

Meeting Minutes

Version No. 1

Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Name	Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) Meeting	Meeting No.	6 of 2012
Meeting Date	Monday 20 August 2012		
Meeting Time	10.00am – 11.30am		
Meeting Location	Geraldton Regional Library		
Attendees	Cr. Neil Bennett (NB) (Chair)	By Invitation	
	Cr. Tarleah Thomas (TT)	Apologies	Mayor Ian Carpenter (IC) John Sewell (JS) Andrea Selvey (AS) Alex McKinnon (AM) Catherine Belcher (CB) Jo Logue (JL) Rita Stinson (RS) Patricia Powell (PP)
	Barbara Thomas (BT)		
Tanya Henkel (TH)	Distribution	As above	
Susan Smith (SS)			
Marilyn McLeod (MM)			
Ric McCracken (RM)			
Serena Schewtschenko (SSc)			
Shirley Valle (SV)			
Trudi Cornish (TC) (Minutes)			

1. Welcome and Apologies

Welcome to Cr. Tarleah Thomas representing Mullewa and Ric McCracken representing Walkaway in replacement of Jo Logue (letter of resignation received 20th August). Apologies received from Mayor Ian Carpenter, John Sewell, Andrea Selvey, Alex McKinnon, Catherine Belcher, Jo Logue, Rita Stinson and Patricia Powell.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes from the meeting held on 21 May were taken as read and agreed.

- Recycling of heritage materials – TH reported that the local salvage yard has now closed for business.
- Tenindewa – RM reported that a thank you letter had been sent to Brookfield Rail for works at Tenindewa.
- Heritage Awards – SS reported that only 1 nomination had been received despite promotion across town and in the media. RM declared an interest.

ACTION: Committee resolved for SS and TH to consider 1 application against award criteria and make recommendation to Committee.

- Centenary of Rail (Northampton Friends of the Railway) – SS reported that a letter had been sent to the Friends with regard to the HAC recommendation that \$1000 be

contributed by the City of Greater Geraldton (CGG) towards the installation of interpretative signage at sites along the old Northampton to Ajana railway line.

- Geraldton to Ajana trail – TH reported that some land along the old railway reserve had been reclaimed by a local pastoralist (a shed and some cropping activity noted) SV also mentioned the possibility of some mining activity along the reserve. SS reported expression of interest letters had been sent to Shire of Northampton (response received – pending further discussion by Shire) and Shire of Chapman Valley.
- Geraldton Camera Club – MM reported that the Camera Club is not interested in pursuing the idea of reprinting the “Geraldton: then and now” book at this stage.
- Poor condition of railway tanks at Mullewa raised by BT. TH reported that a conservation plan existed for the precinct, including the tanks. RM noted there are currently some access restrictions due to upgrade works by Brookfield. Committee resolved to await outcome of pending Heritage Strategy with regard to further works.
- Wonthella Walkway – TC reported recent contact with Dr Adelyn Siew (State Heritage Office - SHO) in follow-up to an email sent by Patricia Powell. Dr Siew clarified that *“the Heritage Council does not have any legal authority to advise on the Public Transport Authority’s lease agreement”* and that *“we do not get involved in the vesting process between the PTA and the City”*. However, TH noted that officer of the SHO could recommend to the Heritage Council to support the bike trail proposal. The Committee discussed the need for a lead person for further follow-up and that the concept of a Walk Trail was fully supported by the HAC. Moved – RM. Seconded – TH

Note: Late item received by meeting – Memo from Wonthella Progress Association (Attachment 1).

ACTION: SS to discuss with the Director of Creative Communities with regard to Executive recommendations for further action.

3. Agenda Items

3.1. 2012-13 Budget Funded Heritage Projects

Reported by SS:

- Walkaway Memorial Hall (Electrical upgrade, re-roof, gutters. Soak wells) - \$45,000
- Greenough Pioneer Museum (Gutters, limestone walls, Interpretation plan) - \$5,000
- Old Recreation Ground (Change rooms and toilet block)- \$1,500,000
- Mullewa Masonic Lodge (Renewal as per conservation plan) - \$92,926
- Mullewa Drive Trail (Detail info still being compiled) - \$300,000
- Narra Tarra Cemetery Interpretation - \$35,000
- North Road Stock Route - \$45,000
- Stonewall approaches to Convict Bridge - \$9,000
- Stonework at Drummonds Cove Cottage - \$2,000

3.2. Heritage Grants and Heritage Foundation

TH reported that SHO Grants are available annually up to \$100,000, and that it is likely this amount will increase next year with additional support promised by the State. State registered, privately owned properties are eligible. Owners must contribute 50% of the anticipated costs. NB raised the concept of a "Heritage Foundation" whereby support could be provided towards the restoration of highly significant local buildings where works may exceed the capacities of private owners. The Committee deliberated issues of access. What would be community benefit? Who would administer the Foundation? TH raised the suggestion that the Committee take note of National Trust existing frameworks.

ACTION: SS to follow up with Director of Creative Communities and Tom Perrigo (National Trust WA) with regard to further support for this idea.

3.3. Artist in Residence Conclave, Greenough

NB proposed the creation of an Artists in Residence Conclave in Greenough. This would be in addition and compliment the existing Artists in Residence programme. Buildings that were proposed to be restored and utilised included Gray's Store, Wesleyan Church, Temperance Lodge and the Potters House.

ACTION: SS to discuss with Tom Perrigo and also Chris Budhan

3.4. Museum Leases – Status Report

SS reported that leases have been signed by the Walkaway Station Museum Inc. for the Walkaway Station Museum and by the Geraldton Greenough Historical Society for the Light House Keepers Cottage. Both leases are for 21 years. An Item will go to Council next week with regard to the Greenough Pioneer Museum. The Agenda is available online at the City's website for people to look at:

<http://www.cgg.wa.gov.au/meeting/ordinary-meeting-council-28-august-2012>

3.5. Heritage Strategy, National Trust of Australia (WA) – Status Report

SS reported that the National Trust (WA) have been contracted to deliver the Heritage Strategy. Tom Perrigo visited Geraldton in July to speak with key stakeholders and has advised that the Strategy should be completed by October. The National Trust is also in the process of drafting a Community Survey to be conducted via an online survey tool.

3.6. WA Museum Request for Acquisition Support

MM declared an interest. TC summarised briefing notes attached to Agenda. RM provided further details, including that the art piece had previously been on display in Geraldton, as well as across the country. BT and NB expressed concern with regard to the HAC expertise in making arts related decisions. BT asked if there was a framework within the City to assist with processing sponsorship requests. The Committee debated the geographic significance of the piece to the Midwest region. With regard to this, RM mentioned the value of the Tjanpi Desert Weaving group as a role model for other aspiring Indigenous artists. The Committee also questioned as to whether the work (if purchased by the WA Museum) might return to Geraldton for display at any time.

ACTION: SS to follow up with Director of Creative Communities with regard to the above queries

3.7. 2013 Events for the 50th Anniversary of the discovery of the Gilt Dragon and Batavia

MM reported that a meeting with the Maritime Museum to discuss plans is still yet to happen and that she will keep the HAC advised of any developments.

ACTION: MM to report back to next HAC Meeting with any developments

3.8. Geraldton Bicentennial Heritage Trail Signage Inventory

TH elaborated upon the *Geraldton Bicentennial Heritage Trail Signage Inventory* produced by TH and circulated with the HAC Agenda. TH reported that the signage was in various states of repair, in some cases quite deteriorated and potentially misleading. TH reported that recommendations were contained in her report with regard to maintenance works needed. The Committee discussed in particular the possibility of future signage at Apex Park with regard to recognition of local identities buried there. Also that signage at the Civic Centre could document the evolution of the use of these buildings. TH mentioned that it was hoped the *Greenough Walkaway Heritage Trail Signage Inventory* would be completed by the next HAC meeting. The Committee noted the need for a list of future interpretations and that these might be established looking at the Inventories for guidance.

ACTION: TH to report back at next HAC Meeting on progress of the Greenough Walkaway Inventory

4. General Business

4.1. North Road Stock Route Trail

SS reported that contact has been re-established with key stakeholders and that a meeting is planned, possibly for late September, at a central location such as Jurien Bay.

4.2. Funding for West End Development

TC reported on a Media Statement distributed by the City on the 17 July, namely \$4.9 million towards the \$13.83 million City West End Recreation and Entertainment Precinct project, under Round 2 of the Regional Development Australia Fund. Included in this was:

- \$5.14m for new Eastern Breakwater
- \$4.75m for a Multi User Facility including a Community Events Stage
- \$1.94m toward the Merry-Go-Round Precinct
- \$2 million towards the restoration of the Original Railway Station.

An additional \$2.687 million will be sought through the Mid-West Investment Plan. Director of Creative Communities is preparing a Business Case to explore potential tenants for the building. The Project unlikely to start until at least the first quarter of 2013.

4.3. Ellendale Pool Interpretation Signage

TC reported on the European Interpretation of the use of Ellendale Pool as compiled by Gary Martin. The collection of this material had been coordinated by RM previously. TC circulated these documents amongst Committee Members and noted that Derek Councillor has agreed to provide an Oral Interpretation of the Indigenous story. A trip to Ellendale Pool had been planned for last week but had to be re-scheduled.

4.4. No. 1 Railway Station Grant Funding

TC reported that the City was successful in receiving funding of \$18,181.82 from the Community Heritage Program to produce interpretative signage, recording oral histories, provide information on the Libraries webpage and publish a booklet in the Geraldton Regional Libraries Mid West Heritage Series on the No. 1 Railway Station.

4.5. Bill Sewell Complex Master Plan

SS reported on an email sent from Murray Connell (Manager Town Planning Services, CGG) advising that the advertising period for the Bill Sewell Complex Master Plan had concluded with no objections and (in accordance with Council's resolution form 26 June 2012) the Master Plan has been adopted for final approval as an addendum to the City Centre Planning Policy.

4.6. Other

No other business to report.

5. Next Meeting

Monday 8 October, 10.00am at the Geraldton Regional Library - TO BE ADVISED