



25th November, 2003

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RANDWICK WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, 90 AVOCA STREET, RANDWICK, ON TUESDAY, 2ND DECEMBER, 2003 AT 5:30 P.M.

Committee Members: His Worship, the Mayor, Cr D. Sullivan, Crs Backes (Chairperson), Matson, Notley-Smith, Procopiadis, Tracey (Deputy Chairperson), and Whitehead.

Quorum: Four (4) members.

NOTE: AT THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2000, THE COUNCIL RESOLVED THAT THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE BE CONSTITUTED AS A COMMITTEE WITH FULL DELEGATION TO DETERMINE MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.

1 Apologies

2 Minutes

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 14TH OCTOBER, 2003.

3 Addresses to Committee by the Public

4 Mayoral Minutes

5 Library

5.1 DIRECTOR GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT & 2
INFORMATION SERVICES' REPORT 33/2003 - CELEBRATING
DIVERSITY IN THE LIBRARY.

6 General Business

7 Notice of Rescission Motions

.....
GENERAL MANAGER

Director Governance, Management & Information Services' Report 33/2003



SUBJECT:	CELEBRATING DIVERSITY IN THE LIBRARY
-----------------	--------------------------------------

DATE:	19 November, 2003	FILE NO:	98/S/0266
--------------	-------------------	-----------------	-----------

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT & INFORMATION SERVICES

INTRODUCTION:

Multicultural Carnivale is an annual event, which acknowledges and celebrates the diversity of the Australian community. Randwick City Library & Information Service has demonstrated a strong commitment to the principles of multiculturalism through the annual celebration of *Carnivale*.

ISSUES:

Activities and events are arranged for all ages and language groups. This year the Multicultural Advisory Committee, Community Development and the Library co-operated in the planning, presentation and promotion of the *Migrant Story Award*, which attracted well presented and thoughtful stories and poems from migrants arriving from many different countries around the world.

As the October school holidays coincided with *Carnivale* this year, to further promote the event, the library's school holiday programme celebrated cultural diversity by focusing on an Indian jungle theme, craft sessions including cultural wall collage.

Library Carnivale

A wide variety of successful activities are conducted in all library locations each year. Activities presented by the Library & Information Service between 2000 and 2003 included:

1. Storytime for kids in Spanish, Greek, Russian
2. Internet classes (originally designed for seniors, however, attracted people from various age groups) in Greek, Spanish, Russian
3. Author talk in Chinese
4. Poetry reading in English and Spanish
5. Cooking lessons for kids – Food from around the world

6. Travel talks- travelling to South America and Asia, customs and traditions
7. Law talks on various topics: neighbours, older persons and the law, wills and power of Attorney, in Greek, Spanish, Chinese and Russian
8. Various displays of traditional items from different countries

Altogether some 300 adults and over 500 children attended the events of Multicultural Carnivale (2000-2003)

Migrant Story competition

The innovative *Migrant Story* Project received encouraging support from the community. The Project Committee, consisting of Councillor Peter Schick (Chairman of the Multicultural Advisory Committee), Library staff and the Community Development Officer Multicultural and Special Projects was formed to develop the Project and organize publicity and promotion to local residents who came to Australia as migrants. Through their stories and poems the migrants were invited to tell their stories, share their experiences and impressions of Australia. Altogether 27 entries were received and judged by the Randwick Council Multicultural Advisory Committee. The presentation of the Awards to the winners was held at the Bowen Library during Gala Night – Multicultural *Carnivale* finale held on 15 October 2003. All the participants received Certificates and the four winners nominated by the Committee received a gift voucher. Over 50 people attended the Gala Night, enjoying the Awards presentation by Acting Mayor Councillor Michael Daley, a Spanish Guitarist, Salsa dancing, and refreshments. An interesting display in the foyer of the library demonstrated the theme of the evening.

Entries will be displayed on the library web site and bound into a booklet, which will be available at all library locations. In the meantime they are displayed at Bowen Library for everyone to read.

Staffing and budget

The Library Service utilizes the language skills of bi-lingual library staff when organizing and carrying out *Carnivale* activities. This year, along with the support received from Multicultural Advisory Committee, Councillor Schick and Community Development Officer-Multicultural and Special Projects, five permanent library staff were involved in the co-ordination and implementation of the *Carnival* programme and *Migrant Story* project.

The expenses associated with organizing, promoting and carrying out *Carnivale* activities have been entirely funded by the Library Service. This year the Library committed over \$1500 to present the *Carnivale* program. This amount includes advertising costs, gift vouchers for presenters and performers and catering. Distribution and printing of promotional material as well as staff time are in-kind Library contributions.

Promotion

Promotion of Multicultural *Carnivale* activities to various communities involves consultation with ethnic and local press, mail outs to various groups and schools (holiday activities only) within Randwick City. This year, however, there was minimal publicity

outside the libraries due to competing demands at Council, resulting in minimal contact with members of the community other than library customers.

CONCLUSION:

Randwick City Library and Information Service will continue to commit resources and facilities to develop and implement programmes for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. It is anticipated that in future additional funding (e.g. Sponsorship, Local Community Grants) will be sought for *Carnivale* programs, including the ongoing management of the *Migrant Story* project.

RECOMMENDATION:

- a) That the Director Governance, Management and Information Services' Report, dated 19 November 2003, be received and noted;
- b) That the Migrant Story Awards become an annual *Carnivale* event; and
- c) That sponsorship be sought to fund the annual Migrant Story Awards and *Carnivale* activities.

ATTACHMENT/S:

Nil

.....
MARK HUMMERSTON
DIRECTOR GOVERNANCE,
MANAGEMENT & INFORMATION
SERVICES

.....
VALERIA GRYADUNOVA
ACCESS & COMMUNITY
INFORMATION LIBRARIAN