

Minutes of the Community Services and Facilities Committee - 16 June 2025

Members Lord Mayor - Councillor Clover Moore AO (Chair), Deputy Lord Mayor - Councillor Zann Maxwell, Councillor Olly Arkins, Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore (Deputy Chair), Councillor Lyndon Gannon, Councillor Robert Kok, Councillor Jess Miller, Councillor Matthew Thompson, Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM and Councillor Adam Worling.

At the commencement of business at 4:48pm those present were -

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Arkins, Ellsmore, Gannon, Kok, Maxwell, Miller, Thompson, Weldon and Worling.

Councillor Maxwell left the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee at 4:51pm, prior to discussion on Item 3, and returned at 4:53pm, after the vote on Item 3. Councillor Maxwell was not present at, or in sight of, the meeting during discussion or voting on Item 3.

The meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee concluded at 4:59pm.

Item 1

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee of Monday 5 May 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Olly Arkins made the following disclosures:

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 3 on the agenda, in that:
 - NSW Users & Aids Association Inc are members of the Australian Festival Association (AFA), of which they are Managing Director.
 - Peggy Dwyer is a Board Member of Weave Youth & Community Services Ltd. Councillor Arkins has met Peggy a couple of times as she was counsel assisting in the coronial inquest into 6 deaths at music festivals and they are the Managing Director of the AFA, the peak body for music festival organisers.
 - Holly Rebeiro is an active member of Sydney Labor and ran on the Sydney Labor 2024 Council ticket as a candidate. She is an active member of the Older Women's Network and has an interest in their long term sustainability.
 - Kerry O'Brien, Chair of the Board of Redfern Legal Centre Ltd, briefly lived in the same share house together in 2017.
 - Former Federal Labor MP Laurie Ferguson is a Board Member of St Francis Social Services.
 - Former Federal Labor Cabinet Minister Robert McClelland is a Board member of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW.
 - Elisabeth Crosby is a Sydney Labor member and volunteered on the Sydney Labor campaign. She is an active member of the Settlement and has an active interest in its affairs and funding an organisation considered for grant funding.

Councillor Arkins considers that these non-pecuniary conflict of interest are not significant and do not require further action in the circumstances as they have had no contact with any of them about this item.

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 3 on the agenda, in that Savanna Peake is currently a staff member for their fellow Labor Councillor, and was a casual Grants manager for Warrior Woman Foundation in 2022 for a period of 3 months. She has not worked at this organisation since 2022, and has not communicated with this organisation in relation to this specific grant application being considered. Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances as they have had no contact with Warrior Women's Foundation about this item.

Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 4 on the agenda, in that she was a former Board member and current member of the Inner Sydney Regional Council for Social Development Incorporated. Councillor Ellsmore considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she was not aware of this grant and have not discussed it with anyone.

Councillor Zann Maxwell disclosed a significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 3 on the agenda, in that:

- Elisabeth Crosby is a Sydney Labor member and volunteered on the Sydney Labor campaign. She is an active member of the Settlement and has an active interest in its affairs and funding an organisation considered for grant funding. She has not approached Councillor Maxwell about this matter.

- One of his staff members Savanna Peake was a casual Grants Manager for Warrior Woman Foundation in 2022 for a period of 3 months. She has not worked at this organisation since 2022 and has not communicated with this organisation in relation to this specific grant application under consideration
- Holly Rebeiro is a Sydney Labor member and ran on the Sydney Labor ticket in 2024 she is an active member of the Older Women's Network and has an active interest in its affairs and funding an organisation considered for grant funding. She has not approached him about this matter coming to Council.

Councillor Maxwell stated he will not be voting on this matter.

Councillor Jess Miller disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 3 on the agenda, in that former Councillor Emelda Davis was on the Clover Moore Independent Team ticket for the 2024 election. She is also a mentor for Climate-KIC Australia Ltd in a voluntary capacity. Councillor Miller considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she has not discussed this grant with either applicant, and they have not been recommended for a grant.

Councillor Matthew Thompson disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 3 on the agenda, in that he is a former staff member of Addison Road Community Centre and knows CEO, Rosanna Barbero, who was his former employer. Councillor Thompson considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because he was not aware of this grant and did not discuss it with anyone.

Councillor Adam Worling disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 3 on the agenda, in that he has a community relationship with Stephen Lunny, community project coordinator of Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre. Councillor Worling considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because details of this or any grant have never been discussed.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee.

The Community Services and Facilities Committee recommended the following:

Item 3**Grants and Sponsorship - Social Grants**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the cash and value-in-kind recommendations for the Community Services Grant program as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council note the applicants who were not recommended in obtaining a cash grant or value-in-kind for the Community Services Grant program as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) Council approve the cash and value-in-kind recommendations for the Food Support Grant program as shown at Attachment C to the subject report;
- (D) Council note the applicants who were not recommended in obtaining a cash grant or value-in-kind for the Food Support Grant program as shown at Attachment D to the subject report;
- (E) Council note that all grant amounts are exclusive of GST;
- (F) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer agreements with any organisation approved for a grant or sponsorship under terms consistent with this resolution and the Grants and Sponsorship Policy; and
- (G) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to correct minor errors to the matters set out in this report, noting that the identity of the recipient will not change, and a CEO Update will be provided.

(Note – at the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Miller, and carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (7) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Arkins, Gannon, Kok, Miller, Weldon and Worling

Noes (2) Councillors Ellsmore* and Thompson*.

Carried.

*Note – Councillors Ellsmore and Thompson abstained from voting on this matter. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 10.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Councillors Ellsmore and Thompson are taken to have voted against the motion.)

S117676

Item 4**Accommodation Grants Program - Annual Performance Review**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the continuation of the current Accommodation Grant leases and licences for the 62 lease holders that have satisfactorily completed their annual performance review for the 2024 calendar year and are continuing in the Program;
- (B) Council note that City North Men's Shed Inc, SDN Children's Services at 60 Pine Street, Chippendale and Wildflower Gardens for Good Ltd were not required to complete an annual performance review as they have not been in the Program for a full 12 months and are continuing in the Program; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to correct minor errors to the matters set out in this report, noting that the identity of the recipients will not change, and a CEO Update will be provided to Council advising of any changes made in accordance with this resolution.

(Note – at the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried unanimously.)

S117676

Item 5**Major Events and Festivals Charity Partners - 2025/2026**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the appointment of Variety - the Children's Charity (NSW / ACT) (ABN: 38 003 354 934) as the charity partner for Sydney Christmas 2025, with the option to extend to 2026;
- (B) Council approve the appointment of Beyond Blue Limited (ABN: 87 093 865 840) as the charity partner for Sydney New Year's Eve 2025, with the option to extend to 2026;
- (C) Council approve the appointment of Kids' Cancer Project (ABN: 13 061 138 181) as the charity partner for Sydney Lunar Festival 2026, with the option to extend to 2027; and
- (D) authority to be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to enter into agreements with Variety - the Children's Charity (NSW / ACT), Beyond Blue Limited, and Kids' Cancer Project to establish their charity partner status for the respective events.

(Note – at the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Miller and carried unanimously.)

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