Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee

Minutes

Meeting #11

Monday, 6 June 2016 at 6pm
Committee Room, Moonee Valley Civic Centre
9 Kellaway Avenue, Moonee Ponds

Attendees
- Cr Jan Chantry, Chair, Buckley Ward
- Cr Jim Cusack, (Sub chair) – Myrnong Ward
- Bob Chalmers, President, Essendon Historical Society
- Everette Reynolds, 58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Ltd
- John Hills, Essendon Historical Society
- Judy Maddigan, Local Historian

Council officers
- Gil Richardson, Acting Director City Services (minutes)
- Troy Watson, Manager Arts, Culture and Libraries (minutes)
- James Martin, Acting Manager Communications and Customer Service

Guests
- Sankar Nadeson, Project Co-ordinator - Moonee Ponds Memorial Streets - From Community to Country
- Susan McLaine, Coordinator Learning and Community Programs, MVCC

Apologies
- Alana Stevens, Executive Assistant City Services
- Bill Laker, President, Keilor East RSL
- Elaine Brogan, Friends of Sandy
- Barry Gough, Former Mayor City of Essendon
- Cr Shirley Cornish, (Sub chair) – Rose Hill Ward
- Danny Bilaver, Governance Officer, MVCC
Order of Business

Welcome
Meeting opened at 6.05pm.
Chair Cr Jan Chantry welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

Apologies
Noted as above.

1. Confirmation of Previous Minutes
Moved by Judy Maddigan seconded by Bob Chalmers that the Minutes of the Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee (#10) held on Monday, 21 March 2016 be confirmed with no changes.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
Nil.

3. Guest presentation - Moonee Ponds Memorial Streets - From Community to Country
Sankar Nadeson made a presentation to the committee regarding the Moonee Ponds Memorial Streets - From Community to Country project he is coordinating on behalf of Essendon RSL.

An application for funding has been made to the State Government’s Victoria Remembers Grants Program for the project, which will engage with the community to create memorials to be displayed within the Puckle Street, Moonee Ponds area. An accompanying app will also be developed as part of the project. A similar project has been run in the City of Brimbank. This project requires support of the local Council, including future maintenance of the permanent memorial installations.

Essendon RSL will be funding 15 per cent of the total project cost of $60,000. The project would take six to eight months to complete, if approved.

4. Guest presentation - Writing the war exhibition
Susan McLaine made a presentation (distributed with minutes) to the committee regarding the Writing the war exhibition which will be hosted by Avondale Heights Library and Learning Centre from 10 March to 30 April 2017. The exhibition includes letters, diaries and photo albums which tell the stories of seven individuals serving overseas and at home during World War I. Additional programming is planned for Moonee Valley Libraries to further engage the community, particularly children and teenagers, with the exhibition and World War I history.

5. Key actions arising from previous minutes

5.1 Street signs - additional names
James Martin advised that following the successful launch of Anzac street signs in Ascot Vale and Essendon, posts were made on Council’s social media advising of further Anzac related street names, including Halsey and Parer Roads in Airport West. John Hills suggested that Keilor Historical Society may be able to assist with further investigation.

James also advised that Council’s Governance team have been working on a separate project investigating possible future Anzac street names. Essendon Historical Society have provided some suggestions as part of this project.

ACTIONS:
• James Martin to make contact with Keilor Historical Society regarding Anzac street names in the Airport West area.
• Gil Richardson to seek further information on the street names project Governance is working on and provide update to the committee.
• Alana Stevens to list item on agenda for next meeting.

5.2 Victoria Cross commemorative pavers update
Gilbert Richardson advised that the State Government's Victoria Cross commemorative pavers project is progressing, and circulated an image of a sample paver around the table. Timings for the provision of pavers and additional names are yet to be advised by the Veterans Branch.

5.3 Scurry Court proposal
ACTION: Alana Stevens to list item in agenda for next meeting.

5.4 Council support for events in 2016/17
To be discussed under item 7.

5.5 Rosie statue – update
Gilbert Richardson advised that Rosie II has been ordered and will include additional features to prevent vandalism/theft, including a 2 metre high concrete plinth base, internal steel rods and a sand slurry filling for additional strength. Council will be seeking funding (up to $4,000) through the Federal Government's Saluting Their Service grants, which would contribute to the cost of these additional security features. Council will also investigate the possibility of applying for further funding for improved security lighting for the area around Rosie II, through the State Government’s Department of Justice and Regulation.

ACTION: Gilbert Richardson to apply for funding for Rosie II security features and investigate further funding for security lighting.

5.6 Search for the Essendon High School cannon
Bob Chalmers advised there has been no update in the search for the missing cannon.

6. Events recently held
It was noted that the following events have been held since the committee last met:
• Moonee Valley Brass concert - 10 April 2016
• Anzac Day 2016 services - 17 April 2016
• Launch of Anzac street signs - 18 April 2016
• Film screening - Why Anzacs - 19 April 2016
• Anzac Day Talk - The City of Essendon Regiment - 20 April 2016

7. Upcoming event / project status updates
• Music in War Time concert series
  Judy Maddigan advised the final concert of the series will be held on 16 September at the Clocktower Centre.
  ACTIONS:
  • Troy Watson to investigate ticketing cost being charged to organisers
  • James Martin to advertise concert in Valley View
- **58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Inc. memorial in Queens Park**
  Ev Reynolds provided a handout with details of the memorial tablet and unveiling ceremony, which will be held on Saturday, 8 October. Council’s Operations department will be assisting in preparing the site for the tablet installation, including garden beds, footings etc.
  The Battalion request Council’s support with invitations, programs, seating, MC, advertising, audio and catering.
  Cameo Memorials, who are constructing the tablet, have generously covered the cost of increasing the size of the memorial from what was originally planned, to the value of around $6,000.

  **ACTIONS:**
  - Troy Watson to liaise with Ev Reynolds around event requirements.
  - Troy Watson to arrange letter of thanks to Cameo Memorials, to be signed by committee chair Cr Chantry.

- **Queens Park Memorial Wall**
  Gilbert Richardson provided a copy of the names to be printed on the wall and requested feedback from the committee within two weeks.
  Judy Maddigan suggested including clarification that the list is of service men from the City of Essendon as per the municipal boundaries in 1914. The list was sourced from the Australian War Memorial Honour Roll. Judy also suggested leaving some space for any names that may have been inadvertently missed. Would need to determine how names might be added after the wall has been installed.

  **ACTION:** Committee members to provide comments on list of names by 30 June 2016.

  It was agreed that Council’s Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee budget for 2016/17 would be spent on supporting the unveiling events for the 58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Inc. memorial and the Queens Park Memorial Wall.

8. **Other Business**

8.1 **Ideas from resident – ceremonies at Victory Park and Queens Park**
  Gilbert Richardson advised that suggestions had been made by an Ascot Vale resident for the Cenotaphs in Queens Park, Moonee Ponds and Victory Park, Ascot Vale, including:
  - Planting of poppies and rosemary
  - The installation of small white crosses, as were previously featured in Victory Park
  The committee agreed the installation of crosses was not supported, as it was believed the previous crosses in Victory Park had been stolen in the 1970s.
  The planting of poppies and rosemary will be referred to Council’s Urban Design and Parks and Gardens teams, for consideration in reference to the master plans for the parks.

  **ACTION:** Gilbert Richardson to pass planting suggestion on to Urban Design / Parks and Gardens.

8.2 **Western Front tour – Bob Prewett**
  Ev Reynolds advised that Major Bob Prewett, Vice President of the 58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Inc., will be departing for his trip to France to visit battle sites along the Western Front on 15 July. This will include a visit to Fromelles, where he will present a gift (framed photograph) on behalf of the Anzac Centenary Community Advisory Committee.

8.3 **Community History Awards**
Troy Watson advised that entries for the Victorian Community History Awards 2016 are now open.

**ACTION:** Troy Watson to submit entry for Anzac Street Signs project under the Historical Interpretation Award category.

8.4 **Moonee Ponds Memorial Streets - From Community to Country**

The committee agreed that it does not support the Moonee Ponds Memorial Streets - From Community to Country project (as per presentation - item 3.) The project outcomes are considered to be already delivered through a number of Council and Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee programs and events.

**ACTION:** Gilbert Richardson to advise Sankar Nadeson that support will not be provided for the Moonee Ponds Memorial Streets - From Community to Country project.

8.5 **Missing Crosses**

**ACTION:** Judy Maddigan to follow up with Keilor East RSL regarding missing crosses.

9. **Date of next meeting**

Meeting schedule for 2016:
- Monday, 12 September, 6pm-8pm
- Monday, 5 December, 6pm-8pm

The meeting closed at 8.05pm