Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee

Minutes

held Monday, 20 March 2017 at 6.00pm in the Committee Room at Moonee Valley City Centre, 9 Kellaway Ave, Moonee Ponds

Attendees

Cr Samantha Byrne Chair
Bill Laker President, Keilor East RSL
Bob Chalmers President, Essendon Historical Society
Elaine Brogan Friends of Sandy
Everett (Ev) Reynolds 58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Ltd.
John Hills Essendon Historical Society
Judy Maddigan Local Historian

Council officers

Jim Karabinis Manager, Leisure
Patricia Keenan Coordinator, Arts & Culture
Craig Medcalf Manager, Operations
Maryanne Mocnik Executive Assistant, P&D (Minute taker)

Apologies

Mayor, Cr Andrea Surace MVCC
Cr Jim Cusack MVCC
Barry Gough Former Mayor, City of Essendon
Order of Business

Welcome
Meeting opened at 5.58pm.
The Chairperson, Cr Samantha Byrne welcomed all attendees to the meeting and recited ‘Welcome to Country’.
In preparation of meeting, Cr Bryne spoke with Cr Cusack (apology) with regards to this evening’s meeting.

Apologies
Noted as above.

1. Confirmation of Previous Minutes
   The Committee accepted the previous minutes held on 6 February 2017 (#13) with amendments as raised by J Maddigan.
   Moved by J Maddigan and seconded by E Brogan.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
   Nil.

3. Items (Key Actions arising from events and activities planned)
   3.1 Heinze Reserve Memorial
       Bill Laker and Judy Maddigan
       J Maddigan provided to Venta Slizys (Coordinator Landscape & Urban Design) and attended an onsite meeting with B Laker to determine location. Landscaping and replanting to occur with a draft layout to be provided. Information to be viewed by sub-committee when received. Message walls to be in the SE corner. Wording also provided to V Slizys.
       It was agreed to remove Elaine Brogan as a contact for this item.

   3.2 Friends of Sandy memorial
       Elaine Brogan
       Still being developed with an unveiling scheduled for October for the 100 year anniversary of the Battle of Beersheba. Had hoped for May 2017 however has not been possible. Timelines delayed due to multiple State Government Department levels being involved.
       Memorial to the horses proposed for Randall St, Maribyrnong with community centre next door and public viewing accessible with parking available.
       Maribyrnong City Council is supportive however the site is not their land (Department of Defence). Communicating with Bill Shorten MP’s office for assistance.
3.3 Queens Park Memorial Wall

John Hills and Judy Maddigan

MVCC staff assisting with key designs to be completed and unveiled on the Sunday prior to Anzac Day, i.e. 23 April 2017.

Construction has commenced on the wall and base poured. Jess working with J Maddigan regarding the names enquired about additional space being made available should additional families of returned serviceman come forward.

Essendon Historical Society members to be invited.

A great project and nearing the end with great research work assisted by J Hills.

4. General Business

4.1 Rosie Statue Update

C Medcalf advised that the new replacement statue has been installed with additional security measures provided during installation with up-lighting included as well.

Media release completed with no anticipated official unveiling proposed. Investigations continuing with the proposal to increase the size of the statue’s plaque.

5. Other Business

5.1 Pompey Elliot Luncheon 2017

Scheduled for Friday 12 May 2017 at Keilor East RSL. Request tabled to advertise the luncheon on Council’s website.

Action: J Karabinis to follow-up and action.

The luncheon has a dual theme, incorporating Lt. Rupert Vance Moon VC. Place mats have been developed which include a picture of Moon with appropriate approvals to do so received. Event culminates 100 years to the day when he received his VC. His daughter and son expected to be in attendance.

Action: Information to be provided to J Maddigan to advise her contact.

Action: J Karabinis/P Keenan to look at providing assistance for invite preparation and mail out proposed for 1-14 April.

Trying to identify all the relatives who served with William Scurry and Alfred ‘Bunty’ Lawrence who has identified connections to Cr Lawrence. Both Scurry and ‘Bunty’ were locals having attended Ascot Vale State School.

J Maddigan displayed a book now on sale titled ‘Scurry: the man who got them off Gallipoli’ by A J McAleer.
5.2 Keilor East RSL
Marching and service being held on 23 April at 10.30am with invites sent. Being led by the ‘Rats of Tobruk’ and Creswick Light Horse Troop with everyone welcome.

Anzac Day ceremony being held on 25 April.

5.3 Leisure Department
Jim Karabinis introduced himself as new Manager for the new formed Department and is the responsible officer for this Committee moving forward.

5.4 Library displays
‘Writing the War’ exhibition being displayed across various venues in Victoria with guest speakers. Items contributed by Committee member groups with Avondale Heights Library & Learning Centre one of 12 library services chosen to host from April to May 2017.

In addition, other Library events include:
- ‘Essendon Rifles relaunch’ at Niddrie Library being hosted by J Maddigan on Thursday 30 March at 6pm; and
- ‘Glenn McFarlane – The Fair Dinkums’ at Sam Merrifield on Wednesday 19 April at 7pm.

5.5 Essendon RSL
C Medcalf raised the correspondence received from Ange Kenos Essendon RSL in relation to Council’s consent to erect a plaque commemorating Izzy Smith VC in Queens Park.

Committee advised it had declined previously this request indicating it was outside the Masterplan for Queens Park. Victory Park was nominated as a possible location. Additionally, concerns expressed that Izzy Smith VC was a non-resident.

**Action:** C Medcalf to review previous minutes and as it appears to be overlooked, a formal response to be provided.

4.6 End of Centenary Year activity
Elaine Brogan spoke with the Mayor at the recent Moonee Valley Festival about an activity. Date to be scheduled and confirmation about what can or cannot be done. Previous ‘end of war’ activity was the provision of a concert at the Town Hall for returned soldiers and families. Not budgeted for by Council however funding available from Federal Government.

**Action:** E Brogan to follow-up regarding possible funding and provide update at next meeting.

**Action:** J Maddigan to provide information found to members.
J Maddigan raised the matter of thinking about other battalion connections including Strathmore. Additional discussion included the fact that the 6th Battalion, The Royal Melbourne Regiment has recently wound up its offices at the Vic Market.

6. Close of Meeting / Next Meeting
   The meeting closed at 6.50pm.
   Next meeting scheduled Monday 5 June 2017, 6 – 8pm.

7. Future meeting dates
   Monday 11 September 2017, 6 – 8 pm
   Monday 20 November 2017, 6 – 8pm

Meeting close.