



MINUTES

RECONCILIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on 21 July 2020 at 6.00pm, via Microsoft Teams

Present: Cr Lara Carli, Mayor
Peter Webster, KIRRIP Aboriginal Corporation
Sharon Sowter, KIRRIP Aboriginal Corporation
Dayane Mardesich, Melton City Council
Annette Vickery, Melton City council
Laura DiPasquale, Edmund Rice Centre

Chairperson: Cr Lara Carli, Mayor

1. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed all attendees. S Sowter proceeded with the Acknowledgment of Country.

2. Apologies

Cr Yvonne Sebire, Councillor
Jo Layton, Community member
Karen Jones, Community member
Stephanie Skinner, Wadawarrung
Skye Gooch, KIRRIP Board member
Dawn Davies, KIRRIP Board member
Charmaine Hamilton, Community member

3. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil.

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Noted

It was noted that the Minutes of 11 February 2020 were adopted by Council on 26 March 2020.

Action

D Mardesich to table the request from the RAC, for the Intercultural Advisory Committee to be open to Aboriginal people in recognition of their rich culture.

Actioned

D Mardesich reported this request at the Intercultural Advisory Committee (IAC) meeting on 12 February 2020. The IAC chair advised that IAC has always been open for all community members and asked that the Expression of Interest for the next term of the IAC be promoted to local Aboriginal groups and shared widely to encourage applications. Unfortunately, the recruitment for this committee has been postponed due to COVID-19.

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Recommendation

J-A Axelford/J Layton

Council to adopt a consistent acknowledgement of country on all electronic communications.

Action

A Vickery to submit this recommendation to Council's Communications team for action.

Actioned

A Vickery submitted the request to the Communications team to adopt a consistent acknowledgement of country on all electronic communications.

The following action items from the Minutes of 11 February 2020 will be carried forward until they are completed. COVID-19 has had an impact on the ability for this work to be finalised.

Action

A Vickery to raise the matter of the fee charged to KIRRIP with Council's Events team.

Recommendation

J Layton/S Gooch

Council should pay Aboriginal members of the Reconciliation Advisory Committee a sitting fee of approximately \$60 per meeting.

Action

Further discussions to take place with Council relating to this matter.

Note: Cr Carli noted that this will be considered in the development of Council's new Expenses Policy.

Action

A Vickery to convene the RAC brainstorming meeting in April 2020.

Note: This meeting to develop an engagement plan for building the next Reconciliation Action Plan, is waiting for an opportunity for RAC members to meet face to face.

Action

A Vickery to schedule Cultural Awareness Training and send invitation flyers to all advisory committee members.

Action

A Vickery to follow up with Parkwood Primary School about the process they used to get the garden funded and built.

5. Edmund Rice Centre – Building an Effective Reconciliation Action Plan

L DiPasquale provided a presentation of the programs offered at the Centre and sought feedback on the Reconciliation Action Plan that the Centre is developing. Attendees are invited to participate in the development of the Plan going forward.

A Vickery spoke to the content of the Reconciliation Roadmap 2018-2020 Report being finalized for Council. A Vickery will follow up with Reconciliation Advisory Committee members not present before finalising the report and sending it to Council for tabling.



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6. Reconciliation Action Plan 2018-2020

A Vickery spoke to the content of the final report which will be provided to Council. Feedback received was positive about the achievements and progress made, a minor adjustment was made in relation to Babaneek Boobop figures.

7. Updates from Committee Members

Cr Carli congratulated S Sowter and P Webster on KIRRIP transitioning to independence and said Melton City Council had been proud to be able to play a part in the further development of KIRRIP over this last Reconciliation Action Plan period.

Cr Carli congratulated S Sowter on receiving a mention in 'Women Making it Happen'.

P Webster reported that they are delivering care packages to Aboriginal community members in Melton and receiving feedback that community members are feeling the stress of the lock-down, particularly the mental stress. KIRRIP has received additional State Government funding for emergency relief support regarding COVID-19 and for maintenance works on KIRRIP House.

S Sowter advised that KIRRIP was performing well under P Webster's leadership, and that KIRRIP House is now a Foodbank.

Recommendation

The information above is noted.

8. General Business

Cr Carli suggested the Council further consider how to engage Aboriginal community members during COVID using websites, social media and activities like a virtual tour of the Caroline Springs art exhibit by Mandi Barton.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on 15 September 2020 commencing at 6.00pm via Microsoft Teams.

10. Close of Business

The meeting closed at 7.27pm.