

Status of Women Advisory Committee Meeting Record 21 March 2018



Location:	Les Taylor Function Room, Wyong Civic Centre 2 Hely Street, Wyong	
Date:	21 March 2018	
Time	Started at: 10AM	Closed at: 12:07PM
Chair	Councillor Lisa Matthews	
File Ref		

Present

Clr Lisa Matthews, Clr Chris Holstein, Clr Jilly Pilon, Julie Vaughan, Sharon Walsh, Margot Castles, Miranda Cashin, Sharryn Brownlee, Sally Jope, Belinda Kimpton, Courtney Jones, Christine Arnaldi

Apologies

Clr Kyle MacGregor, Clr Doug Vincent, Clr Jillian Hogan, Danielle Habib and Danielle Hobday.

Item 1 Discuss Meeting Code of Conduct

Item 2 Council Overview

Action Item: Julie to send out CSP Engagement Reports and Draft Framework

Item 3 Clarification/Shared understanding of role and purpose of SOWAG/feedback from members

Action Item: Recommend A.2 of the Terms of Reference to include something in relation to gender equality.

Purpose discussed in relation to the Terms of Reference – Cllr Matthews and Julie facilitated

Topic/Idea	Comments
Inform and Educate/Empower Women	<p>Could be better described as capacity or ability to take up opportunities</p> <p>The possible role of SOWAG could be picking 3 or so topics a year and inform and educate women</p> <p>Importance to stay focused</p> <p>Utilising information about what Women in the community want</p>
Advocate	<p>Need to determine priorities</p> <p>Identified as possibly older women and homeless</p> <p>Partner with community, organisations and other networks</p>
Input into council strategies	<p>Foster active participation</p> <p>As a group possibility to write a submission and encourage change to planning</p>
How to Engage and actively engage, encourage participation and represent the marginalised voices	<p>How to do this? (the how's will be discussed in future meetings)</p>
<p>Connecting with women about the role of SOWAG</p> <p>How to engage (to be discussed at next meeting)</p>	<p>Communicate how all of council advocate and do things for women</p> <p>Connecting women with other women through engagement events, to connect in with community and possibly putting on a networking event for women, aligns with the purpose in terms of reference</p> <p>Importance of not reinventing the wheel and promoting what is already out there</p> <p>Not competing with other events and organisations but supporting and promoting things that exist</p> <p>Groups that are already established connecting in with them</p>
Pathways	<p>Large population of women constrained by traditional roles</p> <p><u>This group can create awareness around stereotypes</u></p>
Women in Leadership/employment	<p>Young women focus age group</p> <p>Women in jobs that aren't stereotyped as 'traditional' how can they be supported etc</p> <p>Focus on traineeship and Internships (comes from the community and CSP and the terms of reference)</p> <p>Explore further ideas of this topic</p> <p>50/50 bronze etc, accreditation, women in leadership and employment (internal awareness) changing perceptions</p> <p>Researching possibly what has gone on in the past with 50/50 program</p> <p>White ribbon accreditation process that Council is undertaking to be discussed at a future meeting</p>

Resources	Resources needs to be pooled together and made aware to people This to be included in future agenda Provide access to resources (need to explore what and how this works) This is where Inform and educate could be linked into
different age groups of Women (advocate/priority)	high percentage of homeless and/or vulnerable women, not being addressed to its full capacity

Discussed the 5 purpose statements included in the Terms of Reference

Decided that the topics listed above which are some of the group's priorities do align/ fit in with Terms of Reference.

Action Item: To refine these ideas of purpose into how's and what's at the next meeting

Item 4 Meeting frequency/dates and next agenda item/confirmation of next steps

Home work:

- What your priorities are in areas such as engagement, advocacy, informing.
- Margot, Sally, Sharryn, Clr Matthews and Julie to meet in regards to 50/50 program. Possibly form a working group?
- Have a look at 50/50 concept (will be sent in an email)
- Think through the difference between the how and what you want to be as SOWAG, wanting to be invited or informed vs becoming a resource to be used to engage women.
- Think about events in the broader community that would be of interest.

Next Agenda/future steps:

- The what and How? (i.e. How to reach women, How to engage)(to be discussed as an agenda item next meeting)
- Organise for Coms to come to next meeting – key messaging and then following work out with coms a plan in further meeting.
- Explore the 50/50 program accreditation (send out an invite to be part of an extra meeting also availability to comment via email) (also send the link of further information)
- Get events calendar from events team
- Include 'Action Items' to the end of the next agenda as an agenda item to discuss actions to be undertaken.

The meeting closed at 12:07PM

Next Meeting: Erina Centre May 9th 2018- at 10-12

Every second month / second Wednesday- ALEISHA TO DO DATES AND SEND CALENDAR INVITES