

MINUTES

Mitcham Art Advisory Group

Members: Helen Favretto, John Denlay, Eliza Lovell, Cate Stanford, Rachel Harris, Joel Van Moore, Estha Kleinig	
Date	22/11/2018
Location	Mayors Parlour, City of Mitcham
Attendees	Rachel Barrett, Helen Favretto, John Denlay, Eliza Lovell, Cate Stanford, Rachel Harris, Joel Van Moore, Estha Kleinig (arrived 7pm), Rebecca Olthoff
Apologies	

MINUTES

1. WELCOME

Rachel was introduced to the MAAG and members introduced themselves.

Acknowledgement of Country was given by Eliza Lovell.

2. CHANGES AT COUNCIL

New Manager of Community Development Rachel Emmott

New Mayor

3. UPDATE ON PROGRESS WITH 2017/18 PUBLIC ART RECIPIENTS

Four Seasons of Play – John Denlay

Two of the four seasons have been undertaken by John Denlay including a very successful community engagement event held at the Hawthorn APEX Park on Sunday 23 September. Over 150 people participated in making artworks around the fencing at the park with families, friends and grandparents participating in the activity. John has advised that the summer season will be erected in late November.

We have had quite a lot of media attention with the four season's artwork with a number of third page articles being printed across the council area.

Blackwood Community Centre Aboriginal Mural – Elizabeth Close & Jake Holmes

This mural was not able to be placed on the Blackwood Community Centre as the centre is scheduled for demolition in the near future. It was suggested by Directors that the mural be placed on another building.

MAAG was advised that Hawthorn Community Centre was recommended by staff as it nestles Brownhill Creek, the mural would sit behind the official Kurna art that Uncle Jeffrey is approving and sits within the redeveloped precinct.

The scheduled commencement date has been delayed due to Elizabeth's husband suffering from a collapsed lung who spent 3 weeks in hospital.

The mural is scheduled to commence on Monday 3 December 2018.

Public Collection Drawing Device – James Dodd

James is on target to build the machine in December and depending on how far it can move will depend on where it will be placed. James will be visiting various locations to hold consultation for this piece of art including areas such as Blackwood & the new library precinct and is interested in walking from Mitcham to Blackwood with the device.

4. FUTURE PUBLIC ART GRANTS FOR 2018/19 AND 2019/20.

MAAG was advised that the group will have a short time frame to call for applications and deliver projects prior to 30 June 2019. The group is aiming of calling for Public Art grants in December and decisions made by February 2019.

5. DISCUSS AND DEVELOPMENT OF OBJECTIVES, CRITERIA FOR PUBLIC ARTS GRANT

A number of edits or conditions are proposed for the 2018/19 fact sheet and/or application including:

- 1) The 2018/19 Public Arts Grants round will again be a call for small-scaled projects. This means that MAAG would like to see 3-4 small art projects awarded.
- 2) Resubmission is allowed however submissions would need to be updated on a new application form.
- 3) WHS risk assessments to be included in the submissions.
- 4) Possible categorisation of categories to be included in the fact sheet so there is clearer understanding about the lifespan of Public art; including
 - a. 1-3 months
 - b. 3-6 months
 - c. 12-5 years (permanent)
 - d. Ephemeral art
- 5) Ensure there is consistency and clarity between the fact sheet and application on how the artist will connect with the community.
- 6) Include the selection criteria into the documentation so applying artists know how the works are being judged.
- 7) Include a section for artists to enable ask questions and ask for feedback with council staff prior to submission.

- 8) For works intended for buildings or open space other than Council owned and managed facilities, artists are to include documentation stating that they have prior approval to undertake the works in and around building. Artists will be requested to include a statement of intention with application. This is standard practice in the arts industry.
- 9) Planning guidelines need to be better understood by MAAG.
- 10) MAAG has suggested that we include how we intend to document the arts programme (such as engaging a professional photographer to deliver a professional image portfolio or video at the end of the project to assist in promoting community awareness).
- 11) A payment structure is to be included. For instance 50% to be paid upfront and 50% to be paid at the cessation of the project. This is arts industry standard for projects at this funding level.
- 12) Submissions to include a margin for judging and comments.
- 13) It would be ideal that judges receive documentation at least 1 week prior to judging

Rachel has offered to update the fact sheet and application form with suggested changes then will email MAAG for changes for approval.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

MAAG was asked other ways they would like MAAG involved with Public Art in Mitcham, of which there was general consensus that the group would like to do more than just judge entries. Some ideas included:

- Would like more involvement with a public event – where a piece of art is created with the local artist and being in a public space.
- The importance of an art strategy or art action plan was both debated and discussed by the group.
- Having an Art trail across Mitcham Council.
- Having an artists database across Mitcham Council that could link artists and projects together. Also an opportunity to promote artworks and artists across the council area.
- MAAG to educate Council about Public Art.
- Would like to see increased budget for 2019/2020 and thereon.

7. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

Not discussed