Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee

Minutes

Meeting #8

Monday, 9 November 2015 at 6pm
Council Chambers, Moonee Valley Civic Centre
9 Kellaway Avenue, Moonee Ponds

Attendees

Cr Jan Chantry Chairperson – Buckley Ward
Cr Jim Cusack (Sub chair) – Myrnong Ward
Cr Shirley Cornish (Sub chair) – Rose Hill Ward
Bill Laker President, Keilor East RSL
Bob Chalmers President Essendon Historical Society
Elaine Brogan Friends of Sandy
Everett Reynolds 58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Ltd
John Hills Essendon Historical Society
Judy Maddigan Local Historian
James Martin Acting Manager, Communications & Corporate Planning
Patricia Keenan Acting Manager Arts and Culture, MVCC
Alana Stevens Acting EA Environment and Lifestyle (minute taker)

Invited guest

Susan Deprost Create Mosaic

Apologies

Brett Luxford Director Environment and Lifestyle, MVCC
Mark Hammet Manager Parks and Gardens
Ange Kenos Essendon RSL Sub Branch
Barry Gough Former Mayor City of Essendon
Gavin Comport General Manger, Keilor East RSL
Jane Canaway 2014 Moonee Valley Citizen of the Year / Freelance Journalist and Editor
Yvonne Kernan 2013 Moonee Valley Citizen of the Year
Order of Business

Welcome
Meeting opened at 5.59pm.
Chair Cr Jan Chantry welcomed all attendees to the meeting, introducing new member Cr Shirley Cornish and invited guest Susan Deprost.
Cr Chantry acknowledged the contribution of committee member Trevor Sinclair, who sadly passed away last month. A minute’s silence was held by the committee to honour Trevor’s memory. Judy Maddigan moved that Cr Chantry write to Trevor’s widow Morag on behalf of the committee. Elaine Brogan seconded the motion.

**ACTION:** On behalf of chair Cr Chantry, Alana Stevens to prepare letter to Morag Sinclair.

Apologies
Noted as per page 1.

1. Confirmation of Previous Minutes
   Moved by Elaine Brogan seconded by Bob Chalmers that the Minutes of the Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee (#7) held on Monday, 21 September 2015 be confirmed with no changes.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
   Nil.

3. Actions arising from previous minutes
   3.1 Corps of Commissionaires Association Victoria mosaic project
   Susan Deprost provided some background as to her interest and involvement in Anzac Centenary commemorations. Susan is a local resident, a school teacher and mosaic artist. Susan’s grandfather John Henry Stevens, an Essendon resident, was in the 58th Battalion. Her four great uncles from New Zealand also fought in France during WW1.
   Susan will be visiting France in July 2016, for the 100th Anniversary of Fromelles. She questioned whether Council would like to offer any items to take with her for the commemoration. Cr Chantry agreed that Council would like to send something, and advised that the committee would discuss this.
   Susan presented her idea for a mosaic piece commemorating the 58th Battalion. The committee agreed that quite a bit has been done already in commemoration of the 58th Battalion, and they would prefer to see something acknowledging some of the other battalions and groups.
   It was asked whether a mosaic project could be incorporated into the Essendon Historical Society memorial wall project in Queens Park. Judy Maddigan advised that there wouldn’t be space on the wall.
   It was suggested that a subcommittee be formed, to come together and decide what a new project may look like.
Cr Chantry thanked Susan for attending, and Susan departed the meeting at 6.26pm.

The committee agreed that their current focus should be on progressing existing projects. It was determined that a subcommittee would not be required, however the group would remain open to the possibility of a new project sometime down the track.

**ACTIONS:**

- *On behalf of chair Cr Chantry, Alana Stevens to prepare letter to Susan Deprost to thank her for her time and advise that the committee will not proceed with a mosaic project at the current time.*
- *Include item on agenda for next meeting to discuss item/s to send to Fromelle in 2016 on behalf of Council.*

3.2 **Heritage plaques on homes**

Barry Gough was not present to provide an update on this project. Cr Jim Cusack advised that he would contact Barry to find out more about what was envisaged.

While on the subject of plaques, Judy Maddigan raised that the writing on the ‘Rosemary’ plaque at Victory Park was too small.

**ACTION:** Alana Stevens for enquire as to who struck the plaque.

3.3 **Street signs in Ascot Vale**

James Martin presented three possible options for the signs. The committee agreed that option three was preferred. It was requested that the signs include additional text to say “The Centenary of ANZAC 2015”.

Elaine Brogan questioned how long the biographical information would remain on Council’s website, as the signs would be in place well into the future. James advised that the information would stay up on the website as long as required.

It was agreed that Jacka Street in Essendon refers to Captain Albert Jacka 1893-1932.

It was suggested that the signs be launched in time for ANZAC Day 2016 – perhaps with an event in the week prior. Judy Maddigan suggested that for the launch, Essendon Historical Society could possibly arrange a walking tour of the sign locations, perhaps with an afternoon tea to follow.

**ACTIONS:**

- *James to email text for signs to committee members (via Alana Stevens) for checking before signs go to print*
- *James to arrange for a map to be developed of where the signs will go*
- *James to promote new signs via a media release and other promotions*

4. **Search for missing cannon**

James Martin advised that a media release has been sent out, however with no accompanying image, the story had not yet run.

Elaine Brogan suggested that a similar cannon was located in Sunbury. Chair Cr Chantry agreed to look through her dad’s books for a possible image. James advised that he will revisit
this and see what he can find. James also advised he could possibly run a story in Valley View about the missing cannon.

Cr Cusack requested that discussion be held at a future meeting about how we can pull together the story of all the activities of the committee.

Judy Maddigan questioned where the ANZAC storyboards (launched at ANZAC Day 2015) had gotten to.

**ACTIONS:**
- James Martin to revisit search for image to provide local papers for the missing cannon story.
- Alana Stevens to include item on agenda for next meeting: Pulling together the story of the Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee.
- Trish Keenan to investigate the whereabouts of the ANZAC storyboards.

5. **Event / project status updates**

Committee provided updates on the Summary of events and activities planned and held document:

- Bill Laker advised that today (9 November) around 600 students had attended three Remembrance Day services held at Keilor East RSL. This included planting poppies for Wednesday’s (11 November) Remembrance Day Commemoration Ceremony.
- Judy Maddigan advised that a joint concert featuring Essendon Symphony Orchestra, Essendon Choral Society and Moonee Ponds Brass is scheduled for September 2016. This will end the concert series.
- Elaine Brogan advised that in addition to the information contained in the summary document regarding the Friends of Sandy memorial, this project would also include a memorial panel and a life size steel framed horse. The timeframe for this is still to be determined. The Sandy history booklet will be completed for St Margret’s school in April 2016.
- Ev Reynolds advised that the 58th Battalion memorial tablet would be unveiled on Saturday, 8 October 2016 in Queens Park. The Battalion are considering asking Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove or Major-General Kevin Cooke (rtd) to officiate.
- Ev Reynolds advised that Major General Mike O’Brien is unavailable to be guest speaker at the 2016 Pompey Elliot memorial service, as he will be in France at the time. The Battalion are now considering asking Ted Baillieu to be guest speaker.
- Bill Laker and Elaine Brogan advised that Bill would become signatory of The Boulevard project, after the passing of Trevor Sinclair. The group will meet with Council’s grants officer Nina in preparation for again applying for funding from Council. Cr Chantry suggested that Bill make contact with James Martin, for advice on wording in their funding application.
- Judy Maddigan advised that she recently met with Brett Luxford regarding the Essendon Historical Society’s memorial wall project for Queens Park.

**ACTIONS:**
- Alana Stevens to update summary document with information provided.
6. Other Business

6.1 Terms of reference and membership

Chair Cr Chantry advised that the Terms of Reference and memberships for the committee were due to be renewed by 27 January 2016.

It was agreed that both the Terms of Reference and memberships should be extended to the end of the Anzac Centenary.

**ACTION:** Report to be prepared for December Ordinary Meeting of Council, seeking renewal of Terms of Reference and memberships.

6.2 Final event for Anzac Centenary

It was briefly discussed that an event should be held to mark the 100 year anniversary of the end of WW1 in November 2018.

6.3 Memorabilia items

Elaine Brogan questioned what happens to memorabilia items presented to or created by Council, for example a Federation flag she had noticed in an old newspaper article. It was suggested that perhaps the flag had been presented to a group or organisation by Council.

7. Date of next meeting

Monday, 8 February 2015 at 6pm

The meeting closed 7.33 pm