

# MINUTES

## YARRA ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - YAARTS

**Wednesday 22 May 2024**

6.00-7:30pm

Collingwood Town Hall, Wurundjeri Room

### Statement of Recognition of Wurundjeri Land

*Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra. We pay our respects to Elders from all nations and to their Elders past, present and future.*

Items		Purpose	Time	Personnel
1.	Introduction	Confirmation of the meeting and recording of attendances and apologies.	5 mins	Cr chair
2.	Confirmation of previous minutes	Confirmation of previous minutes and actions.	5 mins	ALL
3.	Public Art Policy renewal	The Public Art Policy is being renewed. This is an opportunity for the panel to discuss the current public art policy and provide feedback to inform the renewed document.	45 mins	ALL
4.	Working Groups Update	Report back on YAARTS working groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Visual Arts Panel</li><li>• Room to Create Panel</li></ul>	15mins	YAARTS representatives, Coordinator Arts Development
5.	Advisory Committee term	Update on Advisory Committee terms	10 mins	Coordinator Arts Development
6.	Other Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discussion about items tabled by panel members.</li><li>• Suggestions for future agenda items</li></ul>	10 mins	ALL
		End of meeting		

### 1. Attendees:

- **Present:** (Chair) Cr Edward Crossland, Simon Bedford, Clare Leporati, Vanessa Morris, Arika Waulu, Joel Stern
- **Apologies:** Angela Conquet, Miranda Hill, Cr Stephen Jolley, Alexandra Paige.
- **Attending:** Brona Keenan (Coordinator Arts & Culture), Karra Rees (Public Art Officer Officer), Grace Longato (Visual Arts Officer), Corey Greenwood (Acting Libraries, Arts and Events Manager).

### 2. Confirmation of previous minutes:

- Minutes confirmed by panel. No issues raised.

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## 3. Public Art Policy Renewal

Officer presented overview of current policy, public art outcomes and seeking feedback for consideration. Good policy/gaps/future trends.

### Responses:

- Current policy is still relevant with a sound/solid framework. Renewal/revise as opposed to rewrite.
- Policy to be aspirational, flexible with strong opportunities for artists in particular emerging.
- Increase % for art program.
- No timeline/frame for policy. A review date within the policy.
- Placemaking and activating opportunities. Consider curatorial framing of public art program.
- Accessibility of public art collection: Online database, maps, apps, that are interactive, informative, and engaging.
- Public art locations: Yarra bend, spaces/areas layered with history.
- More money/funding for commissions and maintenance recognition.
- What does Public Art mean to people and public art's impact on public space? How do people navigate/negotiate through public spaces safely. Public art to challenge what space is and what it's for through an artist/artistic lens.
- The need to activate vacant space i.e. shopfronts.
- The need for sustainable commissioning processes/practice and models i.e. fabrication, materials, longevity, climate/environmental crisis.
- The need for space to make work and the need for space for activism. Seen as community building and responding to current social/political times. Acquisition of space.

**ACTION:** Members encouraged to email officer with further suggestions/ideas/comments.

## 4. Working group update:

### RTC meeting update

- KIN Fashion Peel Street Site lease extension: 2 years.
- Determining EOI for 27 Wellington Street art and craft space.

### Visual Arts Panel update

- Cook memorial report and VAP recommendation with CEO for consideration.
- New works by artists McMonagle(x3), Martyn (x1) and Scott Wilson (x2) recommended for acquisition and acquired into the Collection and being processed through Cultural Gift Program.
- Uncle Archie Roach and Auntie Ruby Hunter sculpture progressing.

## 5. Advisory Committee Term

Governance unit has asked the panel to extend the term until June 2025.

**ACTION:** Officer to confirm with panel members if continuing.

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## 6. Other Items:

Options for discussion in future meetings:

- Sustainable/Climate action issues/themes
- Current environment of Live Music scene/Leaps and Bounds
- Noted that inaugural 2025 Art Fellowship recipient announced: Kate Beynon. Artist has been invited to attend next YAARTS meeting. Recommend site visit.

**ACTION:** Officer to confirm location of next meeting.

## 7. End of meeting 7.30pm