



Minutes Age Friendly Advisory Committee

24 November 2022

Meeting details

Date of meeting	Thursday, 24 November 2022
Time	10.00 am – 12.00 pm
Venue	Microsoft Teams & Room 3.16 -1 Flintoff St, Greensborough
Chair/Facilitator	Cr Tom Melican
Minutes	Laura Cattapan Coordinator Community Connections

Acknowledgement of the Traditional Custodians

“Banyule City Council is proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as Traditional Custodians of the land and we pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, past, present and emerging, who have resided in the area and have been an integral part of the region’s history.”

Inclusive Banyule Statement

“Our community is made up of diverse cultures, beliefs, abilities, bodies, sexualities, ages and genders. We are committed to access, equity, participation and rights for everyone: principles which empower, foster harmony and increase the wellbeing of an inclusive community.”

Attendees

Attendee name	Affiliation/Organisation
Cr Tom Melican	Banyule City Council - Councillor
Glenn Swafford	Age Friendly Committee Member
Mary Stringer	Age Friendly Committee Member
Dianne Williamson	Age Friendly Committee Member
Stewart Morritt	Banyule Leisure
Karlene Lang	Emergency Care Coordinator, Austin Health
Jo Wilson	Banyule City Council - Manager Resilient and Connected Communities
Laura Cattapan	Banyule City Council - Coordinator Community Connections
Kim Phu	Banyule City Council – Age Friendly Community Development Officer
Ian Wedlock	Yarra Plenty Regional Library Services (YPRLS) – Senior Manager Engagement & Operations

Apologies

Name	Affiliation/Organisation
Kath Brackett	Banyule City Council - Director Community Wellbeing
Marcello D’Amico	Age Friendly Committee Member
Jim Brewer	Age Friendly Committee Member

A member of the Committee raised concerns about the current size of the Committee and the need to increase the number of members to enable the Committee to be more effective and share the workload.

Coordinator Community Connections mentioned that a recruitment process was currently taking place with Banyule Population Committees. Council has received one application for the Age Friendly Committee. Coordinator Community Connections said that she wasn't involved in implementing this process, which is an online process only, and will make sure she is involved in the next recruitment process to ensure it is accessible, particularly for those who are not digitally literate.

Items

1. Actions from Previous Meeting

2.1 Request for installation of Shade Sails Ivanhoe Park Seniors Exercise Park

Previous Action: The Community Connections Coordinator is scheduled to do a site visit on Friday 30 September with both the Open Space Planning and Design Coordinator and Landscape Architect to discuss options and solutions.

Outcome

Coordinator Community Connections attended a site meeting at the Seniors Exercise Park with members of the Open Space Planning and Design Team. The A/Coordinator Open Space Planning and Design Coordinator who has now left the organisation listed this as an unfunded project that deserves further consideration, however, will not be considered this financial year. They also suggested consideration should be made for applying for a Shade Grants Program through the Cancer Council in 2023.

A Committee Member who has participated at the Seniors Exercise Park is concerned that if shade sails were installed it may run the risk of making the park cold in the winter. Another Committee Member was concerned that the park was too exposed to the sun.

Coordinator Community Connections said one of the solutions that Open Space Planners suggested was that shade be installed at one end of the Seniors Exercise Park where people can sit and rest between exercises. The Committee were open to this solution.

Work with Environment Team to support them to work with Seniors clubs

Previous Action: Community Connections Team to progress this initiative.

Outcome

The Age Friendly Team is in the process of connecting Council's Community Energy Officer with local senior's community groups.

Air quality in buildings

Previous Action: Coordinator Community Connections said that the Community Connections team is looking into this topic and will be able to report back at the next Committee meeting.

Outcome

Council's Major Facilities Coordinator provided information on this topic which was emailed out to Committee members on 25 October 2022.

A Committee Member said that this information needs to be communicated to the community.

Action

The Committee agreed that it would be good for this information to be included in Age In Focus newsletter.

3.1.1 Councillor Update

Previous Action: Coordinator Community Connection said that she would contact relevant Council Officers overseeing 'Put a lid on it' project and ask if there are any additional actions that can be undertaken by the Committee to support and promote this issue.

Outcome

Coordinator Community Connections has emailed Banyule's Advocacy Lead officer regarding what the Committee can do to support the 'Put a lid on it' project.

3.2.1 Update on Age Care Reforms

Previous Action: When applicable Coordinator Community Connection will forward any Government feedback opportunities to the AFC for consideration and distribution through your networks.

Outcome

On Friday 18 November Committee members were emailed information from the Commonwealth Department of Health requesting feedback on their 'New program for in-home aged care'. This topic will be discussed by the Committee under Agenda Item 2.2.2.

3.2.2 Advisory Committee Review and Inclusive Banyule

Previous Action: Coordinator Community Connections to investigate the possibility of setting up an Age Friendly Committee What's App or another accessible option.

Outcome

Coordinator Community Connections has applied internally to set up an Age Friendly Committee MsTeams group for Committee members to be able to communicate with each other.

3.3.2 EveryAGE Counts Campaign

Previous Action: The Committee would like the opportunity to further discuss any additional actions that Council could deliver in relation to Ageism Awareness at the next Age Friendly Committee meeting.

Cr Melican voiced his intent to move the EveryAGE Counts Notice of Motion (NoM).

Outcome

The EveryAGE Counts NoM is currently in draft. The Committee will discuss actions to be included in the content under Agenda Item 2.3.1.

2. Standing Agenda Items

2.1 Update from Council

2.1.1 Councillor Update

Cr Melican reported on the following:

- Banyule now has a new Mayor Cr Peter Castaldo and Deputy Mayor Cr Alida McKern.
- The State Election has been problematic for Banyule in relation to getting any movement with the 'Put a lid on it' campaign.
- Cr Melican attended the 95-year birthday celebration for Kelvin at Ivanhoe Library who was featured on the 'Age is Just a number' video.
- There is still some anxiety around the vaccination process and participation.

2.1.2 Community Connection Age Friendly Program Update:

Banyule Seniors Festival Wrap up

Kim Phu Aged Friendly Community Development Officer introduced herself to the Committee and provided the Committee with an update on the Banyule Seniors Festival.



Age Friendly Champions Update

The last slide in the Age Friendly Community Development Officer's presentation was a draft framework on how to reengage Age Friendly Champions framework.

The Coordinator Community Connections outlined that the Community Connections team are wanting to codesign all their work with the Age Friendly Committee and Age Friendly Champions. The Team came up with the framework to engage the Champions through a series of working groups and for Champions to also have the opportunity to provide direct program support.

A Committee Member felt that the piece missing in the framework presented is the role of the Age Friendly Committee. He felt that the current framework would potentially disempower the Age Friendly Committee and couldn't see the strategic connection between the Committee and role of the Champions. He asked how the work of the Committee related to the framework.

The Coordinator Community Connections explained that it was important for Committee Members to drive and participate on the strategic working groups particularly the Age Friendly Strategy working group as the strategy should support and guide the work of the Age Friendly Committee.

The Committee Member provided the example of the previous Coffee Connections program which came out of Age Friendly Committee and was driven and supported by the Committee. He expressed that the Champions haven't been communicated since before COVID-19 and that many people may not be interested in being involved again.

The Coordinator Community Connections said the Age Friendly Committee is a strategic committee. If the Committee wanted to take on a more driving role with the Age Friendly Champions', they would need to look at the structure of the current Committee Agenda and prioritise their work. She suggested that the Committee could have a planning meeting early next year to discuss the structure and work priorities.

A Committee Member mentioned the impact of COVID-19 and do policies/issues such as vaccinations affect the Age Friendly Champions program. The Manager Resilient and Connected Communities said that at present there is no requirements that people need to be vaccinated to participate, however Council is currently having conversations about our internal volunteers and vaccination status.

Cr Melican suggested that when current Champions are reengaged, if there isn't a positive response, we should try to engage new champions.

Manager Resilient and Connected Community asked if officers could estimate how much time each working group would take up to ensure that it is clear what commitment would be required of Committee Members and Champions.

A Committee Member said that the finer details of the each working group would need to be determined and the Age Friendly Advisory Committee membership would need to increase as the current membership wouldn't have the stretch to be able participate in all working groups outlined in the framework.

A Committee Member said that we need to define what an Age Friendly Champion is and what would be their responsibilities.

Committee Members agreed to participate in a planning session in early January 2023. A Committee Member said that the meeting should focus on:

- Current Terms of Reference to increase membership and define the role of the Committee.
- Look at the original brief of the Age Friendly Champions and reimagine what would work now.
- Refine the framework presented so that this can be presented to the existing Age Friendly Champions.

Action

Coordinator Community Connections said that she would send out dates and times for a planning session in February. A draft agenda for the planning session will also be provided.

Community Transport Project Update

Coordinator Community Connections provided an update on the Community Bus Project and said that currently both her and the Age Friendly Project Officer have been mapping out the bus route with Council Transport Engineers and the Spatial and Property Systems Analyst and are hoping for the bus route to be finalised in December. She will keep the Committee updated.

2.2 Presentations/Consultations/Information

2.2.1 Ivanhoe Library – Seniors Takeover Night

Coordinator Community Connections introduced Ian Wedlock Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service (YPRLS) Manager Engagement & Operations. Ian provided some background regarding a new Seniors Takeover Night program that they would like to trial in partnership with Banyule's Age Friendly team. They are proposing that the program take place once a month on a Friday evening at 6 pm. Participants would be given access to all the public spaces and would be able to design how they would like to use the spaces. Ian mentioned that there is currently a similar program happening with young people.

Ian asked the Committee feedback on whether they think this program would work for older persons. The Committee's responses included:

- A Committee Member said that she would rather go to the younger persons session and has concern about it being focussed on older persons.
- Coordinator Community Connections mentioned that some more socially isolated older people have expressed that they feel lonelier in the evening, and this could address this experience.
- A Committee Member said that some older people would not be interested in going out at night due to safety concerns and restricted public transport. Sunday afternoon was suggested as an alternative option.
- It was agreed transport would need to be made available.
- A Committee Member said that the library would be a good place for older people to go in the evening during a heatwave.
- A Committee Member feels that early evening would be a better option.
- Ian said that the library was interested in the benefits the program would provide for older people including providing an opportunity for social connections and participation.
- Committee Members suggested that the program be trialled and to survey the community. YPRLS and Council could look at surveying the community through Age in Focus and the Library mailing list to gauge whether older persons would be interested in attending the program.
- Ian suggested that YPRLS could also run consultations.
- Council could also send this out to their Seniors Group Network.
- A Committee Member is concerned about the number of surveys people are asked to complete and felt that a consultation process through an activated one-off event would work better.
- Coordinator Community Connections said the idea was to activate the library. Activities such as choirs, music groups, movie nights, book clubs etc were suggested.
- A Committee Member said that what is it that the older people would be doing on a Friday that they couldn't do on a weekday, if they are not connected during a weekday what makes Friday different. He also mentioned that the program could look at engaging artists and using art spaces as part of the programming. He would like consideration for it to be a broad span community event.
- Ian said the youth takeover night was about young people having ownership of the space as opposed to during the week which is open to the general community.
- The Committee said that they are not interested in older people as the label for this initiative.
- Ian thanked the Committee for their feedback and said that he would be interested in attending the meeting again in the future and to continue to consult with the Committee.

2.2.2 Update Aged Care Reforms

This item was not discussed given time constraint due to longer discussions taking place in other items that were prioritised.

2.2.3 Banyule Age is Just a Number Video

The Age is Just a Number film clip was not shown given time constraint due to longer discussions taking place in other items that were prioritised.

The Coordinator Community Connections said the link to the video will be included with the minutes for Committee Members to watch independently.

[Age is Just Number Film Clip](#)

A Committee Member said that she had seen the film clip and asked what is going to happen with the film clip now.

The Coordinator Community Connections mentioned that the clip could be included as part of the Ageism Awareness workshops.

Cr Melican mentioned that the clip was played at all the Seniors Festival High Teas and displayed in the foyer at 1 Flintoff St, Greensborough. He also said that it was played to Councillors at a Council meeting.

2.3 Other Business

2.3.1 EveryAGE Counts Campaign

Coordinator Community Connections asked Committee Members about the actions emailed that are currently being included in the draft NoM. She asked the Committee about what date/occasion should the Mayor sign the pledge. Cr Melican said that it would be good to get as many Councillors as possible to attend.

A Committee Member suggested that the Mayor could sign the pledge at the Age Friendly Champions event in March. The Committee felt that this would be a good occasion. A Committee Member suggested that the Champions could also be encouraged to sign the pledge as individuals. He also suggested that Council could encourage individuals and organisations to sign up, and Age Friendly Champions could be championing ageism awareness.

The Committee felt that Ageism Awareness Workshops could be done with both Council and external organisations. Committee members said that they would like this to be more generic and that the title of the workshop should be changed to something like 'Every Age Counts' as would be more relatable.

Coordinator Community Connections said that many councils across Melbourne particularly in the eastern region have delivered on many of the actions outlined in the draft Notice of Motion.

A Committee Member said that he was pleased that the Mayor recommended the Committee advise on this campaign and that this is exactly the sort of actions that the Committee should be consulted/working on and driving. He felt that this is the path that the Committee should taking.

Action

Coordinator Community Connections will update the draft NoM to reflect the intent of what the Committee had advised.

2.3.2 Community Updates

This item was not discussed given time constraint due to longer discussions taking place in other items that were prioritised.

3. Committee Recommendations to Council

1. The Committee would like for the Terms of Reference to be changed to enable the current number of community members to be increased from 12 to 15 members, to align with the other population committee membership numbers.

4. Meeting Dates for 2023

2023 Meeting dates will be deliberated at the Age Friendly Champions planning session in early in 2022/2023

5. Close