



LGBTQ Working Group Date of meeting

Ashfield Level 5

Minutes May 15, 2023

Meeting commenced at 6.15pm and concluded 8pm

Present

Community members	Staff	Councillors
Ev Synnott	Sue Pym	
Beth Firipis	Mark Jones	
Ohni Blu		
Michael Beckett		
Dean Adams		
Chris Matthews Darby		
Marie Bonnemaision (online)		
Stacy Warren (online)		
Steven Bothwell		

Chairperson

Beth Firipis acted as Chairperson for this meeting; election of ongoing Chairperson to be undertaken later in the meeting.

Acknowledgment of Country

Mark Jones provided an Acknowledgment of Country.

Apologies

Lara Sabbadin, Councillor Liz Atkins, Councillor Jessica D'Arienzo, Councillor Mat Howard.

Disclosures of Interest

No conflicts of interest were disclosed.



Quorum (minimum 7 members)

A quorum was achieved.

Confirmation of Minutes and Actions

Minutes for the 20 March meeting were endorsed (Beth confirmed).


Actions from minutes to follow up:

- Recommended the Pride Inner West funding for Rainbow Pride Photography Competition (via EOI) be followed up to ascertain how this funding will be used.
- Update mailing list (remove previous members who have left the group)

Discussion items

Item	Summary	Recommendations / actions	Council's response
1. Welcome Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New members warmly welcomed to the group by existing members: all members introduced themselves and shared their areas of interest. 		
2. Membership recruitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 new Working Group Members • Nancy Nguyen resigned 8th May due to other commitments and going overseas • Group elected Ev Synnott as Chairperson • Importance of attendance discussed as several meetings did not reach quorum. Terms of Reference confirm quorum of 7; and membership lapses if members absent from three consecutive meetings without prior notification to Chairperson. 	Ev Synnott new Chairperson (Council records to be updated) Any extended absences to be followed up	
3. Committed events past and upcoming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transgender Day of Visibility (31 March) Raised the flags and ran a social media post with Mayor Darcy Byrne: 	Noted	

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	<p>https://www.instagram.com/p/Cqbm-cxp4Y9/?igshid=NjZiM2M3MzlxNA==</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>IDAHOBIT (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia and Transphobia) 17 May. 2 Councillors, 2 working group members and 3 IWC staff members gathered at Pride Square to develop social media grab, photos and messaging for International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Trans Phobia. This year's theme – "Together Always United in Diversity". An internal posting on intranet has been circulated through Council. Staff have been encouraged to add their pronouns to their signature. Pride Progress Flags will be flying on the 16-18th May. Media post will be released on IDAHOBIT day 17th May</p> <p>Transgender Day of Remembrance Transgender Day of Remembrance (20 November) Need to start planning how the group would like to approach this. Come to next meeting with thoughts and contributions. Lighting and Flags will be up across 4 Inner West town centres and lighting in Camperdown Memorial Rest Park w Blue Pink and White 19th – 21st Nov</p> <p>Added Pride month to the Calendar (June)</p> 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glitterball Youth Week Event – positive feedback and well attended Flag raising and lighting schedule (hard copies provided at meeting)  <p>LGBTQ Flag Flying Commitments of Coi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GENERAL: Upcoming library events shared: Will Kostakis & Speaker Series – Sean Szeps. 		
<p>4. Council Business – Work generated by Notice of Motions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In March 2022, Inner West Council voted unanimously on a motion calling for Government to introduce law reform enabling trans and gender diverse people to self-nominate their legal gender without medical intervention: <p>Supporting the rights of trans people to self-identify their legal gender - Inner West Council (nsw.gov.au)</p> <p>Council endorsed the petition currently open for signing via the NSW Legislative Assembly, which states that current the requirements in NSW unnecessarily medicalise the recognition of a person's lived identity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe schools: Council has written to Minister for Education and Early Learning to support the 	<p>Noted</p>	

Item	Summary	Recommendations / actions	Council's response
	reinstatement of programs such as the Safe Schools Program in all NSW schools		
5. Pride Centre Newtown Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Newtown Town Hall building being upgraded to become the Pride centre. EOIs calling for not for profit groups to express interest. Two successful open days conducted. Discussion had around community reps for the Pride Centre Working Group and importance of these roles. • Councillors Mat Howard and Liz Atkins will attend next meeting to discuss Pride Centre 	Recommended that the Pride Centre needs to be relevant for all ages and deeply connected to community	
6. General Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Community Wellbeing & Multicultural grants – close 19 May Grants - Inner West Council (nsw.gov.au) • Council Strategic Documents – draft currently on exhibition for public comment 	Noted	
7. Other Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reiterated that individuals are not required to be included in social media posts/videos • Inner West Rainbow Community Facebook Page discussed- not known if there is still interest in keeping and who wishes to run it. • Feedback sought re data (e.g., traffic, page views) from website pages and social media sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Inner West Rainbow Community Facebook Page to next agenda • Mark to seek data re website and social media • Recommended Council investigate offering art grant writing workshop 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The grant writing workshop for Community Wellbeing and Multicultural grants were discussed. 	<p>before next year's grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended proposal writing workshop four months prior to next Pride Inner West process. 	

Next meeting: Monday 17 July 2023, 6-8pm at Ashfield Service Centre, 260 Liverpool Road, Level 5 Meeting Room. Please proceed to the Level 5 entry at the rear of the building. Ramp to the Level 5 entrance available from rooftop car park (Ashfield Shopping Centre).