



**Melbourne City Council  
Community Services Committee**

**MINUTES**

**Meeting Number 17  
Tuesday, 11 September 2007  
7.30pm**

**PRESENT**

Cr Wilson (Chair)  
Cr Brindley  
Cr Clarke  
Cr Jetter  
Cr Snedden  
Deputy Lord Mayor Gary Singer (arrived at 7.49pm)

**APOLOGY**

Cr Ng  
Cr Shanahan

Confirmed at the Community Services  
Committee meeting on 9 October 2007.

## 1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING AND APOLOGIES (Agenda Item 1)

The meeting commenced at 7.47pm.

The Chair, Cr Wilson, advised that:

- the meeting is being recorded for the purpose of ensuring the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting;
- the agenda comprises five Reports from Management; and
- apologies had been received from Councillors Ng and Shanahan.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests or conflicts of interest.

## 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 3)

Moved: Cr Clarke

*That the minutes of meeting No 16, held on Tuesday, 14 August 2007, be confirmed.*

Seconded: Cr Jetter

Carried unanimously.

## 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 4)

The Chair Cr Wilson informed the Committee that in relation to **Agenda Item 5.3**, "*City Village Expression of Interest, Recommendations and Management Model Options Report*" in the minutes of the previous meeting, the subsequent report to Council was revised to remove redundant paragraphs 1.5, 1.8 and 1.11 as a result of the Committee considering the report in the open session of the meeting.

## 5. REPORTS FROM MANAGEMENT (Agenda Item 5)

### Correspondence/Submissions

The Chair, Cr Wilson, advised that the following submissions/items of correspondence had been received in accordance with the Council's *Conduct of Meetings Local Law 2001*.

#### Written Correspondence:

In relation to Agenda Item 5.5, "*Carlton Community Centre*":

- Greta Bird, President, Carlton Residents Association Inc; and
- Connie Paglianiti, President, Carlton Residents Association Inc.

## REFERRAL NOTICE PROCESS

The Chair, Cr Wilson, advised members of the Committee and the public that where the Committee makes a decision on the basis of fewer than five members voting in favour of it, the decision may be referred, by a Councillor, to Council for decision.

### En Bloc

Cr Clarke moved the recommendations contained in the Management Reports with respect to agenda items 5.1 and 5.4.

The Deputy Lord Mayor Gary Singer seconded Cr Clarke's motion. The motion was put and carried unanimously.

The relevant information in relation to each of these agenda items, including the Committee resolutions, is detailed below.

### **5.1. Endorsement of City of Melbourne Indigenous Framework 2007-2010**

The purpose of this report was to present the *City of Melbourne Indigenous Framework 2007-2010* which is the first such policy for the organisation.

Resolved:

1. *That the Community Services Committee:*
  - 1.1. *note that the community consultations are complete; and*
  - 1.2. *endorse the City of Melbourne Indigenous Framework 2007-2010.*

### **5.4. 2008 Arts Grants Program**

The purpose of this report was to:

- provide a summary of the 2008 Arts Grants Program;
- consider the final list of recommendations of the Arts Advisory Board; and
- seek approval for the allocations of grants, as shown in Attachment 1 of Report.

Resolved:

*That the Community Services Committee recommends that Council approve the 2008 Arts Grants allocations, as recommended by the Arts Advisory Board and detailed in Attachment 1 to the Management Report.*

### **5.2. “Housing the Arts” in the City of Melbourne**

The purpose of this report was to:

- present the findings and recommendations of a report into “Housing the Arts” for the City of Melbourne;
- in the context of the overall report, seek support for a range of immediate actions targeted at facilitating affordable access for artists to temporary spaces, within the private property market, for the purposes of cultural production; and
- refer other opportunities identified in the report to the development of Council’s new Arts Strategy.

The Chair Cr Wilson informed the Committee that he was pleased to see this report come to the Committee for consideration.

Moved: Incorporating comments from Councillors, the Chair Cr Wilson moved the recommendation contained in the management report subject to:

- the deletion of the words “in-principle” from paragraph 1.3; and
  - the addition of the words “the Chair of the Community Services Committee as Chair of the Housing the Arts Working Group, with responsibility to explore the longer term options and opportunities within the report.”
1. *That the Community Services Committee:*
    - 1.1. *notes the findings and recommendations of the “Housing the Arts” report and that these findings fall into three main categories;*
      - 1.1.1. *actions that are already in place to support housing the arts in Melbourne;*
      - 1.1.2. *longer-term options and opportunities of relevance in developing Council’s new Arts Strategy, and*
      - 1.1.3. *short-term actions to facilitate affordable access to spaces for artists, with a focus on cultural production and under-utilised private property;*

- 1.2. *endorses the following actions with regard to paragraph 4.1.3 above;*
  - 1.2.1. *production of a fact sheet for owners of vacant buildings, outlining the potential benefits and practicalities of making their buildings available to artists for the purposes of cultural production;*
  - 1.2.2. *production of an example licence to inform both building owners and artists of workable occupancy agreements and with the potential to minimise legal costs of making vacant building available for cultural production; and*
  - 1.2.3. *that the Committee considers allocating funding in the 2007/08 year to develop a 'once-off' incentive payment to building owners to encourage access to artists for cultural production, within the broad parameters of:*
    - 1.2.3.1. *up to \$10,000 payment for up to 3 building projects;*
    - 1.2.3.2. *funds to be used to offset establishment costs only;*
    - 1.2.3.3. *rentals to be within the 'affordable' range of up to \$100 per square metre in the CBD and up to \$80 per square metre elsewhere in the municipality; and*
    - 1.2.3.4. *building must be made available for a minimum of 18 months to be eligible;*
  - 1.2.4. *addition of a registration facility on the Council managed website, Creative Spaces Database, for artists seeking affordable space in the City; and*
  - 1.2.5. *Council to play an active role in facilitating linkages between building owners and artists with the purpose of increasing the provision of affordable space for cultural production in Melbourne; and*
- 1.3. *approves the establishment of a Housing the Arts Working Group consisting of artists, developers and planners and nominates the Chair of the Community Services Committee as Chair of the Housing the Arts Working Group, with responsibility to explore the longer term options and opportunities within the report.*

Seconded: Deputy Lord Mayor Gary Singer  
Carried unanimously.

### **5.3. The Homelessness Research Project – Stage One**

The purpose of this report was to provide the Committee with the results of the Homelessness Research Project.

Ruth Gordon, Resolve Community Consulting and Chris Black, Black Ink Writing & Consulting presented the item to the Committee.

In response to questions from Councillors, Nanette Mitchell, Social Planner advised that:

- plans were in place to investigate models working elsewhere that may work within the City of Melbourne;
- that the target rate for homelessness would be zero if it were possible;
- while providing solutions to homelessness may not answer all these peoples' problems, they may put people in a better position to address them;
- Stage 2 of the project will be completed and reported to the Committee by February 2008;
- Stage 3 of the project will be completed and reported to the Committee by August 2008; and
- Results of Stage 2 will provide a strong indication of actions the Council may pursue and the resources required.

Moved: Cr Clarke

1. *That the Community Services Committee:*
  - 1.1. *note the outcomes of Stage One of the Homelessness Research Project; and*
  - 1.2. *note the objectives of the Homelessness Research Project Stage Two and Three.*

Seconded: Cr Brindley  
Carried unanimously.

## 5.5. Carlton Community Centre

The purpose of this report was to report on the roundtable held on 10 August 2007 in relation to a Carlton Community Centre as resolved by Council at its July meeting.

Greta Bird on behalf of the Carlton Residents Association Inc. addressed the Committee in strong support of the recommendation to purchase the Kathleen Syme Centre for use as a Carlton Community Centre.

Connie Paglianiti on behalf of the Carlton Business Association Inc addressed the Committee in strong support of the recommendation regarding the establishment of a Carlton Community Centre, and informed the Committee that the Bendigo Bank had expressed an interest in being involved.

Moved: Incorporating Councillor comments, the Chair Cr Wilson moved the recommendation contained in the Management Report subject to:

- editorial amendments to paragraph 1.1;
- the addition of the words “further advance the possibility of the Kathleen Syme Centre being the Carlton Community Centre”, and the deletion of the words “obtain clarity across all issues relating to the proposal” to paragraph 1.4; and
- new paragraphs 1.5 and 1.6

Seconded: Cr Clarke seconded the Chair Cr Wilson’s motion, suggesting the addition of a further paragraph to read:

- “recommend that Council confirm that the Kathleen Syme Centre is Council’s preferred location for the Carlton Community Centre and formally offer to purchase the facility from the State Government.”

The Chair Cr Wilson as mover of the motion, agreed to incorporate Cr Clarke’s additional paragraph.

The motion was put and carried unanimously.

The motion in its entirety now reads:

1. *That the Community Services Committee:*
  - 1.1. *notes the minutes of the roundtable held on 10 August 2007 involving the Lord Mayor, and the Honourable Bronwyn Pike MP, some Councillors, and representatives from Carlton residents, traders and service providers;*
  - 1.2. *notes the letter sent to Peter Batchelor, Minister responsible for Community Development, requesting a partnership in resolving the issue of a community centre in Carlton;*
  - 1.3. *notes the independent valuation of the Kathleen Syme Centre provided to City of Melbourne;*
  - 1.4. *notes that the Chief Executive will convene a meeting of the CEO of the Royal Women’s Hospital and Secretary of Department of Human Services in order to further advance the possibility of the Kathleen Syme Centre being the Carlton Community Centre; and*
  - 1.5. *write to the Victorian State Government and all relevant ministers to express our continuing interest in the purchase of the Kathleen Syme Centre;*
  - 1.6. *resolves that council administration develop a full business case to progress the feasibility of the purchase of the Kathleen Syme Centre as a Carlton Community Centre, which includes all possible funding options, with the status of negotiation to be presented to the Community Services Committee in October and a full report in December 2007; and*
  - 1.7. *recommend that Council confirm that the Kathleen Syme Centre is Council’s preferred location for the Carlton Community Centre and formally offer to purchase the facility from the State Government.*

**GENERAL BUSINESS (Agenda Item 6)**

There were no items of General Business.

**6. URGENT BUSINESS (Agenda Item 7)**

There were no items of Urgent Business.

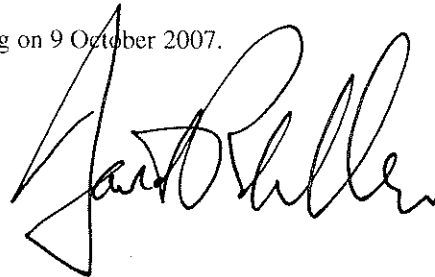
**7. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (Agenda Item 8)**

There were no public questions.

**8. CLOSURE OF OPEN MEETING (Agenda Item 9)**

The meeting concluded at 8.27pm.

Confirmed at the Community Services Committee meeting on 9 October 2007.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Miller', is written over the text 'Confirmed at the Community Services Committee meeting on 9 October 2007.'.

Chair  
Community Services Committee  
Town Hall  
Melbourne