

KNOX ACTIVE AGEING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday 27 June 2024

Time: 6pm (catering service), Meeting commencement: 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Eastgate North Conference Room, Eastgate North Building,

Knox City Council, 511 Burwood Hwy, Wantirna South

and via MS Teams

| Attendees: | Present | | Present |
|---|----------------|--|----------------|
| Cr Nicole Seymour (Chair), Knox Councillor | Yes | Cr Meagan Baker, Knox Councillor | Yes |
| Catherine Balaz – Community Rep | Yes | Christine Pow – Community Rep | Yes |
| Eddie Atacador – Community Rep | No | Fen Peng – Physiotherapist | No |
| Gary Cantwell – Community Rep | No | Geoff Deacon – Community Rep | Yes |
| Gerard Meagher – Outplacement & Transition to Retirement Coach | Yes | Lawrie Gaylard – Community Rep | Yes |
| Linda Lim - EACH | Yes | Peter Burns – Bridges Connecting Communities | No |
| Pranee Birch – Community Rep | Yes | Shoua Liu – Community Rep | Yes |
| Gail Power - KCC Manager Community Access and Support | Yes | Anna Lawton – Healthy Ageing Project Officer | Yes |
| Sheridan Stone – KCC Program Lead Social Connections | No | | |
| Guests | Present | | Present |
| Lisette Pine, Coordinator Healthy and Safe Communities (Item 3.1) | | | Yes |

1.0 Meeting Opening: [6:30pm sharp]

- 1.1 **Welcome & Apologies** **Cr Seymour, Chair**
The Chair, Cr Nicole Seymour opened the meeting.
- 1.2 **Conflict of Interest Disclosures – non declared**
- 1.3 **Acknowledgement of Country**
The Chair, Cr Nicole Seymour acknowledged that Committee members were meeting on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri and Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation and paid respects to Elders past, present and emerging.
- 1.4 **Previous Minutes**
1.4.1 Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting on 2 May 2024.
Motion moved: Geoff Deacon
Seconded: Lawrie Gallard
- Matters Arising / Action List** **Gail**
1.4.2 Gail advised that all current Action items are now complete, noting two items had been listed as opportunities for committee members to be involved with however these will now also be marked as complete.

2.0 Matters for Decision

n/a

3.0 Matters For Discussion

- 3.1 **Knox Gambling Policy** **Lisette**

Lisette Pine, Coordinator Healthy and Safe Communities engaged in discussion with the committee about Gambling Harm and sought feedback on key questions that will inform the review of the Knox Electronic Gaming Machine Policy 2020 and Knox Gambling Harm Profile. Key questions were posed to the committee – further responses may be sent via email after additional consideration by committee members.

Action: Community members to provide further feedback as required to contribute to the revised Knox Electronic Gaming Machine Policy.

Feedback from the discussion included that committee members observe:

- Solicitation of gambling and sponsorship by gambling companies occurs with sports clubs in the municipality, influencing the younger generation
- That gambling is being normalised for young people, compared to older generations where it was far less prevalent (eg. Online gambling made super easy, for example promoted by AFL and one of their sponsors)
- Young people need free fun alternatives to gambling
- Culturally it was observed there are some cultures where gambling is socially acceptable, and part of what they do for entertainment – they don't drink alcohol, their 'vice' is gambling instead
- People in our community are not fully aware what Council's stance is on gambling to even know what is being done at that level (For example: Council-owned buildings can't have pokies; Venues who have pokies are not eligible for Council grants,)

It was put to the committee – Given the legislation is Federal and State controlled, do you think Local Government should be involved too and if yes, what is our role? Members provided the following response:

- Local Government has a role and should be involved in preventative measures
- Support those who are addicted
- Educate early
- Collectively advocate to State and Federal Governments
- Advocate for improved distribution of the Community Benefit Fund (collected from licenced gaming venues) to be able to direct increased funding for support services.
- Younger generation need to be taught greater resilience and be able to withstand the peer pressure to gamble.

Overall it was noted the issues are problematic, with conflicts such as lures like discounted lunches, organisations external to Knox City Council making decisions impacting local community.

4.0 Matters For Noting

4.1 Draft KAAAC Annual Report for 2023

Gail

It was noted that this is a report that needs to be brought to committee on a calendar year basis, and that the 2023 report had not yet been presented. Content highlights all the various opportunities that committee members have contributed to throughout the year.

There were no additional queries about this report.

4.2 Draft Age Friendly Cities evaluation report

Geoff

Geoff provided the committee with a clear and succinct presentation of the draft Age Friendly Cities Evaluation Report that will be submitted to the World Health Organization. Geoff covered the 5-year project, and the impact this project has had on Council plans and subsequent programs and focus by Council staff. It was noted how proud the volunteers are, reflecting on this report, to recognise how much they had contributed to this project.

Action: Investigate opportunity for presentation of the draft Age Friendly Cities Report to Councillor forum by volunteers.

Action: Child Friendly Cities report presented to June Council Meeting. Provide Crs Seymour and Baker with direct feedback on the value of becoming Child Friendly City.

Action: Knox Housing Targets article. Provide Crs Seymour and Baker with direct feedback on the housing targets that have been set for Knox.

4.3 Bright Ideas / Dementia Advisory Group / Upcoming Events (standing item)

Anna

Anna provided an update on the various Bright Ideas, Dementia and Zest4Life activities that are taking place in Knox in coming months. Recent events such as the Line Dancing for the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day that brought 112 people to Rowville Community Centre and the Dancing for Health for those living with dementia and their carers, shows our seniors love to dance! There is also the upcoming Immerse art bus tours which begin Friday 28th June and two additional dates in July.

Advised the committee that KCC has been successful in an additional top up grant (\$10,000) for seniors festival to put towards a program for vulnerable men in our community. Current thoughts are to host a fishing program. Cr Seymour suggested to contact the Knox Boat Fishing Club, and Geoff noted he has some contacts in this area as well which he will send through.

5.0 Meeting Finalisation

- 5.1 **Review Actions to be taken** Gail
Action items listed in the table below
- 5.2 **Meeting Evaluation** Cr Nicole Seymour
Members reflected on the value of the meeting – all found Lisette’s session engaging; and it was noted that the Age Friendly Cities presentation was excellent and had members asking what is next/how can they get involved. It was also noted that less on the agenda allows more time to delve into a subject matter.
- 5.3 **Next Meeting: Thursday 8 August 2024**
- 5.4 **Meeting Close [8.52pm]**

Appendix 1

| Action | Who | Status |
|--|-------------------|--------|
| Community members to provide further feedback as required to contribute to the revised Knox Electronic Gaming Machine Policy (see page 8 of the presentation for question prompts) | Community members | |
| Investigate opportunity for presentation of the draft Age Friendly Cities Report to Councillor forum by volunteers. | Anna/Gail | |
| Child Friendly Cities report presented to June Council Meeting. Provide Crs Seymour and Baker with direct feedback on the value of becoming Child Friendly City. Child Friendly Cities link: https://www.knox.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-06/V2%202024-06-24%20-%20Agenda%20Meeting%20of%20Council.pdf -page 421 You can navigate to the Child Friendly Cities item easily from the Order of Business on page 2, and click on item 8.4. | Community members | |
| To provide members with a link to the new Housing Targets that apply for Knox, and give feedback Knox Housing Targets article link: https://www.knox.vic.gov.au/whats-happening/news/47000-new-homes-under-government-plan-knox | Community Members | |