Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee

Minutes

Monday, 5 February 2018 at 6.00pm in the Myrnong Room at Moonee Valley City Centre, 9 Kellaway Ave, Moonee Ponds

Attendees
- Cr Andrea Surace, Chair – Rosehill Ward
- Cr Samantha Byrne (Deputy Mayor), (Sub-Chair) – Rosehill Ward
- Cr Jim Cusack, (Sub-Chair) – Myrnong Ward
- 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

Council Officers
- Jim Karabinis, Manager Leisure
- Patricia Keenan, Senior Coordinator Performing & Visual Arts
- Russell Beer, Coordinator Horticulture & Public Space Services

Apologies
- Dino De Melis, Manager Operations
- Barry Gough, Former Mayor City of Essendon
- Judy Maddigan, Local Historian
- Jackie Di Giorgio, Events Officer (minute taker)

Minutes were recorded on a transcriber
Order of Business

Welcome
Cr Surace opened meeting at 6.00pm

Apologies
Noted as above.

1. Confirmation of Previous Minutes
   The Committee accepted the previous minutes held on 20 November 2017 (#17).

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
   Nil.

3. Items (Key actions arising from events and activities planned)
   3.1 Update on proposed end of Centenary year activity
   Patricia Keenan updated the Committee on discussions held at the Sub-Committee meeting on 31 January 2018. The Sub Committee agreed that they should apply for the Armistice Centenary Grant Program by way of an Expression of Interest, which would be used to publish a commemorative booklet showing photos of various events that have been held to commemorate the ANZAC Centenary over the past 4 years.

   The intention of the booklet is that it be launched at a special event to be held on 11 November 2018, with the booklet being distributed to schools, RSLs, Libraries and other stakeholders.

   A draft grant submission had been prepared and forwarded to the sub-committee members for their feedback.

   As the Chairperson of this committee, Cr Andrea Surace has signed the covering letter to the Expression of Interest, giving support.

   3.2 Update on Armistice Centenary Grant for Moonee Valley City Council.
   Refer 3.1

   **Ev Reynolds**
   Ev noted that the 58th/32nd Battalion have also applied for the Armistice Centenary Grant which is planned to be used for 2 metal bench seats.
The original plan of installing the bench seats in Queens Park have been denied, as they do not meet the criteria for the Queens Park Masterplan, with second choice being the Maribyrnong River area near the memorials (from Poyntons Nursery to the rowing club). This will also be subject to the Maribyrnong Masterplan.

Both Ev and Elaine noted that the memorial area along the Maribyrnong was in disrepair and needed major cleanup.

It was noted by Patricia that it is possible the area will not be cleaned or rejuvenated in time for the seating to be installed.

Ev preferred the bench seating to be located near the 58th/32nd memorial in Queens Park (near the canons) as the area was regularly used by families of those that served in the Battalion and it would be nice to sit and reflect.

Ev did mention that if no suitable area could be found for the bench seats within Moonee Valley, then he would have to locate them outside of the municipality, as there has been interest in other areas.

It is expected that the bench seats will

Elaine asked two questions:

- Who owns the river bank where the plaques are situated?
  Jim Karabinis answered – Moonee Valley own from the top of the river bank to the base of the river.

- Why the bench seats do not fit in the Queens Park Masterplan – what can we do or what can be done to change that?
  Jim Karabinis answered that there are a considerable number of memorials in Queens Park and there is a need for balance as the park is used by residents and visitors.

**ACTION**

On the advice of the Committee, Jim Karabinis will pursue further investigation to see if Queens Park could be reconsidered.

---

### 3.3 Rejuvenation of Avenue of Honour on Heinze Reserve

**Judy Maddigan**

Judy advised the committee that the panels were looking to be completed in January, due to some delays.

Ev advised that he sent through a document to Judy and Council regarding the information listed on the plaques. He had the plaques reviewed by a panel, who have advised that there are certain inaccuracies listed on the
plaques that break military protocol, and that there could be a possibility of an appeal if they are unveiled with this information.

Bill advised that the plaques were an East Keilor RSL project, and the original intention of the plaques was to give a brief history on our local heroes. He felt that all the feedback from various members was moving the plaques away from their original intention.

As a solution, Judy will send the panels to Veterans Affairs for their feedback to ensure protocol is followed. The panels will then be edited based on feedback from all parties.

Judy also provided the committee with an opportunity to review the Laurie Larmer booklet, created from a grant that she had received to produce the booklet.

3.4 VC Commemorative plaque for Issy Smith

Russell Beer

Russel advised that the Issy Smith plaque has been installed at Victory Park. Ange Kenos has been notified of this installation. Council is in the process of touching base with Ange to seek his direction to arrange a commemoration ceremony.

3.5 58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Ltd – Seat update

Ev Reynolds

Ev provided an attachment to the committee titled Ev Reynolds Report (attached).

Ev has been speaking with Arthur Pedis about the possibility of the gardening team creating a Remembrance garden area in the commemorative corner dedicated to the 58th in Queens Park. Arthur had mentioned planting new flowers and adding stepping stones.

Ev also raised the option of erecting the Remembrance Seat discussed at prior meetings next to the monument on the Maribyrnong, across of Aberfeldie Park. He advised that the current monument is in bad condition and will need replacing, and that this will fit in nicely with the seat. He also noted that there is a possibility of applying for an Armistice Grant of up to $50,000 to support this.

Cr Cusack agreed that this was a fantastic idea, and would like to have Council Officers work with Ev on the creation of the grant application to ensure it incorporated all the costs required.

**Action:** Jim Karabinis to review the master plan an raise this idea in a meeting with other Council Officers, and report back to Ev.

**Action:** Jim Karabinis to arrange meeting with Ev and appropriate Council Officer to assist with application of Armistice Grant
3.6 Potential upcoming projects

Ev Reynolds

Ev advised that the Colours had been successfully moved outside Council Chambers, and the process was beginning to have a plaque mounted close by the cabinets explaining the meaning and history of the Colours. When the Book of Remembrance is returned, it will also be displayed in this cabinet with the Colours. Ev will also be producing a booklet to display near the Colours, explaining the history.

3.7 Honouring Bill Scurry

Barry Gough

Barry was successful in finding out the address of Bill Scurry, 70 Middle Street.

Barry also investigated the small section of West Street that has been closed off. As the houses in the area face another street, there is the opportunity to change this part to Scurry Court, without the hassle of re-numbering for residents.

Barry’s suggestion were that a plaque could be erected near the place that was formally 70 Middle Street and/or re-name the small section of West Street ‘Scurry Court’.

Cr Cusack advised that the re-naming of the street is quite an extensive process and a formal application would need to be made to Council.

Ev also advised that it would be important to write to the Scurry Family to update them on this potential project.

**Action:** Barry to work with Council Officers on creating an application for the street name change

**Action:** Ev to provide details of Scurry Family to Council (Jim Karabinis or Patricia Keenan) to make contact when a decision is made regarding the honouring of Bill Scurry.

3.8 Villers-Bretonneux – presentation from Council

Ev Reynolds

Ev updated the committee on the battalion’s plans for the presentation at Villers-Bretonneux.

Jim Karabinis advised that Bryan Lancaster will also be attending this ceremony in a personal capacity.

It was suggested that Bryan might like to make a presentation on behalf of Council.
Action: Jim Karabinis will discuss Council making a presentation at Villers-Bretonneux with Bryan and report back to the committee.

3.9 Meeting dates for 2018

Jim Karabinis

Committee agreed to follow a similar format as previous years for the meetings (Mondays in the Civic Centre). Suggested dates below to be confirmed by the committee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting no.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#18</td>
<td>Monday, 5 February</td>
<td>6pm-8pm</td>
<td>Committee Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#19</td>
<td>Monday, 19 March</td>
<td>6pm-8pm</td>
<td>Committee Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#20</td>
<td>Monday, 4 June</td>
<td>6pm-8pm</td>
<td>Committee Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#21</td>
<td>Monday, 10 September</td>
<td>6pm-8pm</td>
<td>Committee Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#22</td>
<td>Monday, 19 November</td>
<td>6pm-8pm</td>
<td>Committee Room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. General Business

N/A

5. Close of Meeting / Next Meeting

Cr Surace closed the meeting at 7.00PM

6. Future Meeting date

Monday, 5 February 2018