



**MINUTES FOR GLEN EIRA
ARTS AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday 21 March 2023
5pm-6pm**

Rippon Lea Room - Glen Eira Town Hall

Purpose:

To assist and advise Council regarding key issues relating to arts and culture; to contribute views on the cultural needs of the community; and to collaborate on strategies to encourage participation in the cultural life of Glen Eira.

Assembly of Councillors Record

The meeting commenced at 5:13pm with an Acknowledgement of Country.

Present:

<i>Councillors:</i>	Cr Margaret Esakoff (Chair) Cr Sam Parasol Cr Li Zhang	Glen Eira Councillor Committee Member Glen Eira Councillor Committee Member Glen Eira Councillor Committee Member
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<i>Community Representatives:</i>	Jytte Holmqvist Louis Balis Kathleen Plastow	Community Committee Member Community Committee Member Community Committee Member
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<i>Council Staff:</i>	Mark Saunders Deidre Pellizzer Tori Hayat Siân Clark	Director Community Wellbeing Manager Libraries, Arts & Culture Team Leader Arts & Culture Support Officer Libraries, Arts & Culture
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1. Apologies:	Cr Anne-Marie Cade	Glen Eira Councillor Committee Member
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2. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

3. Action Items Update from last Committee Meeting

Title/Item	Action	Update	Responsible Officer	Active/ Closed
Arts and Culture Marketing Strategies (Action Item 1 at the last Committee Meeting)	Officers will also include use of the Council branded trailer when it becomes available.	Trailer will be ready in approximately four weeks.	Tori Hayat	Active
Feedback on draft Placemaking Framework (Item 5.1 at the last Committee Meeting)	Officers will provide the 'Have Your Say' website link for feedback on the Placemaking Framework to all Committee members.	Email sent with relevant link on the same evening as the last Committee meeting.	Alexandra McLennan	Closed
Forward Meeting Schedule (Item 7 at the last Committee Meeting)	Committee Meeting Schedule for 2023 is to be confirmed.	Proposed meeting dates have been set for discussion in Item 5.6 of this meeting.	Mark Saunders	Active

Note: Any items still active to be carried over to next meeting

4. Summary of meeting minutes from previous meeting

At the Advisory Committee Meeting held on 17 November 2022, the following items were addressed:

- Officers presented Council's draft *Placemaking Framework* and invited feedback from the Committee.
- Members of the Committee received the presentation positively and expressed interest in providing feedback individually through the 'Have Your Say' portal.
- Officers provided an Events Update on Diwali 2022, sharing the success and some of the challenges presented by the event.
- Officers provided an Events Update on Carols in the Gardens 2022, outlining some of the details of the event to come.

Noted by the Committee.

5. Items for Discussion:

5.1 Recent Events Update

Carols in the Gardens – Friday 16 December 2022, 6pm-9pm

Carols in the Gardens was held at Rippon Lea Estate for the second year running and attracted over 4,500 patrons. Rob Mills and Lucy Durack hosted the night and were supported by a diverse line-up of entertainers including Alma Zygier, Pirritu and the Australian Children's Choir, as well as local musicians from the Invictus Quartet and the Compass Church Band. The youngest patrons were treated to a stage show by Bluey and a surprise visit by Santa.

Survey feedback was positive with participants appreciating a free event, food on offer and the quality of the performers.

Committee members noted feedback that some community members were disappointed to miss out on bookings due to how quickly the event was booked. Officers have become aware of this issue in the post lockdown environment - bookings is addressed later in the meeting.

Holding the event at Rippon Lea again this year may not be possible at this stage. Officers will investigate an alternative location if required.

Action: *Officers will present a proposal for the 2023 Carols event, including location, at a future meeting of the Committee.*

Lighting of the Menorah – Tuesday 20 December 2022, 7.30pm-9.30pm

To celebrate the beginning of Chanukah festivities, Council collaborated with the Chabad of Glen Eira to welcome 120 visitors to the Glen Eira Town Hall to gather under the front Portico to enjoy traditional catering and roaming magicians, followed by welcoming speeches. Traditional music and dancing continued into the evening, as the Town Hall's giant Menorah was lit.

Following some feedback, the positioning of the sound system will be reviewed to minimise any possible disruptions to neighbouring properties.

Noted by the Committee.

Lunar New Year – Sunday 22 January 2023, 5pm-8pm

More than 450 visitors gathered at the Town Hall to celebrate the beginning of Lunar New Year – *Year of the Rabbit*. Performances included the Double Lucky Lion Dance, traditional live music by Serena Chang, a beautiful 'lantern' art installation by local artist Jenny Zhe Chang, as well as a runway show featuring the art and history of traditional Chinese fashion presented by Melbourne Hanfu Association.

Programming of the Lunar New Year event in 2024 will include suggestions from the Committee such as projecting the performances in an overflow area or outside, to ensure all attendees can enjoy the programs when crowded.

Noted by the Committee.

Under the Stars – Saturday 25 February 2023, 6pm-9pm

The much-loved annual *Under the Stars* live music event made a return after a three-year pandemic hiatus. An estimated 4,500 people braved the wet weather to enjoy entertainment by Tex Perkins and the Fat Rubber Band, Melbourne-based Mia Wray, local Bentleigh 'rising star' Meghna and DJ Jordie.

The new location in the park worked very well allowing more space and better sight lines for a larger audience. A large variety of food vendors served up a great selection of food, some selling out toward the end of the evening.

Survey feedback was positive as were comments from many participants to officers on the night. Everyone was particularly appreciative of having a local event in a lovely park that they could attend with friends and neighbours.

Noted by the Committee.

International Women's Day – Wednesday 8 March 2023, 5.15pm-9.30pm

International Women's Day, this year had more than 230 patrons attend a night of comedy at the Glen Eira Town Hall. Patrons were charged a nominal fee of \$10 per person which included a complimentary drink and small bite to eat. Pre-show entertainment included a walk around the Gallery and chat with friends whilst viewing the current exhibitions - *International Baccalaureate*

Visual Arts and Marley James Wright Rocks and Trees in Gallery Two. Patrons were then seated in the Auditorium to experience the sold-out Melbourne International Comedy Festival show – *Sunanda Loves Britney*: a glittery celebration of Britney Spears, which was well received by a positive and diverse audience.

Noted by the Committee.

5.2 Updated Events Schedule July–December 2023

Officers tabled the draft Events Schedule for Committee members to review and ask questions.

Action: *Officers will present the finalised schedule at a future Committee meeting for approval.*

5.3 Gallery Events

Officers are exploring innovative ways to activate the Gallery both during and outside of normal opening hours to:

- attract new visitors to the Gallery
- raise greater community awareness of the Gallery spaces
- create more of a ‘community arts hub’ environment in line with Principle Six of the *Community Vision 2040*.

The Gallery will remain open for civic events such as Citizenship Ceremonies which has already proven very successful, allowing attendees to wait in the relaxed open Gallery until proceedings start. A highlight this year was Paper Planet art installation by Polyglot Theatre during the January school holidays at a time when the Gallery has been closed in the past.

Committee Member Louis Balis raised the issue of the sound quality of the television used in the last exhibition. Officers will investigate this issue.

Noted by the Committee.

5.4 Event bookings

Officers have re-assessed the need for patrons to ‘book in’ for medium to large scale events with a capacity for over 150 people. For smaller events in buildings that have capacity limits the option of charging for bookings will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Action: *Officers will investigate the possibility of sending confirmation text messages through the booking system.*

5.5 Art Collection Donation Proposal

5.5.1 Donation of sculpture by local artist Jenny Zhe Chang.

Yum Cha with Healing Remedy – Peony I, 2022
Bronze

Jenny Zhe Chang is a local artist who has staged several exhibitions in the Council’s Gallery over the past ten years exploring her Chinese-Australian cultural identity and traditions. This small sculpture was displayed in Jenny Zhe Chang’s recent Gallery Two exhibition *Light with hope – Sharing*.

Aligned with Council’s Art Collection collecting theme:

4.3.4 (d) works by Glen Eira artists – works of quality by artists living or working or who have lived or worked in Glen Eira.



5.5.2 Donation by local resident of Boyd pottery piece.

David and Hermia Boyd
Bowl, ca. 1955
Earthenware

This piece of Australian pottery will enrich the Glen Eira City Council Art Collection and will complement the existing collection of Boyd pottery pieces. The donation will celebrate the Boyd family legacy, acknowledging their important contribution to Australian domestic pottery and our local artistic history.

Aligned with Council's Art Collection collecting theme:

4.3.4 (c) the Boyd family – works by members of the Boyd family will be collected where possible to commemorate the family's life in Murrumbidgee.



5.5.3 Donation by local artist of own ceramic piece.

Hedley Potts
Dude assessing a staircase, 2020-2021
Porcelaneous stoneware

Hedley Potts is a local artist with a career spanning 50 years working as a ceramicist. He works from a ceramic studio at Moorleigh Community Village, Bentleigh East. Hedley staged a solo exhibition in Council's Gallery in 2016 and has exhibited widely in Victoria. This work will enrich Council's collection of Australian ceramics.

Aligned with Council's Art Collection collecting theme:

4.3.4 (d) works by Glen Eira artists – works of quality by artists living or working or who have lived or worked in Glen Eira.



Recommendation:

The Committee recommends that Council accepts the donations from Jenny Zhe Chang, Inge Ruben, and Hedley Potts for inclusion in the Glen Eira City Council Art Collection and formally thanks the donors for their generous gifts.

Moved: Cr Esakoff Seconded: Cr Parasol

The MOTION was put and CARRIED unanimously.

5.6 Forward Meeting Schedule

Meetings will take place on Tuesday evenings usually from 5pm to 6pm. Officers will liaise with community members to accommodate members availability.

Action: *Forward dates will be confirmed at a future meeting.*

6. General Business

No general business raised.

7. Next Meeting

To be advised.

8. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 6:08 pm.

Running Recommendation List

For Reference: Recommendations adopted to date during this Advisory Committee term.

Note: This is a running table of the Council adopted recommendations for the duration of this current Advisory Committee to be ongoing at the end of this Agenda as a reference point for members.

Recommendation	Committee Meeting Date	Adopted (Y/N)	Confirmed at OCM Date
'Council accepts the donations from Judy Glick for inclusion in the Glen Eira City Council Art Collection and formally thanks Ms Glick for her generous gift'.	23 June 2022	Yes	9 August 2022
'Council endorses the Glen Eira Events and Festivals Schedule 2022-2023'.	25 August 2022	Yes	12 October 2022
'Council accepts the donations from Jenny Zhe Chang, Inge Ruben, and Hedley Potts for inclusion in the Glen Eira City Council Art Collection and formally thanks the donors for their generous gifts.'	21 March 2023		