

LGBTQ+ Working Group 20 November 2023

Ashfield Service Centre, Level 5

Minutes

Meeting commenced at 6pm and concluded 8.10 pm

1. Present

Community members	Staff	Guests
Erin Spencer	Mark Jones (he/him/his)	Despa Fitzgerald (Inner West Police Area Command)
Beth Firipis (she/her)	Sue Pym (she/her)	Kayla Ross (Inner West Police Area Command)
Lara Sabbadin (she/ her)	Kate Dingle (she/her)	Joanna Mackay (Hate Crime Unit)
Dean Adams (they/ them)		Ismail Kirgiz (Hate Crime Unit)
Stacy Warren (she/her)		
Ohni Blu (they/ them)		
Ev Synnott (they/ them)		

2. **Chairperson:** Ev Synnott

3. **Acknowledgment of Country and Trans Day of Remembrance**

4. **Apologies:** Michael Beckett; Scott Mullen

5. **Disclosures of Interest:** No conflict of interest disclosed

- 6. **Quorum:** A quorum was achieved (min.7 members)
- 7. **Endorse previous meeting minutes:** Endorsed
- 8. **Report on previous meeting actions (if required):** Incorporated as agenda items

Discussion items

Agenda Item	Discussion summary	Proposed action (if required)	Action owner*	Date for action to be finalised
Pride Centre update	Mark provided update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • external works completed; internal works starting. • EO's assessed and recommendation expected to go to Council's 5 December meeting. 	Mark/Sue to advise Committee of outcome of Council meeting	Mark/Sue	
Safety concerns in Newtown	Guest speakers: Inner West PAC and Hate Crime Unit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outlined role of GLLO liaison officers, however encourages people to report incidents irrespective of whether GLLO officer available at the time. Another 60 GLLO officers have recently been trained in NSW • While hate crime reports are not high at present, the reluctance to report is recognised as impacting on data. • Members provided input regarding low reporting including liaison officers not always there; fear of recrimination; fear of report not being taken seriously; not wanting to come 	Mark/Sue to share the Hate Crime presentation with minutes	Mark/Sue	

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	<p>out to Police; language/cultural barriers; feeling of shame</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime Stoppers can also be used to report hate crime anonymously, noting its designed for people who are observers of crime to report- not for victims to report. • Value of Police hearing directly from LGBTQ+ community was recognised, including as a way of increasing reporting. Police offered to schedule a specific LGBTQ+ Safety Precinct meeting to encourage the community to speak directly to Police about this issue including ways to increase low reporting levels and reduce incidence of hate crime. • Once date/time/venue of above confirmed members and IWC staff to assist with promotion to the LGBTQ+ community. • Members may meet before to gather comprehensive list of issues and matters to be raised. 	<p>IW PAC to look at feasibility of organising LGBTQ+ Community Safety Precinct meeting on 30 January at 6pm in Marrickville Pavillion (subject to availability of venue etc)</p> <p>Promote to LGBTQ+ community</p>	<p>Despa Fitzgerald to confirm date/location</p> <p>Members and Mark/Sue to assist promotion</p>	
Mardi Gras 2024- Feel the Love event	<p>Mark and Kate provided a summary of the Feel the Love Event planned for Saturday 10 February 2024 at Newtown Neighbourhood Centre (NNC). Queer family friendly event; will involve people of all ages (including young people). Organisations</p>	<p>Mark/Kate to share program details when progressed further</p>	<p>Mark/Kate</p>	

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	involved include Fambo, Dykes on Bikes, NNC. Program and other details being finalised.			
Trans and Gender Diverse Swim Event	Mark reported that the event was very successful with 300 attendees. Positive feedback from Council Aquatic staff, Dykes on Bikes and ACON. City of Sydney reached out to Mark to find out details of how the event was planned.			
Facebook Group	Rainbow Facebook Group: not much activity, group decided to deactivate	Ev to deactivate the Facebook group	Ev	

Next meeting: Monday 19 February 2024