



Minutes Banyule Arts & Culture Advisory Committee

2 May 2024

Meeting details

Date of meeting	Thursday, 2 May 2024
Time	6pm – 7.30pm
Venue	Banyule Council Offices. Level 4, 1 Flintoff Street, Greensborough. (4.01 Olympia Room)
Chair/Facilitator	Cr. Liz Nealy
Minutes	Hiroki Kobayashi

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
Kate Hansen	YPRL
Janelle Dunstan	Greenhills Neighbourhood House
Caroline Wall	Community Member
Deb Lemcke	Community Member
Amy Stephenson	Community Member
Cr Elizabeth Nealy	Banyule City Council Councillor
Cr Peter Castaldo	Banyule City Council Councillor
Hannes Berger	Arts & Culture Coordinator, Banyule Council
Georgie Meyer	Manager, Inclusive & Creative Communities
Hiroki Kobayashi	Arts & Cultural Development Officer, Banyule Council

Apologies

Name	Affiliation/Organisation
Kevin Ritchie	Community Member
June Gassin	Community Member

Agenda Items

1. Welcome & Apologies (Cr Nealy)

6.00pm – 6.05pm

- Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians
- Diversity Statement
- Apologies
- Actions from previous meeting:
 - Invitation to Banyule Futures workshop for Advisory Committee members.
 - Arts & Culture Grants Assessment Working Group EOI for BACAC members.
 - Annual Banyule Advisory Committees Feedback Survey link distributed.

2. Responding to Climate Change (Rowena Cairns)

6.05pm – 6.20pm

- Council has targets for a carbon-neutral organisation by 2028 and carbon neutrality for the wider community by 2040.
- Work has commenced on a new Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan and a Climate Adaptation Framework.
- Projected timelines: July/August for community consultations for draft frameworks. The final document is due sometime in 2025, and will be set for 10 years.

Discussion

How does climate adaptation impact Arts and Culture?

- Is there a climate plan for where art is stored at ILCH?
- Gallery Art store - climate controlled storage – what happens when there is a power outage?
- What will happen to community participation in outdoor festivals and live music with extreme weather events? What happens if events aren't sustainable because it's too hot?
- Art has the opportunity to be a tool to get people and the community to buy into climate action.
- What happens if events aren't sustainable because it's too hot? Cancellation policy/review and updated due to extreme weather. Rain causing muddy grounds, trucks, etc can't come on-site as vehicles would get bogged.
- What's the tipping point, when do you stop doing events that are affected multiple years in a row?
- Womadelaide – due to extreme heat the festival rearranged time schedules, but the evening is still very warm. Some infrastructure such as mist spray was used for cooling. The event went well considering the weather.
- Ovals are the best place for events, but there are issues with shade.
- Moomba was cancelled due to extreme heat. Relied on the City of Melbourne's heat policy.
 - Decisions were made due to the wellbeing of participants, as the audience can self-regulate.
 - Significant cost impact – e.g. honoured artist fees.
 - Even with robust policies it was an incredibly challenging response.

- Libraries as designated cool zones, but not staffed enough.
- Suppliers notice/cancellation periods are getting longer – e.g., can't cancel late as easily.
- What is the long-term future of these events? Timing changes e.g. summer festivals happening in Autumn instead?
- Sidney Myer Music Bowl is constantly on weather watch.
- What do other organisations do for power supplies for events?
 - The City of Melbourne – there is power in parks, but not enough to service what is going on in these parks, need large capital investment.
- How is this affecting sports clubs/activities/ovals?

3. Public Realm Strategy update (Hannes Berger)

6.20pm – 6.30pm

- Closing the loop on BACAC's feedback to the Strategic and Urban Planning team on this project.
- Called a framework and is not a strategy, as it has to be an all encompassing approach.
- Draft going to councillor briefing this month.
- Strategic and Urban Planning want to tie into the Creative Banyule Strategy, rather than having separate strategies for activities in public spaces.

4. Festivals & Event Season Wrap Up (Hannes Berger)

6.30pm – 6.50pm

- Overview of season & community survey results.
- Festivals & Events Framework.
- Structure/approach to public programming – program is spread across the municipality.
- Spreading large events as equally as possible.
- Think about how we bring a range of tiers of events of different scales to all the different areas in the municipality.
- Arts and Culture Events Survey - 501 surveys were completed across the 2023-24 season.
 - Average rating 8.8/10.
 - People liked: the community atmosphere, activities for children, quality of performances, and free.
 - Improvements: better parking, weather provisions, greater diversity of performers, more food options.
 - 1 in 10 spoke English as a second language, compared to 1 in 5 of Banyule.

Discussion

Response to lack of diversity in survey data/responses:

- How do you reach the north and the west?
- Could it be surveying methods? Or programming – is it reaching different communities?
- Work with different community/cultural groups who are already holding and delivering cultural events in Banyule. Look for ways to integrate into Arts and Cultural programs and they will bring their audiences.
- Movie in a different language.
- Chinese New Year celebrations.
- Access requirements – bathrooms, changing places facilities, etc at events
 - Currently there is initiatives like that at Carols by Candlelight's - priority seating area
- Quiet spaces are much more common and expected at events these days.
- Moomba Festival has low sensory times.
- Separating different sensory level activities into different areas.
- Tap into Banyule committees to understand what some of the barriers to participation are.
- Does Council do inclusion mapping?
- Are we tracking data from our events? How do we know how we're trending across the years?

5. Public Art Policy Review (Hannes Berger)

6.50pm – 7.15pm

- Proposed Banyule Public Art Framework.
- Internal workshops will be delivered to gain feedback about the framework.
- The framework will then have to go to community consultation for adoption.
- Thoughts for criteria for allocation of public art funds/commissions (Public Art Criteria Matrix / decision making tool)?
 - Like to see a cultural element in criteria (e.g. First Nations art). Different communities represented in Banyule artworks.
 - Next meeting there will be more opportunity to discuss thoughts for the criteria.

Discussion

- Thoughts for the criteria for allocation of public art funds/commissions (e.g. criteria matrix/decision making tools)? As well as other thoughts on public art policy.
- Do we have to maintain art? What is the lifespan?
- What are the risks of the artwork long term?
- Important to consider what type of art we are discussing. Is it a façade or is it art? If art, certain needs should be met.
- Private development – developers paying for public art as part of their builds.
- Negotiating and maintaining artworks between Council and private organisations.
- Developer contributions going to Arts and Culture – not just public art but activities in local areas, etc.

6. Other Business (Cr. Nealy)

7.15pm – 7.25pm

- Learn more about community data in Banyule – info session 20 May.

Action

Hannes to send around Flyer.

- Exciting new exhibition opening in September, BACAC will be invited to attend.
- Final BACAC meeting for this term in August. What happens next?
- New Council group announced early November. After this, a call out for advisory committees will be made and new committees established. There is potentially a change to committee policies and people will be able to apply to be on a committee for longer than two terms.

7. What's On (Hannes Berger)

7.25pm – 7.30pm

- [Arts & Culture Grants](#) – Close 31 May
- [Art In Public Spaces](#) – Chrysalis by Lachlan Plain – June
- [ILCH programming](#):
 - *Two Conversations on The Birrarung* – until 19 May
 - *We Are* Exhibition for IDAHOBIT – (17 May - 16 June)
 - Conduit Exhibition – (30 May - 21 July)
 - Art From the Barrbunin Beek Gathering Place (22 June – 28 July)

Close and date of next meeting (Cr Nealy) 7:30pm

- Next meeting – scheduled Thursday 1 August 2024 (Ivanhoe Library & Cultural Hub)
 - Hannes will be away on long service at next meeting