



Community & Environment Committee

Agenda: *Community & Environment Committee*

Date: *Monday 26 March 2012*

Time: *6.00pm*

Outline of Meeting Protocol & Procedure:

- The Chairperson will call the Meeting to order and ask the Committee/Staff to present apologies or late correspondence.
- The Chairperson will commence the Order of Business as shown in the Index to the Agenda.
- At the beginning of each item the Chairperson will ask whether a member(s) of the public wish to address the Committee.
- If person(s) wish to address the Committee, they are allowed four (4) minutes in which to do so. Please direct comments to the issues at hand.
- If there are persons representing both sides of a matter (eg applicant/objector), the person(s) against the recommendation speak first.
- At the conclusion of the allotted four (4) minutes, the speaker resumes his/her seat and takes no further part in the debate unless specifically called to do so by the Chairperson.
- If there is more than one (1) person wishing to address the Committee from the same side of the debate, the Chairperson will request that where possible a spokesperson be nominated to represent the parties.
- The Chairperson has the discretion whether to continue to accept speakers from the floor.
- After considering any submissions the Committee will debate the matter (if necessary), and arrive at a recommendation (Recommendations which proceed to Full Council) or a resolution (Decisions for which the Committee has delegated authority).

Recommendation only to the Full Council (“R” Items)

- Such matters as are specified in Section 377 of the Local Government Act and within the ambit of the Committee considerations.
- Matters which involve broad strategic or policy initiatives within responsibilities of Committee.
- Matters requiring the expenditure of moneys and in respect of which no Council vote has been made.
- Matters delegated to the Council by the Traffic Authority of NSW.
- Matters not within the specified functions of the Committee,
- Matters reserved by individual Councillors in accordance with any Council policy on "safeguards" and substantive changes.
- Parks and Reserves Plans of Management (Strategies, Policies and Objectives).
- Residential Parking Schemes - Provision and Policies.

Delegated Authority (“D” Items)

- Community Services and Programs.
- Library Services
- Health.
- Licensing.
- Liquor Licences.
- Regulatory.
- Fire Protection Orders.
- Residential Parking Schemes (surveillance and administration).
- Traffic Management (Traffic Committee Recommendations).
- Waste Minimisation.
- To require such investigations, reports or actions as considered necessary in respect of matters contained within the Business Agendas (and as may be limited by specific Council resolution).
- Confirmation of the Minutes of its Meetings.
- Any other matter falling within the responsibility of the Community and Environment Committee and not restricted by the Local Government Act or required to be a Recommendation to Full Council as listed above.
- Statutory reviews of Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

Committee Membership:

7 Councillors

Quorum:

The quorum for a Committee meeting is 4 Councillors.

WOOLLAHRA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Notice of Meeting

22 March 2012

To: Her Worship The Mayor, Councillor Susan Wynne ex-officio
Councillors Susan Jarnason (Chair)
Isabelle Shapiro (Deputy Chair)
Anthony Boskovitz
Peter Cavanagh
Greg Medcraft
Andrew Petrie
Toni Zeltzer

Dear Councillors

Community & Environment Committee Meeting – 26 March 2012

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, I request your attendance at a Meeting of the Council's **Community and Environment Committee** to be held in the **Council Chambers, 536 New South Head Road, Double Bay, on Monday 26 March 2012 at 6.00pm.**

Gary James
General Manager

Additional Information Relating to Committee Matters

Site Inspection

Other Matters

Meeting Agenda

Item	Subject	Pages
1	Leave of Absence and Apologies	
2	Note Council resolution of 27 June 2011 to read late correspondence in conjunction with the relevant Agenda Item	
3	Declarations of Interest	

Items to be Decided by this Committee using its Delegated Authority

D1	Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 12 March 2012	1
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Items to be Submitted to the Council for Decision with Recommendations from this Committee

R1	Royal Hospital for Women Public Art Project – 1023.G Art Project – Royal Hospital for Women Park	2
R2	Meal Services in Woollahra – 79.G, 126.G, 1211.G *Note: Confidential Report Circulated Under Separate Cover	22

Item No: D1 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 12 March 2012**
Author: Les Windle, Manager - Governance
File No: See Council Minutes
Reason for Report: The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 12 March 2012 were previously circulated. In accordance with the guidelines for Committees' operations it is now necessary that those Minutes be formally taken as read and confirmed.

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Community and Environment Committee Meeting of 12 March 2012 be taken as read and confirmed.

Les Windle
Manager – Governance

Item No: R1 Recommended to Council
Subject: **Royal Hospital for Women Public Art Project**
Author: Bruce Rann
File No: 1023.G Art Project - Royal Hospital for Women Park
Reason for Report: To advise Council on options for public art for the Royal Hospital for Women Park

Recommendation:

- A. THAT Council proceed with the acquisition of “Egg Swing” by Mikala Dwyer for Royal Hospital for Women Park.
- B. THAT Council consider the acquisition of “Seated Woman” by Samuel Harrison (for a site yet to be determined) as the major public art acquisition for 2012/13.

Background:

In 2003 Council acquired the land now known as Royal Hospital for Women Park as part of the commercial development of this site by the Benevolent Society.

In the Royal Hospital for Women Park Plan of Management 2005 it was noted that Council would consider the future installation of a piece of public art which referenced the prior use of the site.

In 2009 the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) collaborated with teachers and students from the University of NSW College of Fine Arts (COFA) on the investigation of public art options for the Royal Hospital for Women Park site, however at this time there was concern that any proposed public art could be misconstrued as a memorial to deceased children and the funding and consequent project development was deferred pending further consideration of the objectives and the brief for the project.

In early 2011 the PAAC proposed that the Royal Hospital for Women Park public art project be reconsidered as the key art project for 2011/2012. At this time it was noted that any future installation of public art would have to have high artistic merit, be a piece which referenced the prior use of the site, and as such celebrated the significance of the site in a positive way. This project was subsequently approved to a value of \$100,000 in the 2011/2012 capital works budget.

Direction and Curation:

Once the project was approved, the PAAC proposed that a subcommittee be formed for the selection of a piece of high quality public art of significant merit by an artist who could give consideration to advice arising from a community consultation process.

The subcommittee formed comprises: Councillor Ian Plater as Chair, Director Kylie Walshe and Bruce Rann as staff representatives, and Simon Chan and Elena Wise as art and community representatives.

After considering the importance of finding an artist and art-piece which could navigate the complexities of the competing user groups, the sensitive nature of the subject matter and the high profile of the Royal Hospital for Women Park, the subcommittee decided that it would need curatorial advice on both the process of developing a site specific brief and then the selection of the artist and the art.

The subcommittee invited three Curators with highly regarded skills, qualifications and experience to present their ideas on the process for the selection and acquisition of an appropriate piece of public art for Royal Hospital for Women Park, and after considering all submissions the subcommittee (with the approval of the PAAC) appointed Barbara Flynn as the Curator for this project.

Barbara Flynn is an internationally recognized art expert and consultant who has been instrumental in the delivery of many high profile projects including:

- 40 Mount Street North Sydney for Investa
- 8 Chiefly Square for Mirvac
- 1 Bligh Street for DEXUS
- Laneways installations for City of Sydney

Barbara has also acted as Company Curator for a number of businesses including:

- Deloittes
- Credit Swisse
- DHL International

Project Brief and Timeline:

With the Curator's assistance the subcommittee developed a project brief and timeline for a major work of public art by a living Australian artist, with special consideration of younger artists, with some of the key elements of the brief being:

- Playful
- Interactive
- Mindful of children under 13
- Commemorative
- Celebratory
- Giving reference to the Hospital
- Giving reference to the history of Paddington and of the site

The full brief is attached as **annexure 1**

As the project is funded from a capital works budget designated for 2011/2012, the subcommittee and Curator decided to develop an ambitious timeline which would ensure that the construction phase of the project was well under way before the end of the financial year.

The proposed timeline is attached as **annexure 2**

Recommended Artists:

As part of Barbara's research for appropriate artists and artwork the following items were considered:

- A review of Council files and documents relating to the Royal Hospital for Women Park site
- A review of archival documents on RHW held in the Sherbrook Local History Library
- Interviews with key staff
- An on-site community meeting
- A survey of park users and surrounding residents

Barbara recommended three artists which she considered appropriate and capable of delivering a site specific piece of public art of high artistic merit for the park.

The three shortlisted artists were:

Linda Marrinon – an established and successful sculptor primarily known of the creation of works of a figurative nature. These figurative pieces often have a historical or site specific theme which may be demonstrated in the way they are sited, posed or dressed.

Samuel Harrison – a young up and coming New Zealand sculptor primarily known of the creation of works of a figurative nature. Samuel's pieces are generally classical Greco-Roman nude pieces in plaster or bronze. Samuel is well known for his ability to capture his model's mood or thoughts and although nude, his works are never gratuitous and always appropriate for public display.

Mikala Dwyer – an established and successful artist and the winner of the 2003 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize. Mikala is well known for as an artist who creates diverse pieces often playful or installation style in nature.

Submissions and Shortlisting:

In December 2011 the subcommittee received draft submissions from the three artists for initial consideration.

After careful consideration the subcommittee decided that Samuel Harrison and Mikala Dwyer had met most of the site specific brief criteria and it appeared that they could deliver a project in line with Council's budget.

Linda Marrinon's work, although of high artistic merit, was thought by the subcommittee less site specific and also Linda was already estimating that her piece would ultimately cost well in excess of the available budget. So at this time Linda Marrinon was thanked and remunerated for her work to date and advised that she was no longer on the shortlist for the project.

In February the subcommittee received final submissions from Samuel Harrison and Mikala Dwyer.

Samuel's final submission is for the sculpture titled "Seated Woman 2". The details and images of Samuel's submission are attached in **annexure 3**

Mikala's final submission is for an art installation titled "Egg Swing". The details and images of Samuel's submission are attached in **annexure 4**

As can be seen from the submission images, the two final submissions are radically different in concept and design, but both are of high artistic merit and have given careful consideration to the site and the desired criteria. Some of the subcommittee's comments on the two pieces are:

Seated Woman by Samuel Harrison:

The woman is thoughtful and introspective, but not sad or melancholy
Although not inviting play, the item is robust and would withstand people climbing on it.
The sculpture is not gratuitous and acceptable for a public park frequented by family groups
The sculpture could be considered as being in an "every-woman" style; being of indeterminate age, plain and beautiful, soft and strong.
The sculpture is very classical in nature and could be from any period in time.

Although of lesser importance, it was noted that sculptures by Sam Harrison are becoming highly collectable and will probably be unaffordable in a few years' time.

Egg Swing by Mikala Dwyer:

The piece is highly interactive and invites play
The swing will be almost certainly be very popular with children under 13
The piece is completely unique and very contemporary
The contemporary nature of the piece references the artistic community of Paddington
The subcommittee felt that the fertility symbolism of Egg Swing was a novel and intelligent way of referencing the history of the Hospital and the site.
The piece is proposed for the north east corner of the park, an area which is currently underutilised
Although of lesser importance, it was noted that Mikala Dwyer has been a highly regarded artist for some time, and her pieces are seen in many galleries and collections including Council's Small Sculpture Prize "winners" collection, the Art Gallery of NSW, and street installations in Surrey Hills.

Curator's advice on the two finalist pieces:

Advice to the subcommittee on the two pieces from our Curator, Barbara Flynn is:

Both artists Mikala Dwyer and Sam Harrison provided submissions that were complete, meeting the required criteria. Both artists presented highly appealing works of art, that being said, they couldn't be more different from each other in type and approach, Dwyer's being colourful and exuberant, active (literally, in motion), Harrison's quieter, informal and utterly approachable. Dwyer who is Sydney-based, has enjoyed the recognition of having an existing work in the public realm of Sydney, her Sculpture for Mary, an artist-designed street lamp, at Mary Place in Surry Hills. This would be New Zealand-based Harrison's first public art commission in Australia.

Sam Harrison Proposal, Seated Woman II:

Harrison is proposing a bronze human-scale figure sculpture of a seated young woman with arms folded. In reviewing the Harrison proposal, the art committee and I satisfied ourselves that the demeanour (body language) and expression of the face of the Sam Harrison figure sculpture was introspective and gentle, and as the artist stated in his submission, optimistic, avoiding the suggestion of anything melancholic. The artist hasn't, as yet, decided on a patina colour, and remains open to our suggestions and the Council's wish to keep the overall mood and feel of the work positive and upbeat, representing a new page in the history of the site and a break from associations with the sadder side of hospital work.

The artist is open to our input as regards siting the work and there are several desirable possible positions with positioning it on one of the existing sandstone blocks in the southwestern section of the park being optimal (see photo and map detailing this position, attached). Positioning the sculpture on this block would allow people to see the sculpture in the round as it was meant to be seen. Placement in such a well-used section of the park will create a 'wow' factor and sensation of discovery for the people sitting and relaxing there at the moment they come upon the sculpture and see that what looked like a person is, in fact, a wonderful and approachable work of art.

Harrison is a young artist and we wanted his work to embody a suggestion of youth and today. In deciding between his work and Dwyer's, we thought it was important to ask how the Harrison work distinguishes itself from classical sculpture – where and how it displays the contemporary edge.

Mikala Dwyer Proposal, Egg Swing:

Dwyer is proposing a swing for children and adults in the form of an egg in a wry and light-hearted reference to the idea of motherhood at the heart of the Royal Hospital for Women site. Dwyer's art often engages with play, transforming everyday materials to art and utilising bright colour, such as the shocking pink of the swing. The art committee and I suggest it could be sited on the raised southeast section of the park where it will be highly visible, a boisterous neighbourhood landmark, without interfering in the dog run and sporting field of the larger northern section.

The art committee and I were impressed with the professionalism of Dwyer's engineer's report and assured of the safety of the work, which is an important point, given the kinetic nature of the work as a swing.

Implementation and budgetary considerations:

As can be seen in the final submissions Seated Woman and Egg Swing will cost approximately \$78,500 and \$76,500 respectively. However it should be noted that the submission for Egg Swing does not include an artist's fee and Barbara has recently been advised that this additional fee will be between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

Given that the design and curation phases of this project will cost Council around \$25,000, it can be estimated that the acquisition of Seated Woman would be very close to the existing budget, whereas the acquisition of Egg Swing could cost Council up to \$125,000.

The addition of Dwyer's fee in the range \$20,000-25,000 brought her proposed work of art to a total of \$101,552 which is over budget by \$26,552. Dwyer's engineers note a possible cost savings of \$9,950 open to Council to be achieved by extending the rotational arm from 1500mm to 1800mm allowing the egg more rotational movement.

Conclusions:

The processes of community consultation and curatorial investigation have delivered two potential pieces of high quality, site specific public art.

Seated Woman by Samuel Harrison is a high quality piece of art in a more traditional style. This piece meets the criteria but is less playful in nature than Egg Swing.

Despite the cost implications the subcommittee believe that Egg Swing has given careful consideration to the project brief and would best meet the community needs and expectations for this high profile park in "art-aware" Paddington.

The sub-committee and Curator believed that Seated Woman by Samuel Harrison was a piece of high artistic merit that would be a valuable addition to any number of other sites within Woollahra.

Bruce Rann
Manager – Open Space and Trees

Kylie Walshe
Director – Community Services

ANNEXURES:

1. Project Brief
2. Project Timeline
3. Seated Woman Proposal by Samuel Harrison
4. Egg Swing Proposal by Mikala Dwyer

Item No: R2 Recommendation to Council
Subject: **Meal Services in Woollahra**
Author: Kylie Walshe, Director Community Services
File No: 79.G, 126.G, 1121.G
Reason for Report: Present a proposal for the future management of meal services in Woollahra for Council consideration.

Recommendation:

- A. THAT the confidential report and annexures be received and noted.
- B. THAT in respect of the Meal Services in Woollahra the Committee resolve to enter into closed session with the press and public excluded to consider the confidential report on this matter in accordance with the provisions of Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993.
- C. THAT the Committee resolve to refer the Confidential report to full Council as a matter of urgency so that the matter can be dealt with without delay.

Council is considering a proposal in relation to the provision of meal services in Woollahra that may impact on stakeholders and staff. Due to this it is appropriate that this report be discussed by Council in a confidential session prior to the matter entering the public domain.

Kylie Walshe
Director Community Services

**POLITICAL DONATIONS DECISION MAKING FLOWCHART
FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCILLORS**

