

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS PAPER**

MAYORAL MINUTES

TUESDAY 23 APRIL 2013

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ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Council Meeting of the Council of the City of Randwick will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 90 Avoca Street, Randwick, on Tuesday, 23 April 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

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Mayoral Minute No. MM24/13



Subject: Seeking approval to support photographic exhibition, the Nature of Randwick, at Randwick Community Centre for Biodiversity Month in September

Folder No: F2010/00241

Author: Councillor Bowen, Mayor

Introduction

This Mayoral Minute is seeking Council support of photographic exhibition by local resident and former National Parks and Wildlife Service, Senior Ranger, John Poleson, at Randwick Community Centre during September, 2013.

Issues

In 2012, Council supported a photographic exhibition at Randwick Community Centre during Biodiversity Month in September. The exhibition depicted photographs of the various wetlands of the Eastern suburbs including a focus on Randwick Environment Park. Each of the photographs were taken by Mr John Poleson, long time local resident and retired Senior Ranger of the Sydney Region of National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Mr Poleson has approached Council again with a request to support a Randwick specific photographic exhibition entitled, The Nature of Randwick, this time depicting a range of wildlife and natural features of the Randwick local government area. It is proposed that Mr Poleson curates his own photographs on a number of days during September as part of Council's support of Biodiversity Month. The placement of the photographs enables the hire of the facilities at the Community Centre to continue around the 3 hours per day of the exhibition.

Last year Council also provided \$600 to assist Mr Poleson in the framing of the photographs for the exhibition. In return, Mr Poleson donated a framed photograph to Council for a prize to be given during our Eco Living Fair. Due to the larger sizing of this year's photographs I am proposing that we provide \$900 to Mr Poleson to assist in the framing costs of the photographs. As well as the photographic prize, Mr Poleson has again offered for our Eco Living Fair, he has agreed to provide Council with free use of his photographs on a continuing basis after the exhibition (with the appropriate acknowledgment).

Financial impact statement

It is proposed to provide Mr Poleson with an amount of \$900 to contribute to the cost of framing the photographs for the exhibition at Randwick Community Centre.

Conclusion

This is a very positive opportunity to utilise the Randwick Community Centre for this public photographic exhibition during Biodiversity month in September and to feature the remarkable natural environment and wildlife which can still be found in our City.

MM24/13

Recommendation

That Council supports the photographic exhibition at Randwick Community Centre and approves the amount of \$900 to assist Mr Poleson meet the framing costs of his photographs.

Attachment/s:

Nil

MM24/13

Mayoral Minute No. MM25/13



Subject: Clovelly Better Block Project
Folder No: F2013/06574
Author: Councillor Bowen, Mayor

Introduction

The Better Block Project is an event where the community transforms one block for one day to make a safer, greener, more sustainable and livable street.

Local residents and business owners in Clovelly Road, between Arden and Beach Streets, are keen to hold a Better Block event at this location at some point later in the year.

Issues

Better Block is an urban revitalisation scheme initiated in the United States where some forty projects have either been or will be held.

Councillors Matson and Neilson recently met with local residents Phillip Stubbs and his partner who are seeking Council support for Australia's first event.

Mr Stubbs advises that Jason Roberts, founder of Better Block, and his business partner Andrew Howard spoke in February this year at the Sustainable Living Festival in Melbourne. Jason Roberts will be visiting Australia in June this year and local supporters of the concept have invited him to visit Clovelly Road in the week of the 23rd of June to advise them on their local proposals for a Better Block event.

Financial impact statement

There is no direct financial impact for this matter.

Conclusion

After meeting with Jason Roberts, Phillip Stubbs will be in a position to provide Council with information about the benefits and/or implications of holding a Better Block event in the Randwick area.

Recommendation

That Council invite Mr Phillip Stubbs to brief Councillors and staff on how the Better Block urban revitalisation scheme works in the United States and how it might be applied in Randwick City Council.

Attachment/s:

Nil

MM25/13

Mayoral Minute No. MM26/13



Subject: Randwick Boys and Girls High Schools
- request for financial assistance

Folder No: F2004/07396

Author: Councillor Bowen, Mayor

Introduction

I have received a request for financial assistance from Ms Maxine Ford, Liaison Teacher at Randwick Boys High School requesting financial assistance for a combined Randwick Boys and Randwick Girls High Schools production to be held at NIDA in August 2013.

Issues

For more than 20 years, Randwick Girls' and Randwick Boys' High Schools have shown incredible prowess and achievement in the creative and performing arts. The combined efforts of the school have resulted in success in the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge since 1992, with their most recent production "Marilyn" being awarded 1st place in the Rock Eisteddfod Raw Division of 2012. This was followed by 1st place in the National Television Competition.

Since 2010, the Randwick Boys and Randwick Girls High Schools have put on their own production featuring a number of different items showcasing student talents in dance, drama, singing and music. 2013 marks the fourth year that Randwick Girls' and Randwick Boys' High Schools will produce an original show at NIDA. This year, a similar show will be held at NIDA Parade Theatre Kensington in August.

220 students are involved in the combined performance and each one signs a pledge not to smoke, drink or use any drugs during the production year.

The Schools have asked for financial assistance from Council for the August 2013 production and have indicated that they will ensure that Council's contribution is acknowledged on the students' jerseys, fliers, and school newsletters, fostering a strong community awareness of our involvement.

Financial impact statement

If the report recommendation is adopted, the donation will be funded from the 2013-14 Contingency Fund budget.

Conclusion

Council has provided financial support for the Randwick Girls/Randwick Boys Rock Eisteddfod team for a number of years and supported the combined show at NIDA since 2010. It is recommendation that Council contribute towards the cost of the Schools' 2013 production as this is an important community event and worthy of continued financial assistance from Council. The event will be 'drug-free' which positively encourages a healthy lifestyle for those involved, as well as fostering the development of the students' talents in the creative arts.

MM26/13

Recommendation

That:

- a) Council donate \$4,000.00 to the Randwick Girls and Boys High Schools for the combined production to be held at NIDA in August 2013, such funds to come from the 2013-14 Contingency Fund budget.
- b) the Schools undertake to appropriately and prominently promote Council's sponsorship of the event.

Attachment/s:

Nil

MM26/13

Mayoral Minute No. MM27/13



Subject: Establishment of Youth Off the Street Outreach Program and Office in South Maroubra and La Perouse

Folder No: F2013/00220

Author: Councillor Bowen, Mayor

Introduction

I am pleased to announce that the well-known organisation Youth Off The Streets (YOTS) will be setting up two outreach services in South Maroubra and in La Perouse. These outreach services will be undertaken in partnership with Randwick City Council and Maroubra Local Police Area Command. An MOU between the three project partners will shortly be developed to formalise this very worthwhile service arrangement.

As Council is aware, there have been on-going issues of people in crisis and/or engaged in criminal and other harmful activities involving drugs and alcohol. These problems are particularly evident in the Coral Sea residential area and the shops in Lexington Place, South Maroubra.

Earlier this year, council officers held a number of meetings with Father Chris O'Reilly and his staff about the need for and the cost of funding an outreach service targeting the City's southern suburbs. Arising from these discussions, YOTS made a commitment to extend its services to Randwick City, and to undertake community consultation and research in partnership with Randwick Council to ascertain the extent of service provision required by the local youth community.

On 12 April the Federal government awarded a grant of \$5 million from the National Crime Prevention Fund to Youth Off The Streets. I have been informed that while 10 locations across Sydney will benefit from this grant, South Maroubra and La Perouse have been identified as priority outreach service locations.

Youth Off the Street (YOT)

This well established organisation provides crisis care for young people, providing outreach programs for young people who are homeless, drug dependent and recovering from abuse. Founded and headed by Father Chris O'Reilly, YOT programs target young people aged between 12 and 21, and operates in locations where young people normally gather. The organisation provides low key and positive diversionary activities that allow young people to interact and socialise as well as meet with youth workers. It has successfully established and maintained a number of outreach services across NSW.

Outreach Service for Young people in the South Maroubra and La Perouse

Apart from YOTS's commitment to establish these two outreach services, the form and operational details have yet to be fleshed out. Last week, a council officer assisted YOTS staff in identifying suitable office accommodation for the South Maroubra outreach service, and negotiations with property agents are still progressing.

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In the meantime, council officers will continue to work in partnership with YOTS to establish and support these two outreach services. Working in collaboration with the Local Police Command and Council, YOTS will shortly be conducting a joint consultation session with key agencies and sections of the local community to better understand the issues. The information obtained will help YOTS determine the operational requirements of the outreach services.

The establishment of outreach services in South Maroubra and in La Perouse addresses the Council's earlier resolution for positive youth intervention action in the area around Coral Sea and Lexington Place. This resolution of 23 October 2012 states:

(Matson/Andrews) That Council respond to Mr Da-Silva-Steward's call for youth intervention into the Lexington Place area by:

- a) *Calling for a report on ways to positively influence young people in the South Maroubra area including the option of renting or constructing a property for a youth or community centre administered by Council.*

Given that much needs to be done towards establishing and maintaining the two outreach services, I believe this is an opportune time for Randwick City Council to make a financial contribution towards the services' out-going expenses. This could be in the form of a donation equivalent to the Council rates paid by owners of properties leased by YOTS to use as office accommodation, in exchange for discounted weekly rentals.

Financial impact statement

The financial impact will be the cost of an annual donation equivalent to the Council rates of the two properties rented by YOTS in South Maroubra and La Perouse. Until the two properties are identified, the financial impact could not be confirmed. A progress report will be prepared for Council as soon as the outreach service locations are finalised.

Conclusion

The partnership between Father Chris O'Reilly's YOTS organisation, Maroubra Police Local Area Command, and Randwick City Council in establishing two outreach services is an excellent initiative to address harm minimisation and crime prevention issues involving young people of Randwick City. I therefore suggest that Randwick City Council strengthen this partnership by making a financial contribution to help cover the cost of these two outreach services.

Recommendation

That Randwick City Council:

1. endorse the Youth Off The Streets outreach projects in La Perouse and South Maroubra,
2. make a financial contribution to this worthwhile youth outreach program by offering a donation equivalent to the Council rates payable by property owners, in return for reduced office accommodation weekly rents, and
3. commit to on-going support to YOTS staff by actively participating in projects, research and consultation activities based in Randwick City.

Attachment/s:

Nil

MM27/13

Mayoral Minute No. MM28/13



Subject: Marcellin College 90th Anniversary Celebrations

Folder No: F2013/00001

Author: Councillor Bowen, Mayor

Introduction

An invitation has been received from the Headmaster of Marcellin College Randwick inviting Council to help celebrate its 90th anniversary by attending a Gala Dinner at the College on Friday 17th May 2013 at 6.30pm.

Issues

On 29th January 1923 Marist Brothers Randwick, as it was then known, opened its doors to 153 boys as its first students. Today 90 years later and on the same site in Alison Road the College has an enrolment exceeding 900 students.

Marcellin College prides itself on being a school that is built upon the finest Catholic traditions. Over 90 years it has become a place of educational excellence and has produced men of fine quality such as former member for Kingsford-Smith and Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon. Lionel Bowen, previous Mayors of Randwick City and many Councillors.

Financial impact statement

A table of ten will cost \$1,000.00 which has been allowed for in the Council Contingency Fund 2012/13.

Conclusion

Given that there have been numerous former Councillors and staff members from Randwick City Council that were students of Marcellin College, it would be fitting to celebrate this wonderful milestone in the College's history by purchasing a table at their Gala Dinner on 17th May 2013. This event is not a fundraising event and ticket purchases simply go to cover the cost of the dinner.

Recommendation

That Council purchase a table at the Gala Dinner at Marcellin College on Friday 17th May 2013 to help celebrate Marcellin College's 90th anniversary.

Attachment/s:

Nil

MM28/13

Mayoral Minute No. MM29/13



Subject: 2013 Aurora Annual Dinner
Folder No: F2010/00038
Author: Councillor Bowen, Mayor

Introduction

The Aurora Group is a charity that raises funds to disburse to gay and lesbian community organisations. Aurora exists so that people can donate to a broad range of causes benefiting the GLBT community.

The Aurora Group organises unique events. The organisation raises funds primarily through holding events with the Annual Dinner being Aurora's biggest fundraising event. Each year, the dinner features an inspiring keynote address. Past keynote speakers have included Sir Ian McKellen, the High Court Judge Justice Virginia Bell, journalist David Marr and Theatre Director Neil Armfield. Special guests have also included Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir Governor of NSW and Clover Moore MP, Lord Mayor of Sydney.

Issues

This year the Aurora Annual Dinner will be held on Saturday 22 June at the Sydney Town Hall. Council has been invited to take a corporate table of ten at the dinner to show our support for the community and for Aurora. As a corporate table, Council will have the opportunity to have its logo placed in the program and on the table. Randwick City Council also be acknowledged verbally on the night.

Subject to Council's approval to participate in this event, interested Councillors and their partners will be invited to attend on the night. A council officer will contact Councillors to determine their availability to attend.

Financial impact statement

The cost of a corporate table is \$2,250.00 for ten people and, if the report recommendation is adopted, the amount will be funded from the 2012-13 Contingency Fund.

Conclusion

It is important that Council shows its support for organisations such as Aurora, which raises funds for worthwhile community projects and charities. It is also important that Council has a presence at this event where a number of high profile individuals, organisations and corporate companies are also in attendance.

Recommendation

That Council purchase a corporate table for the Aurora Dinner and that interested Councillors and their partners are invited to attend.

Attachment/s:

Nil

MM29/13

Mayoral Minute No. MM30/13



Subject: Release of NSW Government White Paper

Folder No: F2011/00542

Author: Councillor Bowen, Mayor

Summary

The NSW Government's White Paper and draft legislation for a new planning and infrastructure system was released on 16 April 2013 for public exhibition until 28 June 2013. The details of this paper and draft legislation will be reviewed by Council officers and a detailed report prepared to Council as the basis for a submission to the NSW Government.

While I agree with the need to improve our current planning system, I also note concerns that this reform process needs to provide a genuine approach to effective community involvement in the development and implementation of a new system.

Background

The draft legislation proposes to split the current Environmental Planning and Assessment Act into two separate Acts, being:

- The Planning Administration Bill 2013 - setting up the process for operating the planning system, including the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DP&I) and panels such as the JRPP;
- The Planning Bill 2013 – will set out how the system will operate.

The DP&I exhibition material notes that there are five key elements to the new planning system, being:

Community participation – involving the community early in key decisions that shape our cities, towns and neighbourhoods

Strategic Planning – preparing good policies upfront to guide growth and development

Delivery Culture – working together to enable good outcomes while building expertise, leadership and engagement skills in the planning workforce

Streamlined approvals – making the assessment processes faster and simpler by removing duplication but retaining rigour

Provision of Infrastructure – ensuring planning and delivery for development and infrastructure occurs at the same time.

While these overarching themes have merit, the construction of the legislation and any guiding regulation and policies will be critical to ensuring that these provide suitably for local communities to be involved in the planning and change of their local areas.

I have concerns that in the Government's rush to streamline and fast-track development, they are risking distancing the community from the process.

This State Government was elected on the promise of returning planning powers to local government – yet certain recent activities in Randwick city seem to indicate the opposite.

MM30/13

Already major parts of Randwick City have been reclaimed by the NSW Government under newly announced mysterious 'Urban Activation Centres' which are apparently set to share 30,000 new homes. And the Government is exhibiting a planning proposal for up to 800 new homes in Randwick on the Inglis Stableyards site – after Council refused the proposal in December 2011.

I am concerned that plans to take away community consultation on specific Development Applications (DAs) could result in poor planning outcomes that negatively impact surrounding neighbours.

Upfront consultation about the community's vision is admirable, but I fear the Government plans to use this as justification for automated approvals.

It will be a challenge to obtain a consensus from the community about development they are happy to 'sign-off' on without considering the merits of individual proposals.

Conclusion

I note that the NSW Government's consultation program for the White Paper will involve a series of community consultation events, with an engagement program listing all the events that the community and stakeholders can attend. The details of these events have yet to be made available.

Given that this review of the planning system is the most significant change in the planning systems across NSW in over 30 years, I consider that it is important to ensure the community has adequate opportunities for input and that the consultation. These dates and places should be provided as soon as possible and be accompanied by an extended exhibition period.

Recommendation

The Council write to the Minister for Planning noting the importance of extensive community consultation on the White Paper and, given that the consultation events are yet to be advised by the NSW Government, seek that these consultation event dates and places should be provided as soon as possible, including locations within Randwick City and consultations with Council's resident precinct groups, and that the exhibition period should be extended accordingly.

Attachment/s:

Nil

MM30/13

Mayoral Minute No. MM31/13



Subject: Formation of Metropolitan Mayors' Association

Folder No: F2011/00220

Author: Councillor Bowen, Mayor

Introduction

On 10 April 2013, Mayors or Delegates from 14 Sydney metropolitan councils met at a forum hosted by the City of Canterbury to discuss the formation of a new peak body to represent the common interests of councils in the Sydney Metropolitan Area. The purpose of this Mayoral Minute is to recommend being a part of this new peak body for local government.

Issues

The Forum expressed concern over the effectiveness of Local Government Association NSW in its advocacy role and consultation with and on behalf of Sydney Metropolitan councils in a number of important areas, including Planning Reform, the Independent Review of Local Government, currently being conducted, the foreshadowed early intervention legislation and the Review of the Local Government Act.

The consensus of the forum was that Sydney Metropolitan Mayors should form an association that would focus on the Sydney metropolitan area and collaborate and consult with the Federal and NSW Governments to represent the common and emerging issues affecting councils in the Sydney metropolitan area on the future of this region. The new body would be known as the Metropolitan Mayors' Association (MMA).

The Forum agreed:

1. The Councils of the Sydney metropolitan area share many common interests, including planning systems and regulations, infrastructure issues, economic development and the regulation of the local government sector.
2. The Councils of the Sydney metropolitan area want an efficient, consultative, cost effective and member focused organisation to coordinate action and advocacy on matters of shared interest.

Financial impact statement

There is no direct financial impact for this matter.

Conclusion

The 14 Councils being broadly representative of NSROC, SHOROC and SSROC at the meeting agreed to submit a Mayoral Minute to their next available Council meeting seeking a resolution for the purpose of forming the MMA. Subject to receipt of responses from other Councils, an inaugural meeting of the MMA will occur as soon as practicable.

MM31/13

Recommendation

That: -

- (a) Council support the formation and membership of a Sydney Metropolitan Mayors' Association and advise Canterbury City Council of this decision;
- (b) all Sydney metropolitan councils be encouraged to support the formation of the MMA; and
- (c) Subject to receipt of responses from metropolitan councils, another meeting of interested Mayors be arranged to progress the proposal.

Attachment/s:

Nil

MM31/13