



Minutes RAP Advisory Committee

10 November 2021

RAP ADVISORY COMMITTEE Minutes

Wednesday 10th of November 2021 5.00pm to 6.30pm

Chairperson: Cr Peter Dimarelos

Minutes: Blair Colwell (Aboriginal Gathering Place Coordinator)

Location: Online – Microsoft Teams

Welcome and introductions

1. **Meeting Commenced at 5.04pm**
- Attendees:**
- RAP Advisory Group Members** **Chair**
- Cr Peter Dimarelos – Chair
 - Uncle Charles Pakana
 - Shelly Ware
 - Uncle Owen Butler
 - Maddie Miller
 - Sue Harris
 - Tom Conley
 - Helen Pereira
 - Catherine Bradley
- Council Staff**
- Kath Brackett – Director, Community Programs and RAP Champion
 - Theonie Tacticos – Coordinator of Community and Social Planning
 - Blair Colwell – Aboriginal Gathering Place Coordinator
 - Les Chessells – Aboriginal Community and Social Planning – designated Contact officer
- Apologies:**
- Mayor Cr Rick Garotti
 - Shane Grigg
 - Banyule Community Health Services representative

Welcome and House Keeping

Acknowledgment: Delivered by Councillor Dimarelos

Diversity Statement: Delivered by Councillor Dimarelos

Recording of Meeting: No objections, meeting recorded to assist with minutes.

Contact officer advised Chair that quorum had been met.

2. Introductions and Action arising

Chair

- Cr Peter Dimarelos introduce himself
- Each Committee member introduced themselves quickly (as this was done during induction)

Actions from previous minutes:

Action 1: A position description (PD) for Co-Chair of RAP membership for comment

Discussion – Re remuneration for the Co-Chair role to acknowledge the extra work and responsibilities. Suggestions that an extra fee be paid.

Updated Action: PD draft to be sent to RAP Advisory Group Members for feedback and advice.

Update: The Director has provided a recommendation to Councillors to support the fees for the additional work of the Co-Chair role. This is before Council on the 8th of November 2021.

Update from Councillor Dimarelos that Council has passed a resolution that the co-chair be remunerated for their time and cultural expertise of \$120 for the role of co-chair and \$60 of general members per RAP meeting.

In addition to the nomination received at the last meeting, another nomination was received at the meeting.

Members did not feel equipped to vote without knowing in more detail of nominees.

Action 2: Les and Kath to take discussion off line to establish a fair and transparent process which is respectful of culture, for the committee to decide a Co-Chair before next RAP Advisory Group Meeting.

Discussion also occurred re- remuneration of members when they are representing the RAP Advisory Group in other forums. I.e. Inclusive Banyule Advisory Group. Contact officer advised these are voluntary meetings

Action 3: Contact Officer to seek clarity re -remuneration of members when they are representing the RAP Advisory Group in other forums.

3. RAP Priority Actions for discussion, feedback and consultation

RAP Action 1.5. (Respect)

Include and acknowledge First Nations languages, culture and people in the naming of Banyule places and spaces.

Deliverable 3.

Create a list of First Nations people of significance to be recognised in Banyule place names.

Group Discussion

Les mentioned a number of known Community members such as Aunty Alma Thorpe, Uncle Bruce McGuinness (passed away), Uncle Sonny Booth (passed away), Aunty Beryl Booth to start the conversation. RAP Advisory committee members also mentioned Uncle Kevin Coombs and William Barak.

The potential to rename existing places in Banyule community particularly names which may be culturally inappropriate or not align with contemporary values was raised. Although this was considered out of scope for this agenda item, officers agreed to take this question on notice and consider implications of changing names of existing places.

Action 3: Members to consider names of respect of Aboriginal figures with a connection to Banyule. Members can send nomination by email in the coming weeks with information about the person.

Action 4: Contact Officer will provide guidelines and processes before the next meeting re- renaming Council areas and or Street names regarding persons who have been found to have committed autocracies against First Nation peoples of the area.

RAP Action 1.2. (Relationships)

Promote reconciliation through our sphere of influence.

Deliverable 3.

Council will continue to communicate our commitment to reconciliation publicly.

Discussion: Committee members discussed a number of ways that Council could support and promote reconciliation which included the following ideas:

- 1 Article or banner (email) which highlights 'truth telling' to the broader community.
- 1 Highlighting significant Elders through communication.
- 1 Hosting talks, yarning circles or forums with Aboriginal Elders.
- 1 Panels of Aboriginal community members.
- 1 Use of social media highlighting initiatives in the community, eg a football club adopting Aboriginal Art themed football jumpers.
- 1 A consistent approach to build our profile in the community over time.
- 1 Pod casts potentially highlighting themes.
- 1 Reactivation of public place to address potential isolation of community members.
- 1 Lanyards or items which start the conversation around reconciliation.

- 1 3KND interviews.
- 1 Consolidated planned effort opposed to stand alone items.
- 1 History including dispelling commonly held myths in the community.
- 1 Aboriginal story telling.
- 1 Branding.

Action 5: Establish a volunteer working group from members of the RAP Advisory Committee to work with Council and Marketing and Communication to establish a comprehensive and consistent communication plan. Interested members to email Les

RAP Action 1.2. (Respect)

Provide and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander resources to increase respect for cultural protocols and build staff cultural awareness.

Deliverable 4.

Continue to review Banyule Traditional Owner Acknowledgment and Welcome to Country resources, procedures and protocols and increase staff understanding of the purpose and significance behind cultural protocols.

Discussion: The ANTAR acknowledgement plaque be replaced with a new purpose designed plaques. Proposed design of plaque to come to RAP Advisory Committee Meeting. Plaques be kept separate or together from diversity statement. Potential for acknowledgment plaque to be on the outside of locations, with the diversity statement inside.

Action 6: A design of new Acknowledgment plaques be brought back to RAP Advisory Committee for their consideration

The feedback from the RAP Advisory Group that the Acknowledgment plaques and diversity statement plaques be separated. And not joined side to side or top to bottom as put forth by Contact officer.

4. Barrbunin Beek Update:

Blair Colwell

RAP Advisory Committee welcomed Blair and congratulated him on his appointment.

Barrbunin Beek Update: The new Barrbunin Beek Coordinator, Blair Colwell, has commenced in the role and in attendance of RAP Advisory Commitment Meeting. The officer is working toward re- activation of space the community emerges from lock down. More information will be distributed through the RAP Advisory Committee outlining future events and activities in the space.

5. Other business & Next Meeting

Chair thanked members and staff for their participation.

RAP Advisory Committee Meetings will be scheduled for 2022

Action Item No.	Description	Responsibility	Due date	Status
Carried over action items				
	Co-Chair PD draft to be sent to RAP Advisory Group Members for feedback	Contact Officer	by 14 th of December 2021	Ongoing
Actions arising				
1	Les and Kath to take Co-chair selection process off line to establish a fair and transparent process which is respectful of culture. A process will be established and shared with a group which will nominate a Co- Chair before next RAP Advisory Group Meeting	Contact Officer	by 14 th of December 2021	The 2nd nomination was withdrawn. nomination. Email sent to First Nations members to support nomination Maddie's sole application, which was accepted.
2	Contact Officer to seek clarity re -remuneration of members when they are representing the RAP Advisory Group in other forums.		By 14 th of December 2021	Ongoing

3	Members to consider names of Respect Aboriginal figures with connection to Banyule. Members can send nomination by email with information about the person	All		Ongoing
4	Contact Officer will provide guidelines and processes before the next meeting re- renaming Council areas and	Contact Officer	By 27 th of January 2022	Ongoing
	or Street names regarding persons who have been found to have committed autocracies against First Nation peoples of the area.			
5	Establish a volunteer working group from members of the RAP Advisory Committee to work with Council and Marketing and Communication to establish a comprehensive and consistent communication plan. Interested members to email Contact Officer	Contact Officer		Ongoing
6	A design of new Acknowledgment plaques be brought back to RAP Advisory Committee for their consideration The feedback from the RAP Advisory Group that there be separate Acknowledgment plaques and diversity statement plaques.	Contact Officer		Completed. Noted to engage RAP Advisory Committee with design for feedback. Acknowledge feedback on plaque placement.









