Advisory Group – Meeting Minutes – 9/5/2024



Time: 12noon - 2PM

Location: GRC Smart Room, Philip Street Communities and Families Precinct

Meeting Chair: Kylie Lee

Apologies:

Cr. Mellissa Holzheimer

Debbie Meier-Cuddy - Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts

Kate Dufty – Disability Community Representative

Participants:

Cr. Leanne Patrick

Maxine Brushe - Senior Community Representative

Cecelia Eggmolesse – Indigenous Community Representative

Jakob Humphries – Youth Community Representative Shakira Raymond – Communities for Children (GAPDL)

Christopher Ford - The Salvation Army Kylie Lee – Gladstone Regional Council Brianna Janson - Gladstone Regional Council

Jaclyn Iwasaka – Gladstone Regional Council (Secretariat) Rebecca Creedy – Gladstone Regional Council (guest speaker)

Advisory Committee Principals of Working Together

- Valuing diversity exploring each other's motivations, values, and underlying interests to build understanding and appreciation of the added value that comes from diversity
- Building equity sharing equal rights to be at the table and valuing all contributions
- Being open respecting and trusting each other and handling information with care and respect
- Ensuring mutual benefits decision to be made with integrity and transparency and in the best interests of the partnership and its overarching goals
- Being courageous being bold to tackle the many unknowns in relation to complex issues to achieve breakthrough results.

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Topic	Action
Meeting open: 12:03pm	
Acknowledgement of Country – Rebecca Creedy	
Guest Speaker – Gladstone Regional Council Community Development Officer Rebecca Creedy	
Rebecca provided a summary of the Welcoming Cities Accreditation and Council's journey to becoming an accredited Welcoming City. She also introduced Council's recent Welcome Week event and Welcoming Morning Tea activities.	F N
For more information: https://welcomingcities.org.au/what/	For Noting
Check In – skipped	
Minutes & Conflicts of Interest	
Previous minutes accepted by committee.	
Moved – Maxine	For Noting
Seconded – Christopher	
Conflicts of Interest declared - NIL	
Update of recommendations and actions	
Update of outcomes and progress of recommendations and actions from previous meetings - Community Development Specialist	
For Action: Investigate street signage placement to assist visitors to PSP. David Burns street sign should be before the turn to avoid people getting lost or missing the turn off.	For Noting
No new updates.	

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Topic Action

For Action: Library hot desks and charging station for Precinct Library.

Library hot desk is now complete and available for anyone to use. Action item has been marked as completed.

For Action: Touch base with Regional Housing to discuss potential of attending PSP meeting.

No new updates.

For Action: Arrange a Lunch & Learn about the Welcoming Cities Accreditation

Action item marked as completed.

For Action: Forward information about the Gladstone First Nations Community Honouring Excellence Awards to the RAP Committee for discussion.

No new updates. Awaiting response from RAP reference group.

For Action: Reach out to the NAIDOC Committee to advise of the various spaces that are available for events in 2024.

The committee discussed that at this point in time, the Maxine Brushe Community Meeting place is fully booked during NAIDOC week, so there would be limited space to hold additional NAIDOC week activities. The Council-led NAIDOC Expo will still go ahead. The suggestion was made that the Maxine Brushe be kept available for a community NAIDOC week activity next year.

The committee also discussed the First Nations Jarjums pop-up playgroup and how the committee might better engage with the First Nations community to ensure the Precinct is a welcoming and inclusive space.

This action was marked as completed and a new action was created to reserve rooms for next year's NAIDOC week.

For Action: Investigate the feasibility of providing information about dimensions of the meeting rooms for users who may wish to hire a stage.

The committee agreed that the best course of action moving forward would be to review the hiring agreement to include the room dimensions for groups who are wishing to hire a stage.

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Topic	Action
For Action: Investigate seating for outside of the Maxine Brushe building.	
Currently investigating putting seating and a yarning circle space in the grassed area in front of the Maxine Brushe building. Implementation date is yet to be determined.	
Welcome to our new committee members – Cr. Leanne Patrick & Cr. Mellissa Holzheimer	
The committee welcomed Cr. Patrick and Cr. Holzheimer to the committee.	
2024 PSP Advisory Committee EOI – Community Development Specialist	
Ten expressions of interest were received, including new and returning members. The selection panel is currently assessing those applications. Interviews are scheduled for next Monday. The recommendations from the selection panel will go to a Council Meeting where the Council will appoint members to the committee. Following this, the Secretariat will send out appointment letters, hopefully in June.	
Advisory Committee Members Updates/Reports	
Advisory Committee Members	
Youth Community Representative – Jakob Humphries	
Youth Week events by the Youth Council were a great success. It was great to see young people come together and interact. The highlight was that we were able to link a homeless youth with community services and one of the officers at PCYC. The events were supported by Youth With a Mission volunteers, who helped immensely.	
Youth Council received funding from Queensland Health to run a sun safe stall at all of the events. We handed out hats, water, sunscreen and provided shade. We had activities that drove the sun safety message. We still have a little bit of funding left over and are looking at making a more permanent message. One of the possible options that we are looking at is installing a UV smart meter in Agnes Water as Agnes Water has the most alarming melanoma statistics.	
Youth Council is currently being mentored by Mellissa Peacock in regards to a potential public art installation.	

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The Precinct has won awards as well, so there is data there that we can use.



Topic	Action
Senior Community Representative – Maxine Brushe	
Would like to thank everyone for the open and honest discussions.	
No community updates to share.	
Indigenous Community Representative – Cecelia Eggmolesse	
No further feedback.	
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION –	
Advisory Committee Members Updates/Reports	
Councilors	
Cr. Patrick	
- How can we communicate what we are doing/achieving/our vision for the future better to our community to dispel the image of the Precinct	
as a "White Elephant"? I have heard this many times, and from leaders in our community. So, my question is, how do we bring the	
community along on the journey and share our successes? I think this is one of the biggest challenges that I would like to work on moving forward.	
- I would like to see the Stage 2 development progress, because there are definitely things that our community needs and wants that we have	
the potential to bring into this space.	
Kylie: I think we have the potential to look at some marketing campaigns to let people know what is here.	
We know what we have is good, and we have people calling us such as the CEO of Mackay Council saying we want what you have, it's just about building that awareness in our community.	
We also have our evaluation framework which we can use to showcase our efforts with data.	
Maxine:	

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Action

TOPIC	P	A,
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Leanne: In the scheme of things, the Precinct has only been open for a short time, but the data is there, and we can now start that educational journey.

Chris: We also have the report on the service model that we can share. I have shared that with the Salvos in Mackay.

Leanne: Do we have some key messages that we can share?

Kylie: We can develop some key messages on Philip Street.

There are some confusing messages out there because we are spreading the message that the parcel of land opposite the Precinct is to be over 55s living. So, we are probably confusing the messaging ourselves as well.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION -

Council & Appointed Members Update/Report

Appointed Members

Gladstone Regional Council – Kylie Lee

- We are launching a Livability Campaign in June with the intention of attracting skilled workers and increasing community pride. That will launch on Queensland day. The campaign talks about investing here, living here and working here. When I can share it, I will. I would love your input.
- The draft Access and Inclusion Action Plan is available for consultation. The plan is genuine, it is real and deliverable. I think one of the challenges we have had in this space before is a stop start approach, so there is a lack of trust in the community around deliverability. I am really proud of what we have created. That will be ready to share before the 30th of June.
- Marketing Philip Street in high traffic areas. We are really dependent on social media. But we could have some static displays at our library.

Chris: We can include some pamphlets on our table during the Red Shield Appeal for two weeks at the shopping centers.

Kylie: We will continue to have this 'what is Philip Street' challenge for a long time. When you come here and you see it and you access it and you use it, you get an understanding of what it is. But like anything, unless you make the effort to go and find out what it is, you don't know. But let's keep chipping away.

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Topic Action

Shakira: The toilets being out of order at the Maxine Brushe building has actually been a good experience for us, because we have had building users coming up to our building to use the bathroom and asking about what we offer. So there have been more conversations with our existing users, many of whom come every week, but didn't realise just how much is happening here.

Maxine: Could we have notices up on the screens saying, "Do you know what happens in this building, come and say hello".

Kylie: It might be time to review what is on our screens.

Chris: Mim is developing a site-wide gazette in collaboration with all the building users. Each month will have a different focus.

Kylie: Is that sharable content that we can put on socials as well?

Chris: I can't see why not.

Salvation Army - Philip Street Manager - Chris Ford

- We are seeing an increase in people coming in a new cohort who haven't needed support in the past but cost of living is really biting. Numbers are increasing quite significantly at the moment.
- Kingdom chat room is now doing almost 300 meals a week.
- Salvos have entered an MOU for data sharing with GRT. That MOU is now through, and it is now on the Seer data package. We sat down with GRT and were able to chart our social services against national averages. One of the things it really spelt out is that we have a peak in service users every year in July and November which backs up the six-month transition theory. When I say peak, I mean a 40% increase. I believe it's linked to 6-month leases. It's really interesting to see that data. So that data has everything from January 2024 to November 2022, a significant amount of data, and it will be updated monthly.

Kylie: So will that be available on the data hub?

Chris: It will be, but not yet. What they are doing now is looking at the data sets from non-government organisations. We're the first non-government organisation to contribute to Seer.

The other interesting finding was that the percent of Indigenous people accessing our services is about 20 per cent higher than the national average. Which is interesting because the numbers were higher than what we had thought, and we are having some conversations around why this is the case. I think it has come from the conversations at the First Nations training we underwent, and the changes that we have implemented. Our team has changed the way in which they interview First Nations people. For example, they come out from behind their tables and they sit with them in a yarning circle. It's a lot more engaging, so I think that's the reason.

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Topic Action

- I identified four or five months ago that I am concerned about vicarious trauma happening in the team and I had a conversation with Bri who had also picked up on that in the GRC team as well. So we are now putting in programs with the psychologist who works in our building, working with the team around vicarious trauma.
- MoneyCare is doing a lot more advocacy work recently, particularly with real estate agents who are being somewhat ruthless and painful. We have had a couple of wins.
- The big one for us is cost of living, which I think most people know about already.

Communities 4 Children - Project Support Officer - Shakira Raymond

- Play & Connect event happened during the school holidays. Approx. 300 people attended which was massive. It was to the point that we actually had to stop people from coming through the doors as a risk management. It was great exposure for the Precinct, we tried to encourage families to grab a sausage and head down to the green space, and we had conversations about what happens across site as well. It was good fun.

Maxine: Was there any feedback on the Precinct from that event?

Shakira: Strong Communities didn't submit any formal reporting, but I can take a look on their social media to see if there was any feedback. The only thing that was mentioned to me on the day was about car parking, some people had to park very far away, but nothing too negative.

- PCCC Jarjums playgroup was this morning. C4C will keep in contact with PCCC and hopefully have an event at the Precinct in the future.
- Since our last meeting, we have a social worker with a focus on mental health for young people at the Nutchee building Monday-Wednesday. Then she is over in the Gumar building Thurs, Friday, so she is here all week.
- We have swapped the consult room with the meeting room as it has the appropriate soundproofing, and the hirers don't have to lead their clientele through the staff area.
- The Playspace is still available Monday and Thursday mornings. If anyone knows of anything that may be suitable for that space, please let us know. We have bookings in the afternoons.
- The Multicultural community is feeling the loss of the Multicultural Festival. People are feeling like there are no opportunities to celebrate their culture. Strong Communities is working hard to raise awareness about the cultural activities that are held at the Precinct, but there doesn't seem to be a lot of advertising about the cultural events that are happening here, so maybe we need to revisit how we encourage our Precinct users to take up options for media.

Maxine: What was the reason for the multicultural festival discontinuing?

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Topic Action

Shakira: I believe the committee were looking for a new committee to step in, but I am not sure. I tried to reach out a number of times but didn't receive a response.

Maxine: It is a common issue, that community groups are just falling to pieces because they are tired or old or all those things. There's no volunteers. People don't have time.

Chris: There is a lot of red tape and paperwork involved. Police checks, etc.

Leanne: There are so many rules and regulations, and the liability that you carry if you sit on a committee is enormous. I have steered away from that because I am risk averse. I believe that is one of the reasons why organisations struggle to attract volunteers, especially executive positions.

Kylie: The Gladstone Multicultural Association are not an active group at the moment. Maybe we can look at including some of the activities that were at the multicultural festival in our Welcome Week events. There are lots of opportunities.

Jaclyn: I would love to see some of the cultural groups drive their own events as well. Why can't we have a Holi festival in Gladstone? Kylie: Maybe we can look at small micro-grants for cultural events.

Cecelia: With grants, not everyone can fill out those applications. It's easy for professionals, but for people with no experience, it's really difficult. Kylie: I know with our community hall funding, we don't require an acquittal and the application process is very basic, I think because these would be smaller grants, we could potentially simplify the process.

- Where does the information that is shared on our Facebook page come from? Does that come through the bookings process?

Chris: Partners and regular hirers get an email monthly inviting us to share information.

Jaclyn: Whether they respond to that is up to them.

Maxine: Is there a good response?

Jaclyn: Whatever is on the Facebook page is who has responded. Some users don't want their activities advertised publicly.

Shakira: There is information about marketing in the booking confirmation email, but it doesn't stand out. If people are only skimming the email, they potentially wouldn't notice.

Kylie: Why don't we add it to the hiring form?

The committee agreed to this proposal.

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Topic	Action
 The general awareness about the NHC virtual noticeboard is very low. Is there anything from a Precinct perspective that we can do? There was positive feedback for the free community Mental Health First Aid courses sponsored by the NHC. 	
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION –	
Review content on TV screens across the Precinct	
Review hiring form to add information about dimensions for stage hire and option for marketing on the PSP Facebook page.	
Collaboration and Operations Update	
Secretariat - Community Development Officer	
The committee reviewed the hire stats for March and April 2024.	For Discussion
Chris: Gladstone Women's Health are currently deciding whether they want to take three or four days for two rooms at the Gumar building, so come July 1st, we will be at 95% occupancy. We will need to move some tenants to the C4C and GRC buildings to accommodate them.	and Decision
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION	
Create a bar graph of hiring hours breakdown to make it easier to analyse	
Recommendations from Operations Group to Advisory	
Secretariat - Community Development Officer	
There are no new recommendations for the Advisory Committee.	For Discussion and Decision
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION - NIL	
Recommendations to Council - NIL	For Discussion and Decision

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Topic	Action
Kylie thanked the committee for their service.	
Check out question – What was one thing that you would like to improve in our new committee?	
Check out and close meeting: 2:20pm	For Noting
Next Meeting date: Thursday, July 18, 12-2PM	
Meeting Chair: TBD	