



**MINUTES
ARTS & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ACDAC)**

Tuesday 3 September 2019

3.00pm – 4.30pm

Meeting Room 1, 1st Floor, Civic Centre, Harry Chan Avenue

MEETING OPENS WITH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

1. MEMBERS ATTENDING

Alderman Palmer
Jane Tonkin
CJ Fraser-Bell
Britt Guy
Bilawara Lee
Sean Pardy
Coryn Huddy

Chair
Deputy Chair

Darwin Entertainment Centre Representative

City of Darwin Staff

Robyn Higgins

Arts and Cultural Development Coordinator
(ACDC)

Katy Moir

Public Art Project Officer

Observer

Nil

2. APOLOGIES

Alderman Pangquee
Mark Smith
Marita Smith
Kieren Grassmayr
Louise Partos
Ron Quinn

Elected Member (Alternate Representative)

Arts NT Representative

Manager Infrastructure Maintenance

Chairperson welcomed Coryn Huddy as the new Darwin Entertainment Centre Representative.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Nil.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES 30 July 2019 (Attachment 1)

Moved: CJ Fraser-Bell

Seconded: Sean Pardy

Carried

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 Update from Working Groups:

5.1.1 'Artists Employment KPIs' (Sean Pardy, CJ Fraser-Bell and Bilawara Lee)

Working Group has not yet reconvened. This will be actioned in advance of next meeting and will be moved to a standing item for general business.

Action: Members to convene *Artist Employment KPIs ACDAC Working Group* before November ACDAC Meeting.

5.1.2 'Local Hirer's Subsidy' (Sean Pardy, Mark Smith and Britt Guy)

Working group updated ACDAC on activities thus far. Darwin Entertainment Centre, General Manager Community and Regulatory Services and the ACDAC working group had an initial meeting on 12 August to discuss the need to review and reinstate a local hirer's subsidy for City of Darwin owned cultural infrastructure, Darwin Entertainment Centre and Amphitheatre. All parties agreed a review was necessary and that ACDAC advice was both necessary and valuable moving forward. The need to define different categories of hirers to have a clear approach to the different needs and responsibilities of each group was identified. Possible categories might include Educational, Community, Commercial, Cost Recovery/Non Commercial, Sponsors events (i.e NTG and City of Darwin). The next meeting is scheduled for 10 October.

Action: Members to reconvene *Local Hirer's Subsidy Working Group* before November ACDAC Meeting.

5.2 Diversity on ACDAC

The ACDC circulated a call out and the Terms of Reference for the committee to members on 8 August. Several ACDAC members have circulated the call for expressions of interest and are awaiting responses.

Action: All Members to circulate and support interested parties to attend next ACDAC as observers.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Terms of Reference Changes (Attachment 2-4)

ACDAC members were supportive overall of the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference noting the following ACDAC recommendations for further consideration:

- That membership to the committee should be increased (to an odd number for voting and clarity regarding quorum) in order to enable further diversity and access. This would consist of 11 voting members:
 - 7 Individual Community Members
 - 4 Organisational Representatives (that can nominate alternates for any meeting. As recommended below.)And 3 Non-voting Members:

- 1 Council Appointed Elected Member (Delegate)
- 2 Council Designated Staff (Community and Cultural Development Team Representative *and* Engineering and City Services Department Representative)
- That the Arts NT representative and Darwin Entertainment Centre representative be reinstated and additional representation should be sought from Larrakia Nation and Melaleuca Refugee Centre (pending confirmation of their interest in participating). Additionally, these members should be non-voting. The expectation of these members is that they act as a conduit of information between their organisation and the committee. Other suggestions of organisations to include were Arts Access Darwin and a peak representative (should a peak Creative Industries body be formed from current Chamber of Commerce consultations) however it was noted that organisational representation could be endless and consequently unwieldy.
- That additional individuals beyond the organisational representatives from the organisations (listed above) are permitted to apply as individuals.
- That Council consider and articulate in the TORs the process of appointment should diversity quotas not be met.
- That acknowledgement of skills-based observers should be included in the Terms of Reference and an outline of their role i.e that they are able to present, advise and make comment but are temporary invited attendees and as a consequence, non-voting.
- After some discussion, it was recommended that Individual Members not send proxies as all committee members will need the history and context of discussions to make informed recommendations to council.
- That the procedure for advertising be contemporised beyond newspaper advertising to include 'other media'.
- That these changes be adopted with the intention that there will be increased communication and interconnection of this committee with the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee and the Youth Advisory Committee.

6.2 Darwin Sector Development

ACDAC discussed the ongoing need for development across the sector to increase inclusive and accessible communications for the arts to increase the engagement of diverse communities in arts and cultural opportunities across Darwin. This discussion was carried over from last meeting as an agenda item. The ACDC informed the committee that access and participation was a commitment of the Arts Plan and that whilst there is a sector wide responsibility to address issues of equity, specifically in communications and engagement that a budget from the Arts and Cultural Development Program had been put aside for projects and activities seeking to address this commitment and that advice from ACDAC was sought to address this operational matter. Suggestions for appropriate programming for the allocated budget were to use the funding to support an engaged series of active face to face creative consultations and info/expo session with arts and cultural organisations providing information about their programs and activities out in the community at approx. 5 different venues asking organisations or community groups to host culminating in a final gathering of all the groups at a Lord Mayor function/Christmas party. This process could be run by an external producer and facilitator to inform consultation for the development of the Cultural Plan and an embedded communications strategy. This

program may also be a key opportunity to call for members to the new committee, develop an artist and arts worker register, engage with artists that haven't been communicated with in the past and ask what their priorities and objectives are and how/why communications should be delivered to meet intended objectives.

Action: ACDC to develop a project brief which clarifies the objectives, timeline and budget for consideration at the next ACDAC meeting.

6.3 Arts and Cultural Development Operational Budget

The ACDAC member requesting this agenda item raised concerns about the reduced Arts and Cultural Development Program operational budget for strategic one of projects, activities and programming this financial year(19/20) due to the Citylife Lightboxes Program (almost \$30 000 in total) now being sourced from the operational budget (\$56 355 per annum) rather than the capital budget. The ACDC advised the committee that this was a temporary measure to ensure continuity for the program - albeit, at a reduced load scheduling 2 rather than 3 exhibitions for this period. The ACDC further advised that this is because the program is yet to be evaluated in accordance with the Public Art Pilot Plan. Whilst anecdotally it is widely acknowledged that the program is highly valuable and should have ongoing committed funding, the evaluation will provide clear recommendations for amendments to the program and if appropriate, may need to recommend that a new budgeting initiative be requested from Council as an additional ongoing core program expense above current ordinary operational expenses.

6.4 ACD Coordinator Update

ACDAC reported the following against the program streams of the Arts and Cultural Development Program:

Public Art –

- THRIVE:
 - Concept Brief to inform Public Art Program was accepted by Council on the 28th August.
 - Jingili Watergardens:
 - Arts Access Darwin has successfully secured an **Economic Participation of People with Disability - Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) Grant Round 2019-20** of \$130 000 and is partnering with the City of Darwin through the establishment of the Free Space Studio Public Art Collective (6 artists from the program) to deliver the integrated Public Art in this development.
 - Community Consultations on the playground overall and public art specifically close on the 15th of October. 2 events are being organised:
 - Sunday 22 September: Water Gardens 9-12pm
 - Wednesday 2 October: Water Gardens 9-12pm
 - Bicentennial Park:
 - In research and development.

- Two facet work with a stand-alone sculpture housing audio infrastructure that will deliver a rotating program of local, interstate and international artists. The budget is for a commissioned piece to hold the space and be the permanent exhibition but be swapped out when temporary exhibitions are programmed.
- Art to Street :
 - Reporting on BBRF Funding due on 30th September
 - Finalising the painting of Walkway 81
 - Completed EmBARK Workshop for Children and Families with 2 Artists commissioned from the program for Libraries
 - Exploring further development options with remainder of grant monies.
- Public Art Collection:
 - Repairs and Maintenance:
 - Asset Management Plan accepted by Council.
 - Co-funded casual position (with Design) to advance streamlining processes is secured.
- Lightboxes:
 - Arts Access Darwin – Commencing in October (6 months)
 - TBC - Darwin Visual Arts Association - Commencing in March (6 months)
- **Pathways:**
 - Working Groups in action as per previous discussion.
- **Darwin Creative:**
 - As per previous communications discussion.
- **Creative Spaces and Arts Connect:**
 - Environmental Artist in Residency in negotiation and planning for early next year with Climate Change and Environment and Children and Families.

6.5 Members' Update

- 6.5.1 *Louise Partos* – Emailed notification of *Transforming Public Spaces* and Activate Darwin project for the ACDC to distribute to members.
- 6.5.2 *Jane Tonkin* – Enacting a well-being strategy at Corrugated Iron Youth Arts.
- 6.5.3 *Sean Pardy* – Brown's Mart has developed a sustainability plan as part of its current Business Plan. Key features include:
 - Environmental sustainability - reducing the organisations carbon footprint
 - Employee sustainability - instituting a cap on employee hours and days worked per week,
 - Artistic Practice sustainability – through further opportunities, programs and activities delivered

- 6.5.4 Bilawara Lee – Attended the PULiiMA International languages conference, worked with Darwin Festival to deliver voice recorded Welcome to Country announcements and smoking ceremonies for visiting Indigenous performers. Further work being undertaken with other arts organisations and projects to recognise Larrakia cultural authority at their arts and cultural events.
- 6.5.5 Coryn Huddy – Darwin Entertainment Centre is in a period of consolidation. They are reviewing budgets, procedures and management plans with a key focus on community engagement and their relationship with stakeholders working collaboratively on DEC's purpose and mission e.g developing a Community Access Program. There is also a focus on optimising spaces such as the gallery and black box theatre whilst managing technical and infrastructural challenges.
- 6.5.6 Britt Guy – Conducting the final screening in Maningrida of the Northern Territory Travelling Film Festival.
- 6.5.7 Alderman Palmer – Reprinting the book Hurtle the Turtle.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
Nil.

8. MEETING CLOSE