

# KNOX ACTIVE AGEING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**8 April 2021**

**Time: 7.00 to 8.30pm**

**Meeting held on Zoom**

*As this Advisory Committee has been established by Council and includes at least one Councillor and a staff member it is an Assembly of Councillors in accordance with the Local Government Act.*

*Councillors and staff are required to declare any conflict of interest that they may have in regards to any item discussed that is intended or likely to be the subject of a report to Council or a decision of an officer under delegation. In declaring a conflict of interest the Councillor or staff member must leave the meeting whilst the matter is being discussed. A definition of conflict of interest in accordance with the Local Government Act is provided in the Active Ageing Advisory Committee Folder.*

*Community representatives on the Committee are not subject to these provisions; however they are required under their terms of appointment to declare any conflicts of interest that may arise for them from time to time. It will be a matter for the Chair to determine if the community representative is required to leave the meeting whilst a particular matter that is subject to a conflict of interest is being discussed.*

## 1. Welcome and Apologies

Judy Chalkley; Linda Keenahan; Linda Black; Eddie Atacador; Lyn Maestri; Gary Cantwell; Russel Anbiah; Cr. Nicole Seymour; Cr. Meagan Baker; Jacqui Storey; Judith Mercieca; Anne Sherrard; Jenny Martin; Kylie Johnson

Apologies: Rachel Bast, Marilyn Beyer

## 2. Conflict of Interest Declaration

- No conflict declared

## 3. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- Moved by Linda Black, seconded by Eddie Atacador

## 4. Items for Discussion

### 4.1 Advisory Committee Introductions

For those who were unable to make it to the February meeting; name, involvement in Knox community and key interest in being involved in the KAAAC.

- Anne Sherrard - Relationship Manager at Knox University of the Third Age
- Kylie Johnson – Age-friendly Communities Project Officer - taking over the organisation of the KAAAC agenda and meeting logistics for 2021

#### 4.2 Emergency Management in Knox

- Presenter: John Salter, Emergency Management Officer
- Presenting an overview of the role councils play in emergencies.
- Phases of emergency: prepare, respond and recover (or before, during and after)

##### **PREPARE:**

- Council have a Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) which guides the actions of the Emergency Management team at Council
- There is a Municipal emergency management planning committee (MEMPC) that consists of Council staff, emergency services representatives, support agencies, and community reps (this is now legislation). Have not previously included community members, now have 4 reps from various demographics – CALD, older people, youth and disability
- Outcomes of the planning process and committee; mitigation strategies, community resilience building (next focus area), community awareness and information (e.g. disseminate state warnings)

##### **RESPOND**

- Council resources to respond to certain aspects of emergency; spills, clean ups, impact assessments, emergency relief centres, relief support e.g. emergency accommodation

##### **RECOVERY**

- Community-centred and led, coordination and integration, consequence driven (broader view of overall impact of the emergency), community has a say/role in their recovery of their community, negative and positive outcomes considered – sometimes there are positive aspects

##### Additional notes from the question time:

- Committee glad to hear that there are community reps, it's important that those affected should be involved in the recovery
- Council MEMP is audited every 3 years
- Learning from the contaminated water event – used it as a learning opportunity and approach planned if the same issue arises again
- Each council does a risk assessment of their particular community – global trends are considered but more detailed contextual lens applied
- All relief centres are accessible for people with disabilities i.e. people using wheelchairs but centres are not able to cater for people with high needs. The team outsources accommodation for people with high needs to organisations that can manage those needs e.g. residential aged care facility or a hospital
- Nicole shared an example of emergency relief centre where areas were sectioned off for people with specific needs e.g. people with autism

- Emergency exercises are practiced regularly in the emergency management team – training and preparation is a large part of the role of the team. Simulations have been created and some of those are virtual
- The Emergency Management team disseminate communications through as many different channels as possible – to help reach those that don't have access to internet and technology. For those that are completely isolated, there is a need to rely on community connections as part of the communications e.g. neighbours looking out for each other. Aim to encourage the community to take partial ownership of communications

#### 4.3 Council Plan and Key Life Stages Plan discussion

- Current Council Plan and Key Life Stages Plan coming to an end
- Most of the actions from current plan have been completed (3 actions remaining). Age-friendly cities will be ongoing into the next plan
- New council plan is in early stages of development – however this plan doesn't need to dictate the direction of the committee for the next 12 months

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Kylie to add agenda item for next committee meeting: include an overview of new plans by Stuart Ireland. Will seek advice and input from this committee for the next stage of plan development
- Judy Chalkley, Kylie Johnson and Stuart Ireland to develop a Project Plan for the KAAAC to include clear themes and initiatives:
  - Themes discussed: social prescribing/isolation, safety in the home and community, ageism/elder abuse, impact of COVID (umbrella impact)
  - Initiatives and considerations discussed:
    - Carrington Park upgrade – senior exercise park (partnered with NARI) to be included in this new development (see below link). Committee could do something fun or engaging with the launch of the exercise park to promote to the community (consider this as a project). Reference made to the recently opened Ivanhoe seniors exercise park in Banyule for launch ideas (see below link)
      - <https://haveyoursay.knox.vic.gov.au/carrington-park-playspace-upgrade>
      - <https://www.banyule.vic.gov.au/News-items/Ivanhoe-seniors-exercise-park>
    - Social inclusion as a high priority – re-establishing outings and social opportunities
    - Male continence bins in public restrooms (current Disability Advisory Committee project)
    - Transport – Eastern transport commission could present on where Knox is headed in the near future from an older person perspective
    - Intergenerational playgroups – note that this has been trialed in the past – Judy has confirmed there are plans to run this again in 2021
    - Ageing affects everyone – Russel has noticed that students within the health services learn a lot about ageing and build empathy towards older people.

Initiatives from this committee should include younger people as well – general agreement from committee

#### 4.4 Ageism Campaign Overview and Draft Response to Addressing Ageism

Presenter: Kylie Johnson, Age-friendly Communities Project Officer, Knox City Council  
Community Access and Support

Kylie presented and gave an overview of the ageism campaign which forms part of Council's approach over the next 4 years to tackle ageism in the community. A brief insight into the 4 focus areas that Council is currently looking at in response to ageism over the next 4 years was also presented/discussed.

**ACTION:** Kylie to send Ageism Campaign presentation slides with meeting minutes

- **Questions/Comments:**

- Jenny - how does the ageism campaign link to the built environment such as transport. Judy – addressing this may not be appropriate for this phase of the project but may link to the policy aspect.
  - Age simulation suit event will help with raising awareness of the reality of accessing transport and built environment for a typical ageing body.
  - [GERT Age Simulation Suit — Aged Care GP - Aged Care General Practice & General Practitioner DWS Jobs Melbourne](#)
- Gary and Russel and broader committee– agree that ageism is a big problem. Attitude and built environment. People don't know what ageism is – awareness raising is a big challenge. Eddie - respect and ageism should be included in schools. Easy to trip up with use of language – everyone can make a mistake but awareness is key
- Jenny - Still need to be able to talk about older and younger people (can't be too politically correct that we erase). We can reclaim some of these terms and reshape with more value. It's the meaning behind the use of the words – rather than the words themselves

## 5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

- 5.1 Actions from previous meeting have been completed
- 5.2 No other business arising from previous meeting to discuss

## 6. Other Business

- 6.1 Vouchers available for Knox Volunteers  
**ACTION:** Kylie to send voucher information to the committee (completed)
- 6.2 Eddie Atacador Chess Club has re-opened and is held at the Rowville Library every Friday from 12.30pm to 5.30pm. Starting date is the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2021
- 6.3 Jacqui going on leave until November 2021, Kylie is the new contact for the KAAAC

## 7. Next meeting

**Knox Active Ageing Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday 3 June 2021, 7.00 to 8.30pm**

- **ACTION:** Judy Chalkley and Kylie Johnson to update committee on face-to-face meeting prior to next meeting. Likely if meeting in the Civic Centre that the meeting will start earlier
- **ACTION:** Gary Cantwell most likely an apology for next meeting