



# MINUTES

## YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 5.00pm via Zoom

**Present:**

Cr Steve Abboushi	Councillor
Cr Bob Turner	Councillor
Jayden D'Souza	Member
Binusha Pathirana	Member
Elayne D'Souza	Member
Marie-Claire Kasukulu	Member
Mauana Fepuleai	Member
Rianna Pham	Member
Kristie Lawson	MCC Staff Member
Frank Newah-Jarfoi	MCC Staff Member
Leanne Getson-Ballan	MCC Staff Member

**Quorum:** Quorum guidelines met

**Chairperson:** Imarsha Pathirana

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**1. Welcome**

The Chairperson welcomed all attendees to the meeting and proceeded with the Acknowledgment of Country. *'Melton City Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land, the people of the Kulin Nations, and pays respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.'*

**2. Apologies**

- Councillor Lara Carli
- Councillor Moira Deeming
- Member Flynn Kellenbach
- Member Vestine Angeneye
- Member Keyara D'Souza

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

Nil

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**4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting****Noted all actions completed.**

Frank acknowledged Imarsha, Rianna and Flynn for completing their Year 12 exams and for their commitment and dedication to participating in the Youth Advisory Committee during a busy year.

**5. Business Arising****5.1 YAC Activities****Frank Newah-Jarfoi**

Following discussions from the previous meeting on how YAC members could be involved, during the recent school holidays, YAC participated in judging two competitions run by Young Communities:

- best dish challenge with the winner @Raphaelhdld, and
- best photo challenge with the winner @Talisha2307

YAC believed that if the prize was bigger there would be more participation.

Jayden, Keyara and Elayne created a video to promote young people joining YAC in 2022. The video had the highest views on Young Communities Instagram page during the month of October.

Binusha has also made a video and it will be showcased in January 2022 during the promotion period when YAC is calling for nominations.

Both videos highlighted the skills that committee members acquire through participation in YAC and the benefits to Council and young people in the community. The videos were well received by all present.

**6. General Business****6.1 Post Lockdown Initiatives****YAC & Frank Newah-Jarfoi**

Discussions commenced with Imarsha asking what some ideas were for the Youth Forum and Youth Week.

YAC mentioned that they could assist their school mates with more positive coping mechanisms, as they noticed students partaking in dangerous behavior with vaping. YAC discussed the implementation of the new laws has reduced vaping.

Youth Forum – Jayden mentioned a topic could be around youth employment opportunities, and help with resumes writing, interview skills etc. Frank mentioned that the Jobs Advocates team could assist with this subject.

Jayden mentioned that it would be a good idea to engage an artist for a visual perspective during the forum and for key speakers.

Jayden asked if there could be music or singing during the Youth Forum to boost morale during the day. There was much interest in having performances during the Forum.

Cr Turner mentioned the possibility with the bigger schools being encouraged to enter, with YAC judging the competition. The incentive could be for the winning school to be presented with an annual trophy.

The winning prize could be some driving lessons. Cr Turner mentioned to approach the L2P program for support. Cr Turner will provide the details if YAC cannot locate them.



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Imarsha mentioned that young people find it difficult to complete their 120 hours of driving and wondered if YAC could provide some educational material on road safety and the dangers. Frank mentioned that Council operates Road Safety Forum and YAC can attend.

Mauana discussed double vaccination status and how YAC can navigate the policies and procedures associated with planning and running of events in the future. Kristie mentioned that it's a matter of making sure that events can be accessible within health advice requirements for young people and that Officers can guide the committee moving forward.

Youth Week in April 2022 – Imarsha mentioned about the Teenage Holiday Program has limited opportunities for young people due to lack of spots with the Ghost Tour.

Young Communities programs need to be within staff numbers, however they do provide a mix of low-cost and free activities to make it inclusive for all young people.

The Youth Week activities are free for young people, therefore maybe a social program could be organised to meet and make new friends. YAC members agreed that a social program would be good post COVID.

Mauana mentioned that there are many activities in the local area with ten pin bowling, paint ball, speed friending including minute to win it, social dances and an amazing race at Hannah Watts park.

Jayden asked what the numbers of attendance are at programs. Kristie mentioned that the free activities on offer always fill up quickly, but the attendance does not correlate, especially when they are offered as virtual compared to face to face.

Jayden mentioned the possibility of offering a Master Chef competition.

Frank spoke about the three colour runs that Young Communities offered this year within newer communities of Eynesbury, Aintree and Fraser Rise, which were open to the communities to participate. Kristie was asking YAC how do we get the message out and promote these types of events.

Jayden said to contact the schools and put it into Compass.

Imarsha mentioned that Binusha attends the Brimbank Youth Committee and maybe YAC can support each other's events that the numbers could go up. Kristie thanked Imarsha for the input.

The topic of promotions was discussed as Young Communities sends out hard copy flyers, promotes over social media platforms, through the schools, plus distributed throughout Council and community groups and word of mouth.

Frank asked if YAC could promote events within their schools and friendship groups and Mauana mentioned that the committee could use their own social profiles to promote upcoming events as it possibly targets different groups of the community.

Please email Frank if you have any ideas after this meeting.

### **Action/Recommendation**

YAC members to email Frank with further ideas on Youth Week 2022 and the Youth Forum.

*MINUTES***7. Other Business –**

Cr Turner thanked the YAC for their participation during 2021 and is looking forward to seeing what you come up with for the Youth Forum and Youth Week in 2022.

Cr Abboushi agreed with Cr Turners comments. Cr Abboushi mentioned that it would be great to catch up for an hour to have pizza as it has been an unusual year.

Frank thanked everyone for their commitment and dedication during 2021.

Imarsha thanked Frank for helping the YAC and to the Councillors for turning up to the meetings.

**8. Next Meeting:**

8 February 2022

**9. Close of Business**

The meeting closed at 6.12pm