

MINUTES
ARTS & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, 29 June 2021
3.00pm – 4.30pm
Via WebEx – Online session

MEETING OPENS WITH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

1. MEMBERS

CJ Fraser Bell	Chairperson
Kerry Digby and Vicktor Petroff	Arts NT
Teghan Hughes	
Marita Smith	
Katharina Fehringer	
Edwin Lourdes	Multicultural Council of the NT
Alderman Andrew Arthur	
City of Darwin Staff	
Carmen Ansaldo	Arts and Cultural Development Officer
Anneke Barnes	Manager Community and Cultural Development

2. APOLOGIES

Mark Smith	
Erica McCalman	
Andrea Wicking	
Jati Wixted	Darwin Entertainment Centre

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Nil

4. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: 13 April 2021

Accepted: CJ Fraser-Bell

Seconded: Teghan Hughes

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 Larrakia renaming of Darwin sites

Arts and Cultural Development Officer spoke to ACDAC's formal registering of support for further Darwin Larrakia place name changes following the renaming of Bundilla Beach. ACD Officer confirmed there are currently no formal avenues within Council for ACDAC to comment or support changes to place names. Currently Council works closely with the NTG Place Names Committee on a needs basis. With the recruitment of Council's Reconciliation Project Business Partner, there is the potential for this role to look into a system for place name changes as part of RAP deliverables. ACDAC Chair

suggested the role of ACDAC may be to provide support to name changes, and to potentially provide input into associated signage and artwork once name change is approved.

5.2 Arts and Cultural Development Advertising Platform Audit

ACD Officer informs ACDAC that the recommendation to conduct an arts and cultural development advertising platform audit was endorsed by Council in May. It was confirmed that the current by-laws do not permit use of hand bills on Council property including power poles or signposts without a permit.

Council has six main facilities for people to advertise events for free:

- Civic Centre noticeboard
- Smith Street Mall Posterbox via the Darwin Entertainment Centre
- Libraries
- Community Centres
- Pools and;
- Online

Further information will be provided to ACDAC after a report is presented to Council regarding the integration of a What's On platform into the Council website. CJ Fraser-Bell flagged that currently artists cannot drop off posters during the day at the Darwin Entertainment Centre for posters to be included within the Mall Posterbox.

It was noted that the Library doesn't promote ticketed events. ACDAC requested for the ACD Officer to liaise with libraries to see if ticketed arts and cultural events could be reconsidered as community not-for-profit events if being hosted by a not-for-profit organisation. It was questioned how important material advertising was now that everyone searches for information online. It was discussed that arts and cultural development advertising contributes to the visual identity of a city and helps to orientate visitors and locals who are not online.

ACTION	<p>ACD Officer to liaise with Libraries regarding the promotion Arts and Cultural Development events.</p> <p>ACD Officer to contact DEC and review how posters can be received by DEC, streamline collection point processes.</p>
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6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Members recruitment & TOR amendment

Nadine Lee has put herself forward to sit on ACDAC. Nadine Lee is a Larrakia woman and holds a masters qualification in curatorial studies, has worked at the National Gallery of Australia and currently works at Darwin Community Arts administrating the Regional Arts Fund. Nadine is a practising artist and healer who does extensive cultural work in community.

The current ACDAC Terms of Reference (TOR) has seven community positions which are currently filled, with vacancy in an organisational position to be filled by a Larrakia organisation representative.

ACDAC unanimously agreed that Nadine would be an invaluable committee member pending further investigation by ACD Officer.

ACTION	ACD Officer to liaise with applicant regarding having a Larrakia organisation auspice.
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6.2 Proposal to amend meeting schedule in TOR

Compliance with the Local Government Act has meant all committee meetings which do not reach quorum must be rescheduled within the following 21 days. There is an opportunity to amend the TOR with the sitting of the new elected members to alter the amount of times ACDAC sits within a year. Currently the TOR mandates ACDAC to meet 6 times a year bi-monthly.

Discussion of the Committee considered whether the TOR should be altered to mandate a minimum 4 meetings, maximum 6 meetings a year. This change will prevent meeting backlog if multiple meetings require rescheduling, thus minimising the load on member's voluntary commitment. ACDAC consensus supports the ACD Officer to progress this action.

ACTION	ACD Officer to liaise with City of Darwin Governance team to progress appropriate ways to amend TOR.
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6.3 THRIVE Public Art Program update

ACD Officer provided update on Council's two public art programs currently taking place.

Jingili Water Gardens Playground Upgrade

- Timelined for October 2021 installation to be delivered with the wider playground upgrade. Sterling has been appointed as the successful tenderer for the upgrade, currently waiting for materials which are incurring an international delay due to COVID 19 and Suez Canal incident.
- ACD Officer working with Sterling and Arts Access to create interpretive signage for the arts elements of the assessable playground, ensuring signage is also accessible.

Bicentennial Park Public Art Project

- COVID 19 lockdown has delayed the proposed concept design presentation to Council. This presentation was scheduled for 29 June but will now be presented on 13 July.
- Garuwa Creative will be presenting two concept plans with Uncle Roque Lee and Trent Lee of Council's selection and endorsement.
- Upon endorsement the project will enter development and fabrication phase with installation timelined for November 2021.

6.4 Working Groups

Darwin and Palmerston Art Award (DAPAA)

- Discussions have progressed between City of Darwin, City of Palmerston, Darwin Visual Arts Association and Charles Darwin University Gallery.
- Currently in process for negotiating funding for operational components and exploring what City of Darwin might be able to offer.
- If funding is secured, then DAPAA is proposed to occur on a bi-annual basis, occurring in late 2022.

Arts Plan/Policy

- ACD Officer circulated the revised and integrated Public Art and Cultural Development Policy to the members who indicated interest in contributing to the Policy. This will be presented to Council at 13 July meeting.
- Revised Arts Plan is next strategic document to be reviewed and developed. ACD Officer to connect with members who expressed interest to work on this in the coming month.

6.5 ACD Officer Update

CityLife Platforms Lightbox Program endorsement

CityLife Platforms has operated for the past three years as a pilot and requires endorsement from Council to continue as a permanent project. The report is tabled for the new elected members in late 2021 and proposed changes will include:

- Exhibitions to rotate every six months
- An ongoing partnership arrangement with Charles Darwin University Visual Arts for one exhibition per year, featuring the works of CDU Visual Arts students. This partnership will ensure variety of artists and diversity in the perspectives showcased by the program.
- Program name change to describe the nature of the project more accurately.

Busk – A – Move program rollout

CJ Fraser-Bell cites Conflict of Interest as she was employed by City of Darwin to deliver the first Busk-a-Move program.

Discussion around the feedback from past program and the premise of the program to foster a busking culture and support musicians and other street performers. ACDAC requested clarification on Council's position on busking and provided Byron Bay and City of Sydney as good practice examples. There was a widespread public belief that Council does not permit busking. Council officers clarified that busking is permitted within the Municipality, with buskers requiring a permit. It was suggested that any new program needs a communications and media strategy to educate the public on Council's busking position. ACDAC felt coupling the buskers with a food truck confused the program purpose and did not encourage donations as the optics communicated a paid gig arrangement.

Mentioned there needs to be more performance spaces, particularly for young musicians to improve their performance. Further issue was raised regarding the fact many people do not carry physical money on their person and how this affects busking.

Chair proposes that either (1) Busk-a-Move endured as a program of paid gigs and the title is changed to reflect this or (2) Council invest money into a promotional/educational program for musicians/buskers and wider community encouraging donations through Council communications channels, i.e. 'Come to the Nightcliff Foreshore this weekend and bring your coins to see x busker'. This should include circus and street performance. In addition, Council should investigate authorising small amplification systems for buskers, which is a part of busking culture and important for performances particularly around the Nightcliff Foreshore where acoustic gigs are harder to hear.

ACTION	ACD Officer to investigate amplification options for buskers.
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Anglicare & City of Darwin Amenity Beautification partnership

An ongoing program with Anglicare NT has been endorsed by Council for their young clients to be engaged by local street artists Proper Creative every school holidays to repaint amenity blocks in the northern suburbs.

City of Darwin Arts and Cultural Development Grants

A one-off round of arts and cultural development grants have been tabled for delivery in the second half of 2021, with a pool totalling \$40,000. The grants were originally approved for up to \$5000 each however there was discussion to raise this to \$10,000 to bring the grants in line with the Community Development Grants maximum. ACDAC agreed this should occur. Chair flags that Council should ensure the new round is advertised on Arts NT Bite Sized News. Round to be expended in the 2021/22 financial year.

ACTION	ACD Officer to incorporate feedback into Arts and Cultural Development Grants.
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6.5 Municipal Plan 2021 – 2022: Carmen Ansaldo

Overview of Arts Portfolio for 21/22 financial year. Operations to be \$45,000, with a break in contributions to Public Art for the first two public art projects to be delivered.

6.6 Members' Update

Kathy Fehringer is tutoring 100 music students per week which is going well but affordable performance and practice spaces are required. She also wishes to create more public opportunities for young musicians to perform to increase the standard. Chair recommends Kathy speak to Darwin Community Arts regarding their hire spaces.

Erica McCalman submitted an update via Chair regarding her current projects with the Australia Performing Arts Market update.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

8. MEETING CLOSE

4.35pm 29 June 2021

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

Caretaker mode for the month of August. Next meeting TBA.