



Minutes Banyule Arts & Culture Advisory Committee

1 February 2024

Meeting details

Date of meeting	Thursday, 1 February 2024
Time	6pm – 7.30pm
Venue	Ivanhoe Library & Cultural Hub (Wilim Ngarrgu Community Meeting Room 2) 275 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe 3079
Chair/Facilitator	Cr. Peter Castaldo
Minutes	Stefanie Stamatiou

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.”

Diversity 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.”

Attendee

Attendee name	Affiliation/Organisation
Joanne O'Hara	Community Member
Genelle Ryan	Community Member
Craig Eloranta	Community Member
Paul Higgins	Empire Studios
June Gassin	Community Member
Kevin Ritchie	Community Member
Kate Hansen	YPRL
Cr Peter Castaldo	Banyule City Council Councillor
Hannes Berger	Arts & Culture Coordinator, Banyule Council
Georgie Meyer	Manager, Inclusive & Creative Communities
Stef Stamatiou	Festivals & Cultural Projects Officer, Banyule Council
Paty Galan	Senior Urban Designer, Banyule City Council

Apologies

Name	Affiliation/Organisation
Cr Elizabeth Nealy	Banyule City Council Councillor

Janelle Dunstan	Greenhills Neighbourhood House
Caroline Wall	Community Member
Deb Lemcke	Community Member
Amy Stephenson	Community Member
Leah Crossman	Bundoora Homestead Arts Centre [Resignation]

Agenda Items

1. Welcome & Apologies (Cr Castaldo)

6.00pm – 6.05pm

- Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians & Diversity Statement
- Apologies – tabled the resignation from BACAC of Leah Crossman
- Welcome Councillor Castaldo
- Actions from previous meeting:
 - Officers to prepare a report for Council Meeting on 20 November recommending adoption of the Creative Banyule Strategy – [COMPLETED: Creative Banyule was adopted by Council.](#)
 - Officers to prepare a report for Council Meeting on 11 December recommending the acquisition of the seven artworks listed in the Art Acquisition Recommendations Report – [COMPLETED: Council resolution to acquire the recommended artworks.](#)

2. General Business (Hannes Berger)

6.05pm – 6.10pm

Extension of Term / Thank you gifts.

- As per memo emailed on 6/9/2023, Council resolved to extend the advisory committees term to align with end of current Council Term in September 2024. BACAC members have opted to continue.
- Introduction of thank you gifts for committee members – one of the following:
 - A sitting fee of \$100 per year.
 - A \$100 Shop Local voucher
 - A Multi-pass entry at a Council leisure facility (Ivanhoe Aquatic or Olympic Leisure Centre)
 - A donation of \$200 per committee term period (two (2) years) to a local service support organisation or the Banyule Community Fund
- To be offered under the following conditions:
 - The member holds a community member position on the committee.
 - The member attends 60% or more of meetings between September 2023 and September 2024, except in exceptional circumstances.

New Council Plan engagement opportunities.

- Over the next 12 months, Council will draft a new Council Plan 2026-2030. Community consultation will begin shortly, and we would like to involve our committees in testing how we can better reflect and represent our diverse Banyule communities in the next Council Plan.
- All Advisory Committee members will be invited to a series of three opt-in engagement sessions. To be offered in a both online and in person.

Arts & Culture Grants Working Group EOIs.

- Due to commencement of Caretaker Period in September (and the end of the Council Term), Council's annual Grants rounds will be offered earlier this year.

- EOI's for BACAC membership on the Arts & Culture Grants Assessment Working Group will open in February. Hannes to distribute next week (early Feb). EOI's close 3 March. Same process and commitment as previous years.
- Commitment / Timeframe:
 - Grants Assessment Panel induction (online) – May (date/time tbc)
 - Scoring of applications – 3 – 23 June
 - Assessment Panel review meeting (Greensborough) – 24 – 27 June (date/time tbc)

3. Public Realm Strategy (Paty Galan)

6.10pm – 7.00pm

- Overview of Draft Strategy – presentation by Strategic and Urban Planning team.

Discussion

How should we prioritise which types of public space are most suitable for public art? How to maximise minimal resourcing?

- Consider sharing resources with neighbouring Councils, e.g. Heidelberg artists trail signs extend throughout three municipalities.
- Consider opportunities for recognisable or repeated creative placemaking throughout the municipality (such as train at stations) which would give sense of place and belonging.
- Ensure public art is included in early stages of planning of new or upgraded civic or green spaces – ensure there are no missed opportunities in the planning process. Avoid the need to retrospectively place art in new public spaces.
- Consider incentives for local artists to bring forward creative ideas.
- Consider getting artists involved in early stages of planning.
- Consider community consultation /engagement /input. How to do this effectively?
- Consider alternative avenues to source additional funds/budget – Government funding, private partnerships / developers – there is already dedicated budget for public art in the Capital Works program, as well as funding incorporated into externally funded projects, so how can we increase these opportunities into long term planning processes?
- Consider engaging with each area/district of Banyule to seek aspirations for public art – potentially award projects through community competitions.

What considerations should be given to events in managing our public realm? Temporary venue vs passive recreation. Economic value?

- Consider negotiations with property developers to source additional suitable venues and spaces (Melbourne City Council did this years ago to create more arts spaces at Southbank).
- Currently, it seems that if an open space is developed in a sports oval, for example, its limited to that use. These spaces need considerations around making them multi-use.
- Identify smaller spaces that can be activated, e.g. carparks and laneways.

What other ways can creativity help transform or bring meaning to our public spaces?

- Consider creating spaces in sparse parks, e.g. public artwork around intermittent seating or bike racks- how to get creative with this kind of infrastructure?
- Suggested further community consultation or workshops to understand aspirations for public art, bringing identity to local places that reflect the local community. Alignment with some actions in Creative Banyule Strategy.
- Specific areas/suburbs are looking for 'identity' or recognisable features and artwork. Create belonging.
- Consider identifying opportunities for local artists within their own communities.

4. Public Art Policy Review (Hannes Berger)

7.00pm – 7.20pm

Overview of review process / options

- Due to be reviewed in 2024. Policy was adopted in 2020, some current members of BACAC were involved in its development in 2019.
- Next iteration needs to be considered in relation to Creative Banyule, which is the overarching strategy, and any decisions/actions around public art moving forward should reflect this.
- New Public Art Policy doesn't need a separate action plan – relevant actions will sit in Creative Banyule's annual action plan.
- The required piece of work that will align the Public Art Policy to Creative Banyule is an operational framework outlining process and decision-making guidelines on resource allocation, etc.
- Will likely need some research and benchmarking with other Councils.

Discussion

Response to current policy

- "Great piece of work... still relevant, just needs some direction for the next stage" – Craig.
- "Very good...gave me a sense of satisfaction (having been involved in creating it) to go through the worksheet and see how much was ticked off and completed" – June.
- "In a broad sense, it still holds up pretty well" – Kevin.
- "Should undertake community consultation to understand wishes of different neighbourhoods as part of the review" – Kate.
- "Will also undertake some research and benchmarking" – Hannes.

Findings and development of Framework will be brought to next BACAC meeting for discussion.

5. Other Business (Cr. Castaldo)

7.20pm – 7.25pm

- 2024 meeting locations
 - Majority in favour for keeping meetings at ILCH, however consider alternating with some meetings at Greensborough.
 - 2 meetings left this term, one at each venue – May at Greensborough and August at ILCH.
- Evaluation survey
 - Hannes will send out link next week to the annual Advisory Committees evaluation survey.

6. What's On (Hannes Berger)

7.25pm – 7.30pm

- [Twilight Sounds](#) – Sat 10 March
- [Eco Festival](#) – Sun 17 March
- [Outdoor Movies](#) – Feb – March
- [Chillin' In Banyule](#) – April – Launch at Empire Studios (4 April)
- [ILCH programming](#):
 - Arc (Jutta Prior) Gallery 275 – until 17 March (opening night 2 Feb)
 - Winterbloom (Aldona Kmiec) Loft 275 – until 18 Feb
 - Friday Night Live (Music Vic) – Feb – April
- YPRL: Homegrown summer events
- Empire Studios – Stars live recording – 10 March, Joe Cocker Show – 16 March

Close and date of next meeting (Cr Castaldo)

7:30pm

- Next meeting – scheduled Thursday 2 May 2024
 - Confirmed next meeting will be at 1 Flintoff Street, Greensborough