

MINUTES

YARRA ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - YAARTS

Wednesday 22 March 2023

6.00-8:00pm

The Push, Collingwood Yards, 35 Johnston Street Collingwood

Statement of Recognition of Wurundjeri Land

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra. We pay our respects to Elders from all nations and to their Elders past, present and future.

Items	Purpose	Time	Personnel
1.	Introduction	Confirmation of the meeting and recording of attendances and apologies. Welcome to any panel guests.	5 mins Cr chair
2.	Confirmation of previous minutes	Confirmation of previous minutes and actions.	5 mins all
3.	The Push	Introduction to The Push, a youth music organisation whose purpose is to give every young person the opportunity to participate and thrive in Australian music.	30 CEO The Push
4.	Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026	Year 1 Action Plan: Reflections Year 2 Action Plan: Plan update	20 Unit Manager Arts Culture Venues, Coordinator Arts Development & YAARTS members
5.	Arts and Culture Grant program review	Inform the panel of the recent grants review process which has provided some streamlining and focussing of the Arts and Culture grants program.	20 Unit Manager Arts Culture Venues,
6.	Working Groups Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Visual Arts PanelRoom to Create Panel	15 mins Coordinator Arts Development & YAARTS members
7.	Other Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Discussion about items tabled by panel members.Panel to nominate any special focus for future YAARTS meeting.	15 mins all
8.	Forward meeting schedule	Confirmation of upcoming meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Next meeting 7 June	5 mins

1. Attendees:

- Present: (Chair) Cr Edward Crossland, Cr Stephen Jolly, Simon Bedford, Angela Conquet, Miranda Hill (arrived late), Clare Leporati, Arika Waulu, Joel Stern, Siu Chan (Business Unit Manager, Arts, Culture and Venues), Brona Keenan (Coordinator Arts & Culture)
- Guests:
Vanessa Morris, Alex Paige (late apology)

2. Confirmation of previous minutes

- Minutes confirmed by panel

3. The Push

- CEO of The Push, gave introduction about the organisation, showed short film and provided tour of the spaces.
- The CEO did note that young people have been disproportionately affected over the last few years as a result of COVID
- Now cost of living is having an impact on participation – young people needing to choose between attending workshop opportunities and paid work opportunities.
- The Push now engage 50% young people on their board; have a young person on to manage their social media; building school outreach programs.
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4. Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026

- Year 1 action plan implementation document distributed to panel and slide presentation to provide insight and examples from Year 1 delivery.
- Year 2 action plan document distributed to panel
- Looking for opportunities to find partners to deliver on the strategy priorities
- Leaps and Bounds Live Music Festival -small festival compared to festivals in other municipalities eg Brunswick. This year it will be a four day festival with a focus on diversity. The budget is modest and programming needs to take into account rising costs of hiring equipment (which is being faced by all artists).
- Real pressures for the music industry but there is hope that Creative Victoria will be able to offer more support with new budget.
- Leaps and Bounds is important contribution to live music, but there is still the need to determine if this is the best option.
- Every council does things differently. Leaps and Bounds has grown from \$30k but has ambitions.

5. Arts and Culture Grants Program Review

- Outcome of Arts and Culture Grants review will result in some changes.
- Proposed changes include: increase for SPG funding pool; Annual Grants to become one stream (reduced from three) and to be made biannual, offered twice a year; multiyear grants will be held off until a broader review across all Council grants, but this funding will be moved to Annual Grants for this round.
- Two new grants: Yarra Arts Fellowship Grant (1 grant); Sustainable Arts Grants. Noted that the new structure works within the existing grants budget.
- Initiation report going to Council 18 April and then rounds will open accordingly
- Fellowship Grant will be a more prestigious grant. \$10k is not as large as some fellowship grants but will support development and buy time for artists.

ACTION – update panel with details of arts grants when finalised

6 Working Group Updates – Visual Arts Panel and Room to Create Panel

- Neither working group has convened for 2023.
- The panel had a general discussion around Fallen Fruit sculpture by Adam Stone. Background and context provided by officers for panel members who weren't aware of the work, its removal due to vandalism, and exceptional media interest in the story.

- Direction forward with the artwork has not been resolved. Currently exploring options which include remaking the artwork.
- A large yellow pot is situated at the location currently.
- Some panel members felt it sets a bad precedent to not replace the artwork. A moral precedent.
- It was recognised that the artwork is both liked and disliked, and sometimes people bring it out against Council.
- The panel agreed that protecting the artist is important
- Decision with way forward will need to have clear reasons which can be easily communicated.
- Principle is important – stand up for the decision and process.

ACTION – discuss at Visual Arts Panel meeting and invite YAARTS to attend.

7 Other Items

- Discussion around some Room to Create opportunities. Eg, developers who open up vacant ground floor spaces for temporary creative uses, such as the Argyle Street/Piccolo development in Fitzroy which operates as a gallery.
- New space at 560 Church Street Cremorne which will be coming up for EOI soon. Ground floor space which will be rent free until the end of the year.
- Panel member noted that City of Sydney has creative spaces integrated in new buildings. Would be good to see Yarra doing this – gaining something, cultural activity within the streetscape.
- Question about what other things that can be done eg through planning/zoning.
- Unit Manager response: looking at a mix of spaces short term

ACTION - remind panel to provide ideas about themes/subjects they would like to discuss in upcoming meetings

ACTION – ask panel for ideas of Yarra places that would like to go for meetings.