

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
SENIORS COORDINATING COMMITTEE
 ON WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST 2020 4:00PM
 Via Teleconference

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic this meeting was held via Zoom

1. ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT:

Mayor Jamie de Brenni (*Chair*)
 Geoff Sloan, General Member
 Ian Towns, University of the 3rd Age
 Kate Lewis, Anglicare NT
 Sue Jones, National Seniors of Central Australia
 Belinda Staniforth, Catholic Care
 Chris Neck, Alice Springs Seniors Lifestyle Accommodation Village (*guest*)
 Chris Sanderson, Victims of Crime NT (*guest*)
 Jessica Miller, NT Concession and Recognition Scheme (*guest*)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Jeanette Shepherd, Manager Community and Cultural Development
 Felicity Waldock, Acting Manager Library, Alice Springs Public Library
 Kiri Milne, Community Development Officer
 Telly Ociones, Executive Assistant (*Minutes*)

13th Alice Springs Town Council Seniors Coordinating Committee	15 July - 20	19 Aug - 20
Mayor Damien Ryan	A	
Councillor Jamie de Brenni	✓	✓
Councillor Catherine Satour		
Councillor Glen Auricht		
Edna Saunders	--	--
Ian Towns	✓	✓
Lowell Wood	✓	
Fran Kilgariff	✓	A
Shauna Hartig	--	--
Sue Jones	✓	✓
Kate Lewis	✓	✓
Val Hoey	--	--
Geoff Sloan	✓	✓
Rhiannon Fletcher / Belinda Staniforth	✓	✓
Bronwyn Arnold	--	--

✓	Attended	A	Apology received
✓ Proxy	Proxy attended in place of committee member	--	No attendance and no apology recorded
	Non-member		

An audio recording of this Zoom meeting was made for minute taking purposes

The meeting commenced at 4:00pm.

APOLOGIES:

Fran Kilgariff, Council of the Ageing (COTA)
Sabine Taylor, Director Corporate Services
Robert Jennings, Chief Executive Officer

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:

Nil

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Seniors Coordinating Committee meeting held 15 July 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Moved: Sue Jones
Seconded: Geoff Sloan

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

4.1 ASTC Community Survey Update

The Chief Executive Officer has determined this will be a continuous survey, allowing Council to gain data over a period of time rather than just a snapshot. The closing date will be in-line with other consultations due in that period, including a determination on a publication of results. Community Development Officer will provide updates as they arise.

4.2 Seniors Month

Community Development Officer provided the following update on Seniors events:

- The Seniors Morning Tea took place Friday 7 August, with 44 people attending. The guest speaker was Tanya Heaslip.
- High Tea Bingo took place at the Alice Springs Public Library on Saturday 15 August. Thirty-one (31) people attended, with positive feedback received from the attendees.
- Seniors' Still Got Talent is taking place next Wednesday 26 August. Ten (10) performers are confirmed to compete and attendance will be capped at 120 people.

5. DEPUTATIONS:

5.1 Chris Neck, Alice Springs Seniors Lifestyle Accommodation Project

Chris Neck gave a brief update on the seniors' lifestyle accommodation project as follows:

Regional Economic Development Committee (REDC) was successful in engaging the NT Government to look for and identify the location for the Seniors lifestyle village and to start the EOI process. REDC no longer operates but a new Committee has taken over the role.

The potential site for the development of a seniors' lifestyle retirement accommodation is situated on the northern side of the MacDonnell Ranges in the residential area of Mount Johns. The site was formerly designated as Stage 2 of the Mount Johns land release.

Under the Indigenous Land Use Agreement with the Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation, native title has been extinguished.

Expressions of interest (EOI) from suitably qualified parties (proponents) to develop and operate a seniors' lifestyle accommodation village in Alice Springs closed on 29 May 2020. The EOI is the first stage of a two-stage competitive process to facilitate private sector delivery of the Project and will be followed by a Request for Detailed Proposals.

Chris advised that EOIs are currently being assessed. He will find out indicative timelines and next phase of the process from the Central Australian Economic Reconstruction Committee. Discussion ensued on the following points:

- Engagement with the community to make the project a success
- Incorporate input from seniors on how the project would look like
- Affordability of the accommodation
- The need for a retirement village
- Complicated aspects of the project make the development of the project more distant

ACTION:

Community Development Officer to liaise with Chris Neck and provide further information after his next meeting with C/A Economic Reconstruction Committee.

5.2 Jessica Miller, Northern Territory Concession and Recognition Scheme, Territory Families

Jessica Miller provided information on the following schemes:

Seniors Recognition Scheme

- Eligibility: Australian citizen or permanent resident; NT resident aged 65; present in the NT for 183 days of the financial year
- Administered through a prepaid Visa card with \$500 each financial year – card should be activated before it is used. A PIN number is issued for each card.
- New system has more flexibility and more choices. The prepaid card can be used to spend on travel and accommodation, fuel, phone and internet bills, utility bills - electricity, water, sewerage and gas. Utility bills can also be paid at Australia Post outlets that are Post Billpay enabled.
- Contact the 1800 number for any issues

NT Concessions Scheme

- The scheme provides concessions on a range of essential goods and services to help with living expenses.
- Eligibility: Australian citizen or permanent resident; NT resident; living in the NT for 183 days of the financial year; must be a current recipient of a Centrelink or Veterans' Affairs benefit; persons who joined in or before 2014 based on age.
- Essential goods and services you can receive a concession on include:
 - council rates and garbage services – \$200 per annum for council rates and \$150 per annum for garbage (varies between regions)
 - electricity - up to \$1,200 per financial year
 - water and sewerage – maximum claim is \$800 per household, per financial year
 - NT driver licence and vehicle registration - free renewal on your driver licence and up to \$154 per annum for vehicle registration (\$77 for six months)
 - Spectacles - up to \$502.20 every two years for you and your registered dependents for spectacles

Chris Sanderson left at 5:06pm

ACTION:

Committee members to send any further queries about the schemes through the Community Development Officer.

5.3 Chris Sanderson, Victims of Crime NT

Deputation was deferred to the next meeting due to lack of time.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

Nil

7. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, **16 September 2020** at 4:00pm via teleconference

8. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING: The meeting closed at 5.13pm.