-making process which can be otherwise mysterious to audiences who are unfamiliar with the process. Having a visible artist on site adds a layer of understanding that pure exhibition doesn't convey. Engagements like Artist Talks adds further to this.</p> <p>Armando explained that this is important in Waverley as every community has artists and creators within it. If space is not made for their practice and process, then the richness of a community is limited. It's a small gesture that continues to have ongoing impact.</p> <p>Presentation from Elizabeth Reidy, Waverley Council Curator and Visual Arts Coordinator for information and discussion outlining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current public art projects</li> <li>• Visual arts program overview</li> </ul> <p>Discussion focused on questions regarding the percentage of development budget designated in the DCP that must go towards fabrication of public art work. This amount is 1% of the overall development project budget. Further discussion explored exhibition turn around times at Bondi Pavilion Art Gallery, the commercial selling of work and the value of the Waverley Art Prize, all of which is reviewed on an ongoing basis, so that program performance is assessed and improved over time.</p>
3.	Bondi Festival 2023 quick summary	<p>Festival concluded on Sunday 16 July.</p> <p>This is a to-date summary of festival highlights with a detailed analysis to follow in future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Internal partnerships with Visual Arts and Economic Development walking tour series.</li> <li>- External partnership success with Blue Hotel, Bondi Wash, Hours After, Impala Skate, Badlambs Barbers, Bondi and Districts Chamber of Commerce.</li> <li>- Massive media engagement across festival. Strong coverage Sunrise, Sky News.</li> <li>- Strong diversity component in programming outcomes.</li> </ul>



		The committee acknowledged the incredible efforts of the team who have been so creative with the components of the festival and indicated that the festival is a wonderful utilisation of the Pavilion venue.
4.	Bondi Pavilion venue update	<p>Alistair Graham updated the committee on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The achievement of staffing stability in the venue team</li> <li>- High volume of casual bookings ongoing and the EOI for regular hirers for 2024 closed recently with a strong response.</li> <li>- Final tenant Surfish is now open so hospitality is complete across the venue.</li> <li>- Bondi Festival demonstrated a strong use of building, a was great showcase of what hirers can do.</li> <li>- FIFA World Cup courtyard screenings of Matilda games start on Thursday 20 July.</li> <li>- Upcoming usage summarised, some interesting events in the next few months.</li> </ul>
5.	Bondi Pavilion creative program 2023 update	<p>Tanya Goldberg presented on Chris Bendall’s behalf on the Bondi Pavilion creative program for the remainder of 2023, for information.</p> <p>Committee discussion centered around program promotion and publicity with suggestions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leverage other government agency objectives, for example, advocate to the NSW Minister of the Arts who is also Minister for Tourism and keen for opportunities to drive tourism. Bondi is a global destination. Council can help the minister make it more visible – share showreels for Destination NSW.</li> <li>- Emulate Darlinghurst Theatre Company and the Hayes who use lists of various groups – pensioners, artists etc. to fill houses every night. Locals night – this might generate more audiences to flow on.</li> </ul>
7.	Local Creatives update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Creatives Training and Networking Opportunities</li> <li>Registration vs attendance discussion</li> <li>• Inaugural Local Creative Collaborations EOI (Yalagang Room, focusing on creative development)</li> <li>• Local Creative Collaborations EOI (Theatre)</li> </ul> <p>Very positive committee feedback regarding our recent networking session and recommendation that these programs continue so that Council continues to drive community connection.</p>
8.	Arts and Culture program - recent activity update	<p>For information and discussion outlining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make Music Day</li> <li>• Bondi WAVE</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WAP</li><li>• Easter School Holidays success wrap up video</li><li>• Nib Award developments</li><li>• Conclusion of Housewarming Program Political Animals</li><li>• Street Performers Policy launch</li></ul>
8.	Arts, Culture and Creativity Committee	<p>Recent Council decision discussed.</p> <p>Strong feedback from most committee members that the merger is the right move, and acknowledgement of the strong contribution and success of this committee, which has led to the formation of the new ACCAC.</p> <p>It was flagged that the task of maintaining the success of opening Bondi Pavilion is a huge one and there is still a lot of work, with some concern that the new committee won't be able to get through everything. Increasing the length of meetings was discussed to facilitate a higher volume of activity.</p> <p>Discussion also focused on how to make meeting agendas more manageable, and it was suggested that meeting items are divided into those for information with no need to discuss, those for information and discussion and those for formal briefing and discussion.</p>
9.	General business	<p>None.</p> <p>Meeting concluded at 8.10pm</p>