

Minutes

Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 6 May 2026

Unconfirmed



**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
DARWIN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN HISTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE MEETING ROOM BIDJPIDJI (MEETING ROOM 1), LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE,
HARRY CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN
ON WEDNESDAY, 6 MAY 2026 AT 10:00 AM**

PRESENT:

Lord Mayor Peter Styles

Aviation Historical Society of the NT Iain Summers

Councillor Sam Weston

Executive Manager Place and Economic Development Susannah Penman

General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

Tourism and Events NT, Department of Tourism and Hospitality Christine Cleary

Veterans Engagement and Support, NT Department of People, Sport and Culture Annette Rudd

APOLOGY:

Department of Veterans' Affairs Kacie Austin

Warrant Officer Class One/E9, Joint Operational Support Staff – Northern Territory Meika Wright

GUESTS:

Councillor Shani Carson

Events Producer, Jessica Fry

NOT PRESENT:

Darwin Military Museum Norm Cramp

Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster

NT Heritage Branch, Dept of Territory Families Dr David Steinberg

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With the consent of the Chairperson, the Lord Mayor Peter Styles, Councillor Sam Weston chaired the meeting.

Aviation Historical Society of the NT Iain Summers was not present at the commencement of the meeting at 10:08 am.

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Darwin acknowledges that we are living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We pay our respects to the Larrakia elders past and present and support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future. City of Darwin is committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

2 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC010/26

Moved: General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

The Chair declared the meeting open at 10:08 am.

CARRIED 6/0

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC011/26

Moved: General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT an apology from Department of Veterans' Affairs Kacie Austin and Warrant Officer Class One/E9, Joint Operational Support Staff – Northern Territory Meika Wright and be received.

CARRIED 6/0

3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

Nil

3.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTED

Nil

4 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

4.1 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE GRANTED

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC012/26

Moved: General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the Committee note that pursuant to Section 95 (43) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the following member(s) was granted permission for Electronic Meeting Attendance:

- Tourism and Events NT, Dept of Tourism and Hospitality Christine Cleary
- Veterans Engagement and Support, NT Dept People, Sport and Culture Annette Rudd

CARRIED 6/0

4.2 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE REQUESTED

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

5.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

Nil

5.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY STAFF

Nil

Aviation Historical Society of the NT Iain Summers joined the meeting at 10:09 am.

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC013/26

Moved: General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the minutes of the Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee Meeting held on 4 February 2026 be confirmed.

CARRIED 7/0

7 MOVING OF ITEMS

7.1 MOVING OF ITEMS INTO CONFIDENTIAL

Nil

7.2 MOVING OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS INTO OPEN

Nil

7.3 MOVING CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO OPEN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

Nil

8 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS

Nil

9 OFFICER REPORTS

9.1 BOMBING OF DARWIN DAY UPDATE

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC014/26

Moved: General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the verbal update on the Bombing of Darwin Day Update provided by Events Producer Jessica Fry be received and noted.

CARRIED 7/0

Lord Mayor Peter Styles left the meeting at 10:19 am.

Lord Mayor Peter Styles rejoined the meeting at 10:27 am.

10 MEMBER REPORTS

Nil

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 AVIATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY - PROPOSAL

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC015/26

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

THAT the Aviation Historical Society of the Northern Territory - Proposal that *the Committee considers how community knowledge could be improved about the 63 bombing raids on Darwin that occurred after 19 February 1942* be received and noted.

CARRIED 7/0

11.2 USS PEARY**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC016/26**

Moved: General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

Seconded: Lord Mayor Peter Styles

Question

Veterans Engagement and Support, Annette Rudd queried if the Australian American Association had written to the Chief Minister, the Hon. Lia Finocchiaro regarding the USS Peary.

Response

The Lord Mayor Peter Styles responded and advised no update has been provided.

CARRIED 7/0

11.3 UPDATE ON THE ESPLANADE**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC017/26**

Moved: General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

Seconded: Lord Mayor Peter Styles

Question

The Lord Mayor Peter Styles asked if there was an update on the oil tanks near the USS Peary.

Response

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr responded advising that City of Darwin has received correspondence confirming the Esplanade will not be declared a heritage place.

CARRIED 7/0

12 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Nil

13 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT pursuant to Section 99 (2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations* the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

14 CLOSURE OF MEETING

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC018/26

Moved: General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the chair declared the meeting closed at 10:40 am.

CARRIED 7/0

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee Meeting.

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CHAIR