

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

BUSINESS PAPER

TUESDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2010

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COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Notice is hereby given that a Community Services Committee of the Council of the City of Randwick will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 90 Avoca Street, Randwick, on Tuesday, 9 November 2010 at 6:00pm.

Committee Members: The Mayor (M Matson), Andrews, Belleli, Bowen, Hughes, Matthews, Nash, Notley-Smith, Procopiadis, Seng, Smith, Stevenson, Tracey (Deputy Chairperson), White and Woodsmith (Chairperson)

Quorum: Eight (8) members

NOTE: At the Extraordinary Meeting held on 28 September 2004, the Council resolved that the Community Services Committee be constituted as a committee with full delegation to determine matters on the agenda.

Apologies/Granting of Leave of Absences

Confirmation of the Minutes

Community Services Committee - 12 October 2010

Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Address of Committee by Members of the Public

Urgent Business

Community Services Reports

C18/10 Queen Emma Timbery story project.....1

Library Reports

Nil

Notice of Rescission Motions

Nil

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Ray Brownlee
GENERAL MANAGER

Community Services Report No. C18/10



Subject: Queen Emma Timbery story project
Folder No: F2004/06272
Author: Melinda Leves, Generalist Community Development Officer - La Perouse & Surrounding Areas

Introduction

Council was approached by Mr Laddie Timbery, an Aboriginal Elder of the La Perouse community to fund a cultural project depicting one of his families' Dreamtime stories handed down through the family since the time of Queen Emma Timbery.

Queen Emma Timbery, an aboriginal shell worker was born in 1842 in Liverpool NSW and lived most of her life at La Perouse. As the community matriarch, Emma became popularly known as 'Queen', or 'Granny' Timbery (sometimes spelt Timbury). She died on 26 November 1916 at La Perouse. Emma is buried in the Botany Cemetery.

Mr Timbery would like to record Queen Emma Timbery's story on three panels; two leadlight panels and a single wooden panel of Poker Art (burning wood). It will be a story of Queen Emma as told to Mr Timbery as a child. A project similar to this was completed with Cootamundra Shire Council, the local Aboriginal Lands Councils and Regional Art NSW. The project is based on the words passed down by Queen Emma through the Timbery family, to Laddie by his grandmother and mother.

The project is supported by the La Perouse Aboriginal Lands Council, Randwick City Council Advisory Committee and the La Perouse Community. When completed, it will be a valuable cultural and historical record of a prominent Aboriginal woman as told by her descendants.

This report recommends that the Council note and endorse the Queen Emma Timbery Story Project.

Issues

Earlier this year, Mr Timbery met with the Randwick City Council Aboriginal Advisory Committee and the La Perouse Aboriginal Lands Council Board to seek approval for the project. Both the Advisory Committee and the Land Council Board agreed with Mr Timbery's project concept but have requested that their representatives be given an opportunity to provide feedback and that their comments be taken into account when finalising the design.

There is now a consensus to proceed with the project, comprising of two etched glass and a wooden panel. The panels will be accompanied by plaques explaining the story using original language where possible. The panels will be portable, designed for convenient transportation and display in different public venues and community events.

Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome 2: A vibrant and diverse community.

C18/10

- Direction 2b: Enrich our range of community services that meet our community's needs.
- Outcome 5: Excellence in recreation and lifestyle opportunities.
- Direction 5b: A range of cultural, sporting and leisure activities.

Financial impact statement

The approximate costs to develop and create the panels will be \$5,000. This has been allocated and approved in the Community programs Aboriginal Cultural Art projects 2010-11 Budget.

Conclusion

The project, when completed, will be a valuable cultural and historical record of Queen Emma's story, as passed down through generations of the well known Timbery family of La Perouse, and descendants of Queen Emma Timbery.

Displaying the panels at various community and public events will allow Randwick Council to raise awareness of local Aboriginal culture and heritage, and increase the general communities' access to this information.

Recommendation

That Council notes and endorses the Queen Emma Timbery Story Project and approves the funding in order for the project to commence.

Attachment/s:

Nil