

Status of Women Advisory Group Meeting Record 14 November 2018

Location:	Wyong Administration Building Committee Room 2 Hely Street, Wyong	
Date:	14 November 2018	
Time	Started at: 10.06am	Closed at: 11.57am
Chair	Councillor Lisa Matthews	
File Ref	F2017/00176	

Present

Councillor Jillian Hogan, Councillor Lisa Matthews, Councillor Jilly Pilon, Christine Arnaldi, Sharryn Brownlee, Miranda Cashin, Margot Castles, Courtney Jones, Sally Jope, Belinda Kimpton, Sharon Walsh

Staff present:

Krystie Bryant – Unit Manager People Planning and Operations, Aliesha Carreno – Community Development Worker, Glenn Cannard – Unit Manager Community Partnerships, Zoie Magann – Advisory Group Support Officer, Jenny Tinworth – Communications Officer

Item 1 Apologies

Councillor Chris Holstein, Councillor Kyle MacGregor, Councillor Doug Vincent, Danielle Captain-Webb, Danielle Habib, Julie Vaughan – Director Connected Communities

Item 2 Disclosures of Interest

No Disclosures were noted.

Item 3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Record

The Advisory Group confirmed the Meeting Record from 24 October 2018.

Item 4 Confirm Meeting Times for 2019

The Advisory Group discussed the option of revised meeting times in preparation for next year. Concerns were noted that changing the time would not improve attendance due to other commitments, and that alternating meeting times would result in too large a gap between meetings for those who could only attend either mornings or afternoons.

Councillor Lisa Matthews noted an apology for the first meeting in 2019 being Wednesday 13 February.

Action: Meeting times and location to remain the same for 2019, being 10am-12pm in Wyong.

Item 5 Women in the Workplace

Krystie Bryant (Unit Manager People Planning and Operations) addressed the Advisory Group with regards to women in the workplace. It was noted that Council staff are currently developing a revised Workplace Leave and Flexibility Policy. The Advisory Group noted the importance of increasing public awareness of Council's work towards equity in the workplace, and thus promoting interest in Council as an employer, particularly for women.

Item 6 Education

Jenny Tinworth (Communications Officer) addressed the Advisory Group to discuss the external communication plan that has been developed to coincide with White Ribbon and the 16 Days of Activism campaign.

Action: Members of the Advisory Group to attend events throughout the 16 Days of Activism and represent SOWAG by wearing the group shirts and taking the banners as appropriate.

Action: Aliesha Carreno to forward details of the White Ribbon events to all Advisory Group members.

Action: The Advisory Group strongly requests that Mayor Jane Smith use the Mayor's Column to proactively acknowledge and support the UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, White Ribbon Campaign and 16 Days of Activism, and promote Council's role in these important issues and events.

Item 7 Priorities for 2019

The Advisory Group discussed a number of priorities for next year, including representation at the Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Conference, development of a Leadership Program for Year 5/6 girls, and circulation of a calendar of events. It was noted that priorities can shift, so they should be revisited regularly.

Action: The topic of priorities to be added to all future agendas as a standing item to allow revision as required.

Action: Staff to circulate the Council calendar of events to all Advisory Group members at the start of 2019.

Item 8 Update on Budget

The Advisory Group noted that there has been minimal expenditure of the SOWAG budget to date this financial year, and that the allocated amount would refresh annually.

Action: Funds from the budget to be utilised to allow five members of the Advisory Group to attend the ALGWA Conference in 2019, which will be hosted by City of Blacktown.

Action: Aliesha Carreno to send out a call for Expressions of Interest to determine who is available and would like to attend the ALGWA Conference next year.

Action: Councillors Lisa Matthews, Jilly Pilon and Jillian Hogan, and Sharryn Brownlee to meet and discuss options for developing a Leadership Program for junior schools, which will focus on empowering Year 5/6 female students to ascend to leadership roles.

Item 9 Grant Funding

Glenn Cannard (Unit Manager Community Partnerships) updated the Advisory Group on some of the grants and scholarships Council has available.

Action: Staff to circulate the factsheet on grants to Advisory Group members once available.

Item 10 Central Coast White Ribbon Committee (CCWRC) Events

The Advisory Group noted the events being organised locally by the Central Coast White Ribbon Committee.

Item 11 Express Advocate – 100 Most Influential Segment

The Advisory Group discussed the content and purpose of the letters Aliesha Carreno (Community Development Worker) and Margot Castles will be working on together to send to the women featured in the Express Advocate Top 100 Most Influential segment. It was noted that the letters provide an opportunity to invite the nominees to attend a SOWAG meeting as a way of networking with key stakeholders.

Item 12 General Business and Close

Sally Jope provided copies of the Central Coast Community Women's Health Centre Annual Report 2017/18 to the Advisory Group.

Action: Councillor Jilly Pilon to check with Central Coast Business Women's Group on their interest in attending a future meeting of the Advisory Group.

The meeting closed at 11.57am

Next Meeting: **Wednesday 13 February 2019**
 10am – 12pm
 Central Coast Council Wyong Office
 Level 2 Committee Room