
NOTES FROM THE YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2016 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, BRIDGE ROAD, NOWRA COMMENCING AT 10.03 AM

The following members were present:

Clr White
Mikayla Barnes

Others present:

Liliana Hutchinson – Community Safety Officer/Acting Youth Development Officer
Donna Corbyn – Community Development Officer
Janet Atkins – Manager, Nowra Youth Centre
Sam Kettlewell – Manager, PCYC
Gemma Hart – Bay and Basin Community Resources

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Greg Hand and the Shoalhaven Business Chamber representative

Note:

Donna Corbyn advised that due to a lack of quorum the meeting could not be convened.

Those present held a general discussion.

The notes from the discussion follow:

Mikala Barnes

Mikala spoke about the Zone Student Representative Council (SRC). From 4 to 5.30pm on 2 March at the Youthie, SRCs will meet to discuss projects. John Lamont from South Coast Leadership Forums is assisting. Lili attended the last meeting. The SRC is hoping for increased attendance at the next meeting. The inaugural meeting was held on 25 Nov 2015. Projects being considered include homelessness / Youth off the Streets Program.

Sam Kettlewell

Sam introduced herself and spoke about upcoming changes for the PCYC. Sam is the manager of the PCYC.

This is the 30th year for the PCYC in the Shoalhaven. The Centre is open again and community consultation is underway to ascertain what the youth want and need from the PCYC. Many fund raising events are planned, for example at the Nowra Show and the Twilight Markets.

Sam has been speaking to youth at local school assemblies. The PCYC is looking for general and executive members. There will be a new strategic plan and the

PCYC's aim is to become a youth and community hub. From 11am to 1pm every Wednesday they hold a free community lunch.

There will be a core group of young people to design the space that will be used as a youth drop in space.. Ann Sudmalis MP is on board regarding funding. Funding is needed, for example, for a commercial kitchen. PCYC is looking to open a community café, where youth will be able to undertake training in hospitality.

The PCYC runs a boxing program (junior and senior), and are looking for a venue to accommodate gymnastics as the PCYC venue is currently unsuitable for use for this type of program. Other programs planned for delivery include, a building resilience program and an outreach youth centre. The PCYC will work collaboratively with other services.

Donna Corbyn noted that there has previously been consultation in the Bay and Basin area and advised Sam to contact Veronica from the Sanctuary Point Community Pride to find out more.

Sam commented that the PCYC wants to target all young people, not just those from disadvantaged and/or low socioeconomic backgrounds.

Sam spoke about the PCYC Nation of Origins team for 2016. The PCYC have a free fitness boxing program (survey and observation type program) & parental consent is required. Starts week beginning 14 February 2016 and there are 50 places available.

Lili Hutchinson

Lili gave an update on the following:

- Shoalhaven Heads Youth Forum
Friday February 12
5:30-8:30pm
Shoalhaven Heads Surf Club
Food will be provided
Youth have their say on the development of Shoalhaven Heads and bring in new things for Youth.
- Safe Schools Leadership Forum
Wednesday February 17
9am-3pm
Shoalhaven Arts Centre
Food will be provided. Building skills and Community at the same time. Seats limited.
- Neighbour Day Celebrations
Sunday March 27
All day, every day should be Neighbour Day
Bring a Neighbour over for a cuppa, meet at the park, meet your Neighbours, break down barriers and build your Neighbourhood.
- Piano and Libraries
Any day. Free pianos to be done up by the Community, for the Community.
We also have a budget for a library. Think of a big book bird house or a piano at the shops where you live. We have 3 pianos available and money for the

building of libraries. Lili advised they are having difficulty finding someone to tune the pianos.

Clr White

Clr White spoke about the recent Red Head Villages CCB public meeting she attended. The bad behaviour of some youth in the area and options for what could be done about it, such as banning individuals from public reserves, was discussed at the meeting.

Donna noted that Council cannot ban anyone from public reserves and parks. Council is funding a diversionary program to be run by Willow Tree training on this occasion for the youth concerned. The program starts Tuesday 9 February 2016. Schools are on board and are referring others in. Parental permission is required for the program, the high school and police are making contact with the parents.

Clr White noted that the CCB's and community groups need to know what resources are available to them and how to coordinate / get older people to engage with youth.

Gemma Hart

Gemma spoke about the Sanctuary Point Youth and Community Centre's focus on young people and the following upcoming events and programs:

- Performance workshops after school
- A program working with primary schools to a design a village (youth work in teams with mentors)
- Collaboration with Healthy Cities
- Young women's community event on Saturday 12 March 2016 (young women performing in front of an audience). Will be held in Huskisson but the event is Shoalhaven wide. (Sat 12 March 2016)
- Collaborating & consulting with the new youth club

Janet Atkins

Janet spoke about new Nowra Youth Services initiatives, which include:

- Drop-in program
- Cooking program
- Transport home for youth from the showgrounds & sight assistance for security at the show
- Aboriginal youth mentors initiative
- A Youth Aboriginal camp will be held during Youth Week
- Partnership with Waminda to start a girls group in February 2016. The girls group will be workshops, for example, for jewellery making, card making etc.
- Youth volunteers raise money for the centre

Donna Corbyn

Donna advised that Youth Week 2016 will be held from 8 April 2016 to 17 April 2016.

Youth Week funding is under constant threat, the Federal Government has withdrawn from funding all together, the State Government has committed until 2017 at this stage.

Youth Week 2016 has the same theme as last year 'It Starts with Us'. Council has received over 16 diverse applications for activities, for example, the Young Coasties

Festival, free teen gym, swim and slide at the Aquatic Centres, a youth awards night and much more

Donna advised that

- Construction of the BMX track at Erowal Bay is complete.
- Council has been working with a group at Culburra regarding the construction of a skate park.
- Council is reviewing the dirt BMX track at Sussex Inlet.

The meeting concluded, the time being 11.12 am.