



CITY OF VINCENT

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN WORKING GROUP (RAPWG)

12 February 2018 at 6.00pm

Venue: Committee Room
City of Vincent Administration and Civic Centre

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Attendees:

City of Vincent Councillors

Cr Dan Loden (Co-Chair)
Cr Joshua Topelberg

City of Vincent Officers

Michael Quirk – Director Community Engagement (MQ)
Sandra Watson – Manager Community Partnerships (SW)
Gayatrii Surendorff – Community Partner (GS)

Community Representatives

Maria McAtackney (MM)
Marilyn Lyford (ML)
Sarah Janali (SJ)
Kathy Kickett (KK)

1. **Welcome / Declaration of Opening** – Acknowledgement to Country

Councillor Loden opened the meeting at 6.07pm and delivered Acknowledgement of Country on behalf of the Working Group.

2. **Apologies**

Cr Roslyn Harley (Co-Chair)
Phillip Walley-Stack – Community Representative

3. **Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

Minutes from last meeting held on 1 May 2017 approved as a true and correct record.

4. **Business**

4.1 Introduction of RAPWG Members

Members of the group introduced themselves to each other and discussed their experience working with the Aboriginal community in and around the City of Vincent.

4.2 Terms of Reference Update, RAPWG Meeting Rules and Meeting Dates/Times

- Amended Terms of Reference and Meeting Rules presented and Community Representatives reminded that the City's Code of Conduct applies.
- The Group agreed to hold meetings on Monday evenings at 6pm. Meetings will generally be held every two months although this may change where projects or tasks require more immediate attention. Also, a Saturday workshop may be held when progressing the 'Innovate' RAP.

ACTION: Code of Conduct link to be emailed along with the Meeting Minutes.

4.3 'Reflect' Reconciliation Action Plan Update

GS updated the Group on numerous RAP initiatives that have been, or will be implemented:

Progressing

- EOI's will soon open for Aboriginal artists interested in exhibiting their work in the LightBox Laneway Gallery – this exhibition will run over Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week.
- Aboriginal artists are encouraged to apply for the City's traffic light box painting project.
- The City has begun conversations with Noongar Radio to produce a mural at the Noongar Radio site. MQ explained the City was focused on producing public art and moving away from purchasing physical art pieces.
- The City is currently investigating an online resource appropriate to include significant sites listed by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage onto the City's website.
- A database of Aboriginal Elders, people, community groups and organisations is currently being collated to ensure the City further strengthens its relationship with the Aboriginal community. MM suggested referring to the RUAH Aboriginal Business Directory for further contact details.
- The City is looking to develop a list of Elders who can perform Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony within the City of Vincent. GS requested support from the RAPWG on this matter.
- GS discussed the City's Name the Lanes Project and requested feedback from the group regarding the fifteen Noongar names put forward by community members. The proposed Noongar words have been approved by Landgate, the Whadjuk Working Party and the Department of Aboriginal Affairs. MM advised the Group she would ask her colleagues about the spelling and meaning of each word and report the information back to the City. Cr Loden commented that some names were similar and should not be used for lanes in close proximity.
- The City wishes to increase content within the Local History Centre in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, tradition and culture. Cr Topelberg suggested a call out for local Noongar people to become involved.
- The City's Welcome to Country Policy will be reviewed in 2018. Cr Topelberg noted that the Policy should first be reviewed by Council.
- The City will purchase and fly the Torres Strait Islander flag during NAIDOC Week.

Completed

- The City undertook an internal survey of City staff in December 2017 to gain an understanding of the level of knowledge staff have of Aboriginal culture, tradition and protocols.
- The City has purchased a number of Noongar library books which are now available for loan.
- Awareness of the significance of Acknowledgment of Country and Welcome to Country will be raised at the Close the Gap Morning Tea on 15 March for City staff, as well as during future HR inductions and cultural awareness training.

ACTIONS:

- 1) MM to provide feedback on Noongar words for Name the Lanes Project.
- 2) RAPWG members to provide a list of Noongar Elders for Welcome to Country Ceremony.
- 3) RAPWG to provide a list of Aboriginal businesses, groups and individuals the City can engage with for activities and events
- 4) GS to distribute 'Reflect' RAP actions status report.

4.4 Specific Reconciliation Initiatives 2017/18

GS updated the group on specific RAP Initiatives for 2018:

- Close the Gap Day will see the City hold an internal morning tea with artwork produced by Jade Dolman and catering provided by Kuditij Café. The City is also sponsoring a Close the Gap event organised by the Aboriginal Health Council of WA on 24 March at Birdwood Square.
- The City will participate in the annual Reconciliation Street Banner Project in 2018 and is investigating the possibility of flying the banners during NAIDOC Week as well.
- Jade Dolman is scheduled to hold two free community art sessions during NAIDOC Week.
- The City will take part in the NAIDOC School initiatives in 2018 that will see all schools within the City having the opportunity to take part in story/essay and colouring in competitions.
- NAIDOC Week and Reconciliation Week will be celebrated with events and activities. Once planning is underway for these celebrations, GS will update the RAPWG.
- Cr Loden requested an update in regards to development of an 'Innovate' RAP. MQ advised that although the City had begun to further develop their relationships with the Aboriginal community, there was still work to be done in this space. SJ commented that a 'gap' year was possible to continue working on the actions of the current 'Reflect' RAP. MQ suggested the RAPWG discuss the matter further at the next meeting after being provided with a detailed RAP tracking document.
- The City seeks to include an Acknowledgement of Country on staff email signatures. Feedback from the RAPWG was requested by GS.
- City of Vincent Rangers and Nyoongar Outreach Services meet and greet lunch and job swapping to further develop their working relationship.

ACTIONS:

- 1) GS to provide the RAPWG with 'Reflect' RAP.
- 2) RAPWG to provide feedback to GS in regards to wording for Acknowledgement of Country on City email signature.

4.5 Other Business

- MM offered to investigate how many Aboriginal people are currently living within the City. She believes that Gordon Cole may be able to support her in getting accurate statistics.
- MM proposed that although there may not be many Aboriginal people living within the City that Aboriginal people from other local government areas be included in community engagement.
- MQ discussed the City's intention to create positions for Aboriginal staff within the Rangers Team.
- MQ updated the group regarding the Banks Reserve Master Plan. The Reserve is located in Mount Lawley along the Swan River on significant Aboriginal land. Council has requested that RAPWG members be invited to join the Project Working Group.

ACTION: RAPWG representative to be nominated to join the Banks Reserve Master Plan Working Group.

5. **Close / Next Meeting**

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.36pm. Next meeting to be held on Monday, 26 March 2018.

Signed _____
Councillor Dan Loden (Co-Chair)

Date this _____ day of _____ 2018

Summary of Actions	Date
RAPWG to provide GS with a list of Noongar Elders for Welcome to Country Ceremonies held within the City.	26 February 2018
RAPWG to provide GS with a list of Aboriginal businesses, groups and individuals the City can engage with for activities and events.	26 February 2018
MM to provide GS with spelling and meaning of Noongar words for the Name the Lane Project.	26 March 2018
GS to provide the RAPWG with 'Reflect' RAP.	February 2018
RAPWG to provide feedback to GS in regards to wording for Acknowledgement of Country statement on City email signatures.	26 February 2018
GS to distribute 'Reflect' RAP Actions status report.	February 2018
Code of Conduct will be emailed to RAPWG along with the Meeting Minutes.	February 2018
RAPWG representative to be nominated to join the Banks Reserve Master Plan Working Group.	February 2018