



MINUTES

Women's Advisory Committee

held at

Council Administration Centre
Council Chambers
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Tuesday 2 June 2020

at 4:30 pm

ORDER OF BUSINESS

<u>1. Present/Apologies</u>	3
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<u>3. Matters arising from previous minutes</u>	
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ITEM: 1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT: Leanne Walding, Allyn Jory, Margaret Hart, Glenda Anthes, Su Murdoch, Rachel Nicoll (Zoom) Clr Cassandra Coleman (Zoom)

APOLOGIES: Kerrie Lovegrove

OFFICERS: Ali Kim

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: Nil

ITEM: 2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were endorsed by two members of the Committee being: Margaret Hart and Sue Murdoch

THAT the Minutes of the meeting of February 4th 2020 be taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: Margaret Hart **SECONDED:** Sue Murdoch

CARRIED

ITEM: 3 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

IWD event: The International Women's Day singing event took place on March 7th and was amazing and fabulous. Feedback from the community was entirely positive. Margaret explained the sense of connection and community that was fostered through the day and wishes to encourage council to do similar events in the future.

THAT WAC commend the IWD project to council.

MOVED: Margaret Hart **SECONDED:** Allyn Jory

CARRIED

ITEM: 4 GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 From council

20 -72 RESOLVED

THAT Council:

2. Notes the minutes of the Womens Advisory Committee meeting held on 4 February 2020.
3. Agrees in principle to support the movement to advocate for a female specific health centre in Lithgow.
4. Supports the establishment and promotion of a "Safe Haven" community space.
5. Notes that financial support of approximately \$500 will be provided for a series of morning tea/ get togethers and activities, funded from an existing 2019/20 community events budget allocation.
6. Notes that Council will collaborate with PCYC to cover PCYC membership costs for individuals in financial hardship at a cost of approximately \$500, funded from an existing 2019/20 community events budget allocation.

MOVED: Councillor S Ring **SECONDED:** Councillor C Coleman

CARRIED: Unanimously

4.1 Safe Haven.

During the March Extra ordinary meeting of council it was resolved to support the WAC Safe Haven project. WAC wish to acknowledge the support of council. That money will be managed by LINC as they manage the space at Bowenfels and run the Community garden at PCYC.

The project has been put on hold due to Covid-19 but will recommence as soon as safe to do so.

Leanne and Sue will work closely with Dayne from PCYC to ensure they are developing programs that meet the needs of women who are joining the PCYC as part of the Safe Haven project. Some potential ideas include: Art therapy, choir/singing workshops, social circus classes. Self-defence class, basket making. We agree it is important to offer these classes and activities free to women so we will seek other funding sources.

4.2 Rural Women's Gathering.

The rural Women's gathering has been postponed due to covid-19. This will impact on the funding for taking a group from Lithgow. Rachel is currently exploring other sources of funding to enable this to go ahead in 2021.

Our application to host the gathering has been put on hold until further notice and we will be looking to host the 2022 event.

4.3 Local businesses

The WAC are concerned about the impact of Covid-19 on local businesses.

The empowerment group to explore ways to assist and promote. Up to 95% of business in the LGA are owned or run by women. This includes home

based businesses etc.

Margaret has offered to do some research via survey in the town to see what needs and issues are flagged by business owners for consideration at future meetings of the WAC.

4.4 Bushfire Relief Grants.

These will be coming available in the near future through the PHN. Leanne will keep us updated so that LINC can apply for funds for Safe Haven projects if appropriate.

4.5 Hidden Treasures and Council's volunteer awards.

There are 2 volunteer award programs running. Hidden treasures recognises rural women and nominations close 24 July. The WAC will consider nominees and submit. Via email in the next month.

In lieu of Volunteer week celebrations this year (due to covid-19) council are calling for organisations to nominate their volunteers for acknowledgement. Please send to Ali by June 12.

ITEM: 5 NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 4th August 2020
