



## MINUTES

### ARTS AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on 20 February at 6pm in Cameron Training Room, Melton Library and Learning Hub

**Present:** Cr Turner  
Cr Mendes  
D Potts, Community representative  
M Mohr, Community representative  
E Waheed, Community representative  
S Hinds, Community representative  
T Watson, Manager Libraries  
S Prestney, Coordinator Library Activation and Engagement  
M McClelland, Arts Engagement and Development Officer

**Chairperson:** Cr Turner

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**1. Welcome**

Cr Turner opened the meeting and welcomed the Committee.

**2. Apologies**

J Bauer, J Whimhurst

**3. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests**

Nil.

**4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting**

**Motion**

M Mohr/ M McClelland

That the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted as a true and correct record.

**5. Business Arising**

Business arising from December 2017 meeting:

- Cultural mapping – M McClelland and M Mohr to meet to plan community engagement – to be carried over



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### 6. General Business

#### 6.1 Overview of recent arts activities and projects

M McClelland provided a presentation of images and information from recent arts events and activities, including Summer of Street Art (Phibs mural, Laneway mural, Street Art Party); Melbourne Tapa exhibition opening, Arts Learning program featuring workshops by 3-4 local artists each season; and the Linda Abblitt Woodblock Prints exhibition and workshops.

#### 6.2 Graffiti Prevention Project (Summer of Street Art) update

This matter was discussed in previous presentation.

#### 6.3 Creative Suburbs Grant Submission (embargoed)

M McClelland provided an update on positive outcome of a proposal to Creative Victoria, which will see Council will receive \$100,000 in grant funding over a two year period to deliver the arts program '*Home Sewn: Makers of Melton*'.

A formal announcement via media release is expected through the Minister for Creative Industries, Martin Foley MP in coming weeks.

*Home Sewn – Makers of Melton*, will include a series of textile/craft workshops and residencies at Raglans Cottage and Neighbourhood Houses, and masterclass workshops for amateur and emerging local artists. The project will culminate in a major collaborative textile public art work to display at Melton Library and Learning Hub and a group exhibition of local textile works at CS Gallery.

#### 6.4 Exhibitions program – update

M McClelland provided update on current exhibitions including Melbourne Tapa and Linda Abblitt Woodblock Prints. S Prestney provided update on upcoming Library exhibitions including the Youth Photography Competition and Writing the War. T Watson called for two expressions of interest from committee participants to be part of the judging panel for the Youth Photography Exhibition.

#### Action

M Mohr and D Potts volunteered to be judges for the Youth Photography Exhibition, and E Waheed offered additional support if required.

#### 6.5 Active Arts program – update

M McClelland provided an update on three areas of Active Arts programs, reporting good attendance levels and engagement across Bollywood, Inclusive Movement classes, and three schools engaged in the youth program. G Haddad will join next meeting for update on performance outcomes and final stages of project.

#### 6.6 Other Business

Cr Mendes requested that the Committee discuss arts programming suggestions submitted by email by Committee member J Bauer on 19 February at 4.46pm (J Bauer was not present). These suggestions are addressed in points 6.6.1 to 6.6.3.



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### 6.6.1 Monthly art fair

J Bauer suggested a monthly art show case event with artists and food trucks. Committee discussed priorities for ongoing community arts engagement and suggested that an annual or biannual arts fair run by an independent artist group would be a more sustainable approach. M Mohr provided example of local groups' biennial Quilting Exhibition and is willing to share her experience with local groups. Committee suggested that J Bauer be involved.

#### Action

Refer suggestion of annual or biannual art fair to Melton Artists Collective (due to incorporate in Jun/Jul 18). If there is interest, support the group to connect with Melton City Council's Community Grants Program, venues support and Arts Engagement and Development Officer as required.

### 6.6.2 Art classes

M McClelland responded to the suggestion that an arts learning program be introduced. Arts and Culture commenced an arts learning program in Oct 2017, which is now providing at least 8 -12 arts learning opportunities per quarter, and will engage at least 360 community members' in structured, one-off arts learning opportunities each financial year.

### 6.6.3 Art prize

In response to the suggestion that Melton City Council establish an acquisitive art prize sponsored by a local business who can then own the winning piece and display this piece in their place of business; the Committee discussed that:

- An acquisitive arts prize for one business is outside the remit of Council's Arts and Culture program and could be pursued independently by a local business.
- Collection management and an acquisition program are not currently part of the Arts Engagement and Development program.

#### Action

The idea of an acquisitive art prize will be held over as part of the next review of Council's Arts and Culture Strategy.

Separately, the acquisition policy for public art work will be addressed in the upcoming review of the Public Art policy.

### 6.6.4 Schools programs

Committee members also expressed the need to support schools to deliver exhibitions of VCE students work.

#### Action

E Waheed, S Hinds and Cr Mendes will establish a working group to investigate different models for Councils supporting a 'Top Arts' style exhibition for schools. J Bauer will also be invited to be involved.



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**7. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 17 April 2018 commencing at 6pm in the Caroline Springs Library and Learning Hub.

**8. Close of Business**

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.