Cultural Heritage Committee Minutes

22 July 2019

Our Vision

A City which values its heritage, cultural diversity, sense of place and natural environment.

A progressive City which is prosperous, sustainable and socially cohesive, with a strong community spirit.
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VENUE
Cultural Heritage Centre, St Peters Town Hall

HOUR
6.30pm

PRESENT
Committee Members
Cr Christel Mex (Presiding Member)
Cr Scott Sims
Cr Kester Moorhouse
Cr Evonne Moore
Cr Sue Whitington
Cr Carlo Dottore

Staff
Lisa Mara (General Manager, Governance & Community Affairs)
Isabella Dunning (Manager, Governance, Legal & Property)
Denise Schumann (Cultural Heritage Adviser)

APOLOGIES
Nil

ABSENT
Nil

TERMS OF REFERENCE:
The Committee is established to fulfill the following functions:
• to act in an advisory role on the management and execution of the Council's Cultural Heritage Program; and
• to do anything necessary, expedient or incidental to performing or discharging the functions of the Committee as listed herein or to achieving its objectives.

1. APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDING MEMBER

Cr Whitington moved:

That Cr Christel Mex be appointed Presiding Member for the Cultural Heritage Committee.

Seconded by Cr Dottore and carried unanimously.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

As this is the first meeting of this Committee, there are no minutes to be confirmed.

3. STAFF REPORTS
3.1 2019 CULTURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

REPORT AUTHOR: Cultural Heritage Adviser
GENERAL MANAGER: General Manager, Governance & Community Affairs
CONTACT NUMBER: 83340262
FILE REFERENCE: S/
ATTACHMENTS: A

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide information to the Cultural Heritage Committee regarding Council’s Cultural Heritage Program and the operation of the Cultural Heritage Centre.

BACKGROUND

The Council’s Cultural Heritage Program assists citizens to understand and appreciate the City’s distinctive and diverse history and to celebrate its unique sense of place.

The Cultural Heritage Program (the Program), operates as a heritage and history program, combining the disciplines of social and architectural history, cultural heritage interpretation, collections development and curation, public programs and community engagement.

The City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters was the first Council in South Australia to develop and implement a specialist cultural heritage program that encouraged the community to examine its historic past, to engage creatively with it, and to utilise this history and built heritage for the community’s social well-being.

This concept and rationale moved beyond the traditional concept of local history to developing a sense of historical consciousness and a set of heritage values within the community.

Over a number of years, the Program has assisted local traders, community groups and individuals on special projects, programs and events that garnered support for the Council’s history and heritage and raised its profile as a heritage destination.

Examples included the creation of The Parade Cultural Walk, the Cultural Heritage Interpretive Signage Trail, the development of commemorative artworks such as the Centenary of Federation’s ‘Yangadliya’ by Aboriginal artist Darryl Pfitzner Milika and the ‘Whirling Mandala’ by sculptor, Greg Johns, which marked 150 years of Local Government in the City.

Each project aimed to enrich the community’s understanding of the importance of cultural heritage and the need to preserve and celebrate history as a part of community life.

A measure of the City’s cultural history, was the admission of the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters to the International League of Historical Cities in 2007. Outside of the City of Melbourne and the City of Ballarat, in Victoria, it is the only other Australian city admitted to the League at the time.

The Cultural Heritage Centre, located at the St Peters Townhall Complex, opened in December 2012 and was the first cultural facility of its type in South Australia. The successful adaptive reuse of a State Heritage listed building provided a model for other Councils to consider when re-developing their aged civic facilities.

The establishment of the Cultural Heritage Centre has allowed the Cultural Heritage Program to expand its services to the community.

The Cultural Heritage Centre incorporates the following facilities:

- Archives and Research Room;
- Exhibition Gallery;
- Collections Workspace;
- Collections Storage Facility; and
- access to the Banquet Hall for Public Programs.
The Cultural Heritage Centre provides specialist heritage services aimed at:

- encouraging the community’s understanding, appreciation and experience of its built and natural heritage and the persons associated with it through the provision of professional historical research services;
- creating cultural heritage interpretative strategies which contribute to a sense of place and underpin the City’s unique built heritage and inspire residents and visitors;
- implementing a public program strategy that celebrates and fosters an awareness of the City’s historical significance and its distinctive cultural identity and its sense of historical continuity;
- providing access to the Council’s Civic Collection for research, education, commercial use, social engagement, communication activities and life-long learning; and
- supporting our City’s Aboriginal cultural heritage, guided by the Kaurna community.

This report presents a brief overview of activities and services from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 for the Committee’s information.

RELEVANT STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS & POLICIES

The relevant Outcomes and Objectives in CityPlan 2030 are:

**Outcome 1: Social Equity**
A connected, accessible and pedestrian-friendly community

Objectives:
1. Convenient and accessible services, information and facilities
3. An engaged and participating community.
4. A strong, healthy, resilient and inclusive community.

**Outcome 2: Cultural Vitality**
A culturally rich and diverse city, with a strong identity, history and sense of place.

Objectives:
1. An artistic, creative, cultural and visually interesting community.
2. A community embracing and celebrating its social and cultural diversity.
3. A City which values and promotes its rich cultural and built heritage
5. Dynamic community life in public spaces and precincts

The Cultural Heritage Program provides a range of services, activities, and experiences for differing generations that promotes social and cultural engagement, well-being, lifelong learning and an appreciation of the City’s natural and built heritage resources and assets.

FINANCIAL AND BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial and budget implications arising from this report.

EXTERNAL ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable.

SOCIAL ISSUE

The Cultural Heritage Program is committed to the process of social inclusion and provides access to the City’s history and heritage through the delivery of services, public events and community activities that foster a sense of belonging and well-being. Understanding the past provides context and meaning to a community and encourages social cohesion.
CULTURAL ISSUES

The provision of events which celebrate the City’s rich history encourages creative and artistic expression, supports learning and contributes to the vitality of the City’s culture and heritage.

The Cultural Heritage Program is committed to cultural diversity and has identified a need within the Council to develop specific cultural heritage policies and protocols with respect to Aboriginal culture in our City. This includes cultural knowledge bequeathed through the oral tradition of song, story, art, language and dance from generation to generation, and which embodies and preserves the Kaurna’s relationship to Country.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Not Applicable.

RESOURCE ISSUES

Not Applicable.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Not Applicable.

CONSULTATION

- Elected Members
  Not Applicable.

- Community
  Not Applicable.

- Staff
  Not Applicable.

- Other Agencies
  Not Applicable.

DISCUSSION

The Council’s Cultural Heritage Centre is a resource for the community and is a place where the City’s history is showcased and made accessible to the community.

Through the Cultural Heritage Centre, the Council collects and makes available primary and secondary material for a wide range of historical research. It houses the Council’s Civic Collection, Oral History Collection, and a significant proportion of the Council’s Archives.

Cultural Heritage services include the management of the heritage collection; a range of professional history research services and public programs and activities including educational services for schools and community groups.
The following specific services are provided at the Cultural Heritage Centre:

- curation, registration and management of the Council’s Civic Collection containing archives, artworks, sculpture, artefacts, memorabilia, textiles, furniture, photographs, oral recordings, audio recordings and reference books;
- facilitation of public access to the local history collection and Council archival material;
- provision of information and professional research services regarding biographical and family history, residences, streets, public buildings, civic facilities, Council history, commercial businesses, migrant history and historical events;
- site-histories for Council staff, Government agencies, traders, etc;
- historical exhibitions and displays;
- cultural heritage services for Aboriginal and multicultural organisations;
- provision of guided cultural heritage walks and cultural tours for the general public and special interest groups;
- provision of talks, seminars, workshops and public events for community organisations and special interest groups;
- outreach education programs for local schools and community groups including talks, guided walks and provision of educational materials;
- outreach history services for aged-care facilities including reminiscent workshops and talks;
- collaborative projects with the History Trust of South Australia in the creation and development of events as part of the annual state-wide SA History Month;
- partnership with both the University of Adelaide and Flinders University School of Archaeology in conducting projects within the City;
- Development of appropriate interpretive signage and commemorative plaques for historic sites in the City; and
- Grant applications for history projects.

The Cultural Heritage Centre Office is open to the public daily from Monday to Thursday from 9.30 to 5pm. The Cultural Heritage Gallery is open to the public in line with the St Peters Library’s hours of operation.

Volunteers also assist with Cultural Heritage projects including, conservation and research activities on the Civic Collection, assisting with guided tours for SA History Month and with re-organising the local history collection.

The Volunteers play an important role in supporting the programs on offer at the Cultural Heritage Centre.

A number of requests have also been received over the last 12 months from other organisations for guided tours of the Cultural Heritage Centre to look specifically at the facilities and to view the exhibition space. Tours have been conducted for the Prospect Local History Group, Country Women’s Association (CWA), Hans Heysen Foundation, Muriel Matters Society, Salisbury Probus Club, Padman Family Descendants and Hickling Family Descendants.

Each year there has been a steady increase regarding onsite historical enquiries and in visitation to the Cultural Heritage Centre.
1. **Heritage Enquiries**

Enquiries are received as part of the Cultural Heritage Program from members of the public, corporate, commercial and business clientele, cultural and tertiary agencies, and others seeking assistance with various cultural heritage services, including:

- general enquiries from citizens, schools; the media, real estate agents, Council staff, etc regarding personal histories, nomenclature in respect to properties, streets and suburbs, etc;
- site histories from citizens, Council staff, State Government, universities, State Library of South Australia, Kaurna Nation Cultural Heritage Association, etc;
- Genealogy; and
- Civic collection (ie reference books, archives, objects, photographs, artworks, civic memorabilia); and
- donations

Over the last twelve months there has been an increase in requests by the general public to access Council Archives and in visitation to the Cultural Heritage Centre to examine records.

The other growing area of enquiries relates to increased referrals from the Council staff for information regarding properties, streets and Council decisions across the City, and from other agencies such as Heritage SA and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI).

2. **The Civic Collection**

The Council’s Civic Collection is comprised of archival material and historic artefacts from the 19th century which are managed in accordance with the City of Norwood Payneham &St Peters Civic Collections Policy.

A copy of the Civic Collections Policy is contained within Attachment A.

The Civic Collection includes items from the three former Councils, the Town of Kensington and Norwood, Town of St Peters and City of Payneham.

The former Town of Kensington and Norwood was the first municipal town council declared in 1853, outside the City of Adelaide and played a critical role in the movement for responsible government and in the cultural life of the Province of South Australia.

Civic memorabilia and archives associated with the former Town of Kensington and Norwood are of great significance given it was the oldest municipal town council in South Australia until its amalgamation in November 1997.

The Civic Collection contains:

- archives;
- photographs;
- oral recordings;
- objects;
- costumes;
- textiles;
- artworks;
- furniture; and
- reference books.

The archival collection includes Council documents such as official Minutes, correspondence, Assessment records and print outs, street registers, Mayor’s reports, property and street files, survey plans, building plans, maps, commissioned reports and studies, health and community agencies information, legal documentation and other administrative archives dating from 1853 to 1997.

The object collection consists of numerous items that range from civic memorabilia to domestic artefacts, which span the period 1853 to more recent times. The photographic collection consists of historic and contemporary images that span the period from 1869 to the present day. In addition to these components there is a significant collection of historic 19th century artwork.
There are currently 6,335 items registered as part of the Council’s Civic Collection.

In the period from July 2018 until June 2019, the Cultural Heritage Adviser with assistance from Volunteers conducted an audit of the former Town of St Peters framed pictorial collection. Various items were photographed and an interim check list developed as these items were originally listed as part of the St Peter’s Library Collection.

Each item was catalogued and notes were made regarding any damage and conservation requirements. A number of items suffered damage when they were located in the St Peters Town Hall in the 1990s. The damage included broken glass, frayed backings, water damage and deterioration of photographs and frames.

These items have been sorted into groups with the most immediate requirement being reframing, new mounts and new hanging wires attached.

It is intended to seek grant funding to assist with the restoration of these items.

The Council’s Civic Collection actively acquires items in accordance with the Civic Collections Policy, which sets out the criteria for the identification and appraisal of cultural material and clarifies the principles under which material will be acquired or not acquired, managed and used as part of the Civic Collection.

Table 1 below sets out the public donations which have been provided to the Council during the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019:

**TABLE 1 – CIVIC COLLECTION DONATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Association</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Davies</td>
<td>Photos and Archival Material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WW1 Davies Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Hickling</td>
<td>Photos, Film, Archival Material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Memorabilia of the Norwood Hotel 1890-1950s;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City of Kensington &amp; Norwood Council Archival Material, Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albany Museum</td>
<td>Joy Roberts Collection Archives &amp; Photos 19th century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Everett</td>
<td>Costume Fur Stole c1930s and Reference Books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evonne Moore</td>
<td>Costume Fur Stole c1940s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Connell</td>
<td>Reference Books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Cree</td>
<td>Winston Churchill Books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Orr</td>
<td>Painting Norwood by Helen Hambidge 1895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Bickford</td>
<td>May Grigg landscape Painting 1907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcie Johnson</td>
<td>Colton Family photos 1870s-1890s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crawford Family</td>
<td>Pte H Crawford AIF WW1 Medals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Plaford</td>
<td>Holton’s Nursery Labels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Angove</td>
<td>St Peter’s RSL Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy Kitta</td>
<td>Photos &amp; Archives from the Padman Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Everett</td>
<td>Two (2) original Hans Heysen Prints (1920)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Purvis</td>
<td>Photograph of L t H Blee AIF 1918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenny Tuttle</td>
<td>Doreen Freak Payneham School Archival, Photos &amp; Artefacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B &amp; D King</td>
<td>Photos, Archival Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Essery</td>
<td>Reference Books Various</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Niehus</td>
<td>Photographs 19th century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reg Potter</td>
<td>William Potter’s Diary 1914-1935</td>
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</tbody>
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...
These donations are important and reflect the community's attachment to preserving and commemorating the City's history and more broadly their support for the Cultural Heritage Centre.

These items are used as part of exhibitions and displays.

The interpretive capacity of the Civic Collection is often not identified but the collection plays a central role in supplying materials for schools, for tertiary students and for programs such as History in a Box and reminiscent workshops in aged-care facilities.

In 2005, the History Trust of South Australia (HTSA), on behalf of the State Government of South Australia, undertook a major review of cultural and museum facilities in South Australia, including the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters History Centre.

On the basis of the significance of the Council’s Civic Collection, the History Trust of South Australia Board advised the Council that it had achieved registration and therefore continued to be eligible to apply for State Government Grants. The Cultural Heritage Program has been successful in achieving grants for various funding publications and exhibitions as a result of this.

The Civic Collection, as documented in the Collections Policy, adopted the History Trust of South Australia’s system of managing collections, which includes the systematic registration, accessioning, conservation and storage procedures. The History Trust of South Australia has recently announced that all registered History Centres will be reviewed again and will be required to undergo a formal assessment process in 2019 and 2020.

In response to this, the Council’s Civic Collections Policy (the Policy) will be reviewed and updated to include appropriate cultural heritage protocols and the process of acknowledging Aboriginal Cultural Heritage resources within the framework of the Policy.

In addition, the Policy will include a commitment to digitise the registration and accessioning process, and to develop an online presence for the Civic Collection and the services and programs provided as part of the Cultural Heritage program.

As Committee Members are aware, funding has been allocated in the 2019-2020 Budget to undertake the digitisation of the Civic Collection and to develop a fully integrated collections catalogue and online research service in a new web-based data system.

3. eHive Civic Collection Project 2019-2020

The project involves the digitisation and electronic cataloguing of the Council’s Civic Collection including objects, artworks, photographs, archives, furniture, textiles, oral histories and research files. It will also provide an online presence for the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters Cultural Heritage Centre allowing it to interface with cultural agencies in Australia and overseas.

The implementation of eHive will result in a set of physical and electronic resources that will allow for more efficient management of the Council’s cultural heritage assets. The program can be extended to cover the registration of all memorials, monuments, fountains and plaques and other heritage items across the Council.

The Project will create a set of physical and electronic resources that can be used to:

- inform and guide the decision-making process for managing and shaping the cultural heritage collections of the Council;
- inform and enable other staff to access information;
- promote the unique cultural heritage of the City;
- aid the interpretation online thematically of the history and development of the City; and
- provide an educational and research facility for the community physical and online.

The transfer of the current Civic Collection Register to a digitised system will enable the development of a more coordinated and consistent approach to the management of the collection. It will also enable a more efficient advisory service noting the diverse demands for information, physical use, curatorial requests and interpretation of items in the collection.
4. 2019 History Month

The Council participated in the annual SA History Month Festival which was held from 1 May 2019 to 31 May 2019.

2019 marked the 125\textsuperscript{th} anniversary of women’s suffrage in South Australia and the program featured talks and an exhibition on progressive women of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, such as Lady Mary Colton and Catherine Helen Spence, who helped work towards women’s suffrage.

The program also included two (2) films by Australian film director Peter Butt of Blackwattle Films - \textit{I Spry} (2010) which explores one of the most dramatic cases of espionage in Australia’s history, and \textit{Silent Storm} (2003) which tells the story of CSIRO scientist and local St Peters resident, Dr Hedley Marston and the controversial atomic tests of the 1950s and 1960s.

The program also included the following:

- an exhibition at the St Peters Town Hall Complex - Changing Places: Norwood through the lens of Italo Vardaro
- an exhibition in the Cultural Heritage Gallery - Yesterday’s Daughters: A History Exhibition Celebrating Women
- two (2) talks - Mary MacKillop and Muriel Matters
- bus tour - Movers and Shakers in Nineteenth Century Payneham;
- guided walking tours throughout St Peters; and
- a dance celebrating bush and colonial dancing was held at the St Peters Banquet Hall.

A review of the 2019 History Month events is currently being undertaken and will be presented to the Committee at its next meeting.

OPTIONS

This report is for information purposes and therefore there are no proposals which present any options for consideration.

CONCLUSION

A separate report will be provided on the Cultural Heritage Centre’s Public Programs including listing all curated exhibitions, workshops, seminars, tours, talks and participation in \textit{Zest}.

There will also be an analysis of the Council’s History Month Program and a report will also be provided on the Council’s Historic Signs and Plaques Program.

COMMENTS

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

1. The report be received and noted.
2. That the Committee notes that a report regarding the Council’s Historic Signs and Plaques Program will be presented to the Committee for consideration at its next meeting.
3. That the Committee notes that a report will be presented to the next meeting of the Committee setting out the Cultural Heritage Program for 2019-2020.
Cr Sims moved:

1. The report be received and noted.

2. That the Committee notes that a report regarding the Council’s Historic Signs and Plaques Program will be presented to the Committee for consideration at its next meeting.

3. That the Committee notes that a report will be presented to the next meeting of the Committee setting out the Cultural Heritage Program for 2019-2020.

Seconded by Cr Whitington and carried unanimously.
4. OTHER BUSINESS
   Nil

5. NEXT MEETING
   Monday 16 September 2019

6. CLOSURE
   There being no further business the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Cr Christel Mex
PRESIDING MEMBER

Minutes Confirmed on _____________________________ (date)