



Multicultural Advisory Committee

22 November 2023

Marrickville Library Upstairs Learning Rooms

Minutes

Meeting commenced at 6:05pm and concluded 8:03pm

1. Present

Community members	Staff	Councillors
Amanda Cahill	Raphaella Karaiskakis	
Dina Petrakis	Caroline McLeod	
Elena Gianni	Simon Watts	
Marc Rerceretnam	Alisha Tianias	
Rosanna Barbero		
Sarah-Jane Riley		
Susan Kumagaya		
Tuong-Vi Pham		
Wael Sabri		
Yiana Roumeliotis		
Muskan Salhan (Guest Speaker)		
Satwinder Salhan (Guest Speaker)		
Haroon Kasim (Guest Speaker)		
Harjit Salhan (Guest Speaker)		



2. Chairperson:

Dina Petrakis (Acting Chair)

3. Acknowledgment of Country

Acting Chair welcomed members and provided an Acknowledgement to Country.

4. Apologies:

- Ernest Young
- Giladesi Namokoyi
- Osmond Chiu
- Vasili Maroulis

5. Disclosures of Interest:

There were no disclosures of interest.

6. Quorum (8 members):

A quorum was achieved.

7. Endorse previous meeting minutes:

Minutes for the 23 August 2023 meeting were endorsed.

8. Report on previous meeting actions (if required):

No actions from previous meeting minutes for the 23 August 2023 meeting as quorum was not achieved.

Discussion items

Agenda Item	Discussion summary	Proposed action (if required)	Action owner*	Date action to be finalised
<p>Inner West Anti-Racism Strategy update- Alisha Tianias and Simon Watts, IWC (draft survey and update papers attached to email)</p>	<p>Council staff provided an update on the Anti-Racism Strategy to the MAC. This included the survey and consultation/engagement processes that have commenced, the timeline of the survey, methodology used, and welcomed feedback from the MAC.</p>	<p>Council staff to advise MAC members on further or other consultation in relation to Anti-Racism Strategy.</p>	<p>Council Staff</p>	<p>Report at next meeting</p>
<p>Caste discrimination discussion -Dr Marc Rercerethnam</p>	<p>Guest speaker from Periyar Abedkar Thought Circle of Australia and three Sikh Dalit spokespersons provided a discussion on caste discrimination within Australia. Guest Speaker Haroon provided the MAC a notice of motion for Council to acknowledge caste discrimination.</p>	<p>Recommend that Council acknowledge and endorse the Notice of Motion for caste discrimination.</p> <p>The Committee advised that Periyar should liaise with Councillors regarding tabling this motion at Council.</p> <p>Council staff to ascertain whether caste discrimination</p>	<p>Council</p> <p>Council Staff</p>	<p>Report at next meeting</p>

Agenda Item	Discussion summary	Proposed action (if required)	Action owner*	Date action to be finalised
		could be included in the Anti-Racism Strategy survey.		
Commonwealth Government's Multicultural Framework Review- Osmond Chiu (IWC submission attached to email)	Caroline McLeod provided an update on Council's submission for the Multicultural Framework Review.			
Marrickville Town Hall Steering Committee- Giladesi Namokoyi (Kween)	No update provided as representative gave an apology.			
International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, 21 March 2024-All	Yiana Roumeliotis provided an update on previous events held for International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in partnership with Council and Inner West Multicultural Network and the MAC.	Council staff to ascertain budget allocation for this event within the next two weeks.	Council staff	Report at Inner West Multicultural Network meeting (13 December 2023)

Agenda Item	Discussion summary	Proposed action (if required)	Action owner*	Date action to be finalised
Inner West Multicultural Network update	Rosanna Barbero provided an update on the Inner West Multicultural Network. This included support programs and services needed across the Inner West community in response to trauma, which includes those from CALD or refugee and First Nations background.	Noted		
Israel/Palestine Conflict	<p>MAC members discussed Council's position and stance on the Israel/Palestine conflict. Mental health support services are needed in response to trauma at events occurring overseas.</p> <p>Caroline McLeod advised Council Officers are required to implement the resolutions of Council. Council McLeod to discuss with the team and Director regarding what actions or programs could be considered.</p>	<p>Recommended that the executive team provide an address/program to address the trauma within the community because of the conflict overseas and Voice result.</p> <p>Recommended that the MAC strongly oppose Council's motion last night to oppose a ceasefire.</p>	Council Staff	Report at next meeting

Agenda Item	Discussion summary	Proposed action (if required)	Action owner*	Date action to be finalised
MAC meeting dates (meeting attendance; schedule for 2024)	No dates selected.	Noted		
General business	<p>All present MAC members resigned from their membership in response to Council's position on the Israel/Palestine conflict.</p> <p>It was noted that the resignation was not in relation or a reflection of Inner West Council staff, but of the elected representatives.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Dina Petrakis will be writing a letter to formally resign.</p>		