

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
SENIORS COORDINATING COMMITTEE
ON WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE 2020 4:00PM
Via Teleconference

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

1. ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT:

Councillor Catherine Satour (*Chair*)
Geoff Sloan, General Member
Lowell Wood, Dementia Australia
Ian Towns, University of the 3rd Age
Kate Lewis, Anglicare NT
Fran Kilgariff, Council of the Ageing (COTA)
Sue Jones, National Seniors of Central Australia

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Jeanette Shepherd, Manager Community and Cultural Development
Clare Fisher, Manager Library Services
Kiri Milne, Community Development Officer
Telly Ociones, Executive Assistant (*Minutes*)

13th Alice Springs Town Council Seniors Coordinating Committee	17 Jul - 19	21 Aug - 19	18 Sep - 19	16 Oct - 19	20 Nov - 19	19 Feb - 20	18 Mar - 20	14 Apr - 20	20 May - 20	17 June - 20
Mayor Damien Ryan	✓	A	Meeting cancelled – no quorum	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A
Councillor Jamie de Brenni	✓	A		✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	A
Councillor Catherine Satour				✓	✓	A	A	✓	--	✓
Councillor Glen Auricht	✓	✓								
Edna Saunders	✓	✓		--	✓	✓	✓	--	--	--
Ian Towns	✓	✓		✓	✓	A	A	--	✓	✓
Lowell Wood	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fran Kilgariff	✓	✓		A	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓
Shauna Hartig	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	A	A	A	A
Sue Jones	A	A		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kate Lewis	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Val Hoey		✓		✓	✓	--	✓	A	A	A
Geoff Sloan	✓	A		A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rhiannon Fletcher / Belinda Staniforth		✓		✓	A	A	A	✓	✓	--
Bronwyn Arnold	✓ Proxy	✓ Proxy		--	--	--	--	--	--	--

✓	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:

Mayor Damien Ryan
Councillor Jamie de Brenni
Val Hoey, Alice Springs Seniors Citizens Association
Shauna Hartig, Country Women's Association
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 20 May 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Moved: Sue Jones
Seconded: Lowell Wood

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

4.1 Seniors Dance Classes

After obtaining a Statement of Commitment for the Andy McNeill room and having approval from ASTC Chief Executive Officer and Dementia Australia, the Dancing Dementia classes will finally commence on Tuesday, 14 July for a period of eight weeks.

Movers and Groovers dance classes will commence at the 50 Plus Centre on Saturday, 27 June at 11:00am. The classes will be a gold coin donation, with bookings required. Charmaine Gaces from Get Physical will be running the classes, with a focus on fun and movement.

4.2 Old Stories, Young Eyes

Two additional episodes have now been filmed featuring Jovi Price and Russell North. Please get in contact with the Community Development Officer if you know any seniors in the community with an interesting story and some advice to share.

4.3 Seniors Month Planning

Council was successful in obtaining a grant for the Still Got Talent event. Council officers are in discussion with the Alice Springs Convention Centre on pandemic risk mitigation regarding the event and looking at utilising a larger room, to try and accommodate as many guests and participants. The event is scheduled on Wednesday, 26 August.

Council is also in early planning stages of the Seniors Morning Tea for Seniors Month. Council officers are looking at two scenarios that could include physical distancing measures and pandemic risk mitigation. One scenario is holding the Morning Tea over two sessions. The other scenario is holding the event offsite (at Witchetty's), budget permitting. Updates will be provided when further information is available.

The Manager Library Services added that the Library is also holding its Seniors month event which includes Bingo High Tea and Tall Tales.

COTA is finalising the Seniors printed calendar this week. There is a number of good events in Alice Springs that is going to happen this year. The printed calendar will be distributed as soon as they become available.

4.4 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD)

An interagency campaign was created by Catholic Care NT, Relationships Australia, COTA CAWLS and ASTC to promote WEAAD. WEAAD posters were distributed to the Alice Springs Hospital, Doctors clinics, Police station, IGA supermarkets, Salvation Army, Mission Australia, Legal Aid, Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit (CAAFLU), Purple House, MCSCA, banks and accounting offices. The poster was shared on Council's social media on Monday, 15 June.

An advertisement was also placed in the Friday (12 June) edition of the Centralian Advocate. An interview with Chloe and Megan from CAWLS took place with 8CCC to acknowledge the day. A community service was recorded and is being played on high rotation on 8CCC.

An animation promoting elder abuse awareness, created by WoSSCA and Relationships Australia will be shared on Council's social media on Saturday. This was also shown to the Committee during the meeting.

ACTION:

Community Development Officer to share the animation video to Congress and Tangentyere Aged Care.

5. **DEPUTATION:**

5.1 Michael Kinnaird, Environmental Health Officer, NT Department of Health 4:06pm

Michael provided an overview about the concept of COVID-19 safety plans required for businesses and event organisers. As of 15 June 2020, the Chief Health Officer issued his Direction No. 36 requiring all businesses to have a COVIDSafety Plan by 30 June 2020. Three things are mandatory, and the rest are best practice:

- COVIDSafety plan for business
- the use of hand sanitiser available for staff or clients
- posters/signage – specific on content of poster; 4 separate messages required – hand washing and sanitising; physical distancing, staying at home if not well and encouraging people to sign up for COVID-19 app

In addition, there is a set of event guidelines/checklist to follow for COVIDSafety Plan. A Statement of Commitment certificate will be issued by NT Department of Health once this checklist is submitted. An Environmental Health Officer will inspect the venue to ensure if the business is living up with its commitment.

ACTION:

Community Development Officer to provide the links on COVIDSafety Plan and event checklist to Committee members via email.

Michael Kinnaird left meeting at 4:29pm

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

6.1 NT Seniors Recognition Scheme Update

Territory Families has extended the use of travel vouchers issued to Northern Territory Seniors Recognition Scheme (NTSRS) members for 2019-2020 for an additional six months.

This will provide NTSRS members who have not used their travel vouchers issued this financial year with a greater opportunity to claim their full benefit now that COVID-19 restrictions are easing.

Eligible NT residents aged 65 years or older who chose to use their \$500 benefit for travel were issued vouchers. These vouchers can be used for travel within the NT, including travel by vehicle or when the State and Territory open, to bring a family member to the Territory for a visit.

Sue Jones advised that the water concession is now given twice a year and not quarterly, as previously provided.

Geoff Sloan advised that the 2019-2020 vouchers are valid until December 2020. People need to go to the Territory Families website to validate their seniors concession card.

ACTION:

Community Development Officer to chase up and provide clarification on water concession and travel vouchers by inviting a deputation from Territory Families at the next meeting.

6.2 NT Australian of the Year Nominations

Australia Day Council NT Is calling for nominations for Australian of the Year Award. If you know anyone who deserves recognition for the work that they do, please contact the Australia Day Council NT. The four award categories are NT Australian of the Year, NT Senior Australian of the Year, NT Young Australian of the Year and NT Local Hero. The link to nominate will be provided to the Committee via email.

6.3 Update from Manager Library Services, Alice Springs Public Library

The Library is in the middle of COVID-19 phase reopening.

- Cinema area has reopened in the Library
- Working through tentative steps to return to normal programming in late August
- Library is quiet but slowly starting to pick up

6.4 COVID-19 Update from the Committee

Anglicare NT social support group service has not changed since the coordinator is not available at the moment but have discussed getting this service back in July.

Dementia Australia will be providing its group support (up to three people) from next week. There is no change for individual support but waiting for directions on transitioning back to the office space in the next two weeks.

7. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, **15 July 2020** at 4:00pm via teleconference

8. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING: The meeting closed at 5:00pm.