MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
YOUTH ACTION GROUP COMMITTEE
ON 26 JUNE 2019 at 5:30PM
ANDY MCNEILL ROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, TODD STREET

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES:

PRESENT:

Mayor Damien Ryan (Called in)
Councillor Matthew Paterson
Councillor Catherine Satour (Arrived 5:37pm)
Mikaela Stennett
Marcita Dougherty

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Kiri Milne, Community Development Officer
Genevieve Walshe, Youth Services Officer – (Chair and Minutes)

APOLOGIES

Georgia O’Neill
Elena Pecorari

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<tr>
<th>13th Alice Springs</th>
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<td>Town Council</td>
<td>Youth Action Group Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mayor Damien Ryan</td>
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<td>Councillor Matthew Paterson</td>
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<td>Councillor Jacinta Price</td>
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<td>Councillor Catherine Satour</td>
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Minutes table amended to only include Elected Members of Council as per the following action from YAG Meeting 2 May 2019. ACTION: Youth Services Officer to delete all unnecessary names from the attendance table on all minutes hereafter.

| ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Proxy attended in place of committee member

The meeting opened at 5:30pm.

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

RESOLVED:
That it be a recommendation to Council:

That the minutes of meeting held 26 June 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.
4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

4.1 Foosball table
Youth Services Officer informed meeting attendees that the foosball table has arrived and will be delivered to The Meeting Place in time for the NAIDOC week youth event being held Thursday July 11 2019.

**ACTION:** Youth Services Officer and Community Development Officer to arrange handover and media coverage of foosball table.

4.2 Phoney Film Festival
Youth Service Officer reminded attendees of the Phoney Film Festival closing date of 8 July as well as of the upcoming Phoney Film Workshop on Tuesday 2 July 2019.

Youth Services Officer reported that the judges of this year’s Phoney Film Festival will be Mayor Ryan, Alistair Feehan, Declan Furber Gillick and Emma Smith.

Marcita offered assistance to volunteer at the Phoney Film Festival screening night, Thursday 18 July 2019.

Community Development Officer reported on film festivals that were researched for the winner of Phoney Film Festival to be entered into and attend. Discussion ensued with regard to how the additional funding should be allocated. Mayor Ryan enquired as to the recommendation wording used in the budget with regard to the additional funding for the Phoney Film Festival winner. Deputy Mayor Paterson took the question on notice.

**ACTION:** Community Development Officer to create a summary of short film festivals appropriate for the winner/winners to enter and distribute to YAG members with the minutes.

4.3 Alice Springs Show stall
Youth Services Officer informed attendees that the Youth Action Group will be having a stall Friday 5 July from 10am - 4pm at the Alice Springs Show with activities, new Youth Action Group merchandise and the running of a small Phoney Film workshop.

Youth Services Officer asked present members if anyone would like to volunteer at the stall; Marcita and Mikaela both said they may be able to assist.

4.4 Meeting frequency feedback results
Community Development Officer and Youth Services Officer presented a summary of the feedback given about meeting frequency acquired directly from youth. Community Development Officer gave a verbal summary of feedback.

The feedback provided was:

1. How frequently would you like to attend these meetings? Fortnightly, monthly, bi-monthly?

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<th>FORTNIGHTLY</th>
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2. Do you like attending formal meetings at somewhere like the town council or would you prefer a more casual setting like the bowling club or Epilogue? Or do you like to mix it up?
3. Which day and time is most ideal for you?

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<th>MONDAY</th>
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4. If you don’t currently attend the Youth Action Group meetings, what is the reason?

- Three young people surveyed commented that they are unable to attend meetings due to work commitments (Centralian Seniors College students, aged 16-18).
- Three young people surveyed commented that they have team sport at the scheduled time of the meeting. (St Phillips and OLSH students, aged 15-16)
- One young person surveyed was unable to attend due to transport requirements. The person surveyed has mobility needs.
- Another young person did not like coming to Council.
- Two young people have said they are keen to attend but it’s hard to schedule around work commitments.

5. Any other comments or feedback?

Current YAG member
I don’t think it would be wise to meet up any less than monthly. One month could be very official and then the following month a bit more informal maybe "event" style. I think that would be good. If businesses could contribute to the informal ones like for example Join YAG @ the pool and maybe the pool offers free entry for the people attending for that, or shoot hoops with YAG @ the Y and maybe the Y let us use the space I think that would be awesome!
St Phillips student age 15
I would be more comfortable in an area outside of Council. I don’t like coming to Council and would feel more relaxed at another venue. Maybe also with my friends and doing an activity. It would also be better if the meetings could occur at my school.
Centralian Senior College student, age 18
I think either fortnightly or monthly is good. Personally I don’t mind formal meeting but it is nice to sometimes mix it up with some casual ones. Monday and Wednesday are usually the better days for me from 5 or 5:30. I just have a pretty busy schedule lately.
GAP Youth and Community Centre Staff member
We run programs for young people every night, and it is not feasible to arrange transport to the Youth Action Group meeting during these programs. The time of the meeting also means that young people would have finished school some time ago, then arrive at the GAP and then leave again. Some would also feel intimidated to attend a meeting with adults in a Council environment.

6. Collation of YAG feedback from 2018/19 YAG minutes

Below is feedback from YAG minutes regarding the structure of YAG, as provided by YAG members in 2018 and 2019. These have been taken directly from the minutes. Feedback regarding YAG events has not been included, except in the broader ‘Achievements and positives of YAG 2018’, which discusses both events and YAG as a group.

YAG MEETING – 2 MAY 2019
6.2 YAG activities and plan for 2019
Engagement
Youth Services Officer put forward a discussion on how to keep YAG members and volunteers engaged throughout the year. An informal meeting held at different locations around town was discussed to help make YAG meetings more accessible for a wider range of youth. Youth Services officer suggested the idea of a loyalty card system, modelled off Darwin Council’s Youth Actions Group’s loyalty card.
4.3 Achievements and positives of YAG 2018
Youth Services Officer asked members for the positives and achievements that YAG had carried out in 2018.

- Georgia mentioned that the Movie Marathons held during the school holidays were strong events that had high youth attendance. It was also noted that the attendance numbers and engagement of the Phoney Film Festival and Youth Recycled Art Prize had improved from 2017.
- Alex and Deputy Mayor Matt Paterson highlighted that the Phoney Film Festival went well and having open categories contributed to the higher entries for 2018. Alex said that the activities at YAMFest were unique when compared to previous years.
- Hannah commented that having four committed YAG members regularly attending the monthly meetings has been good, but that the YAG attendee numbers had been fluctuating throughout the year.
- Chelsea noted that the art exhibition at YAMFest was impressive and great that so many youth were able to participate in it.
- Mayor Damien Ryan suggested that there should be more outreach to youth services providers including Girl Guides.

4.4 Improvements for YAG 2019
Youth Services Officer and Community Projects and Events Officer discussed the plan of having a Youth Action Workshop as another way to engage youth in leadership and community involvement.
Youth Services Officer also discussed providing YAG members with the opportunity to reach out to community and youth organisations then reporting to the monthly YAG meeting after.
The YAG had a roundtable discussion regarding suggestions of improvement for YAG 2019:
- Alex reiterated the suggestion from last month’s meeting about having the minutes and agenda provided digitally and projected onto a screen during the meeting.
- The YAG believed that informal meetings outside of council (catch-ups) would particularly be effective in ensuring YAG members stay directly in contact more than once a month, developing more ideas and ensure formal meetings run more efficiently.
- Georgia suggested documenting YAG events and their involvements within the community to further promote YAG and make youth visually understand what the YAG does.
- Hannah suggested ensuring events fitted more into the large age bracket of 12-25. Hannah also suggested having an event every day during NT Youth Week.
- YAG members were encouraged to contribute further additional suggestions of improvement for YAG 2019.

YAG MEETING – 29 NOVEMBER 2018
4.3 Discussion of YAG Charter
- Hannah discussed the idea of having the minutes and agenda digital instead of printing them each meeting.
- Georgia suggested an adjustment to the Purpose and Function within the charter.
- The YAG discussed how to create clarity surrounding what constitutes a YAG member.
- YAG suggested meetings bi-monthly rather than once a month.
- Georgia and Chelsea discussed that it would be good to have 30 minute youth forums before formal YAG meetings start.
- Hannah discussed having two meetings a month, formal and informal meetings, one going for 2 hours and another (informal) going for 1 hour. She suggested that one meeting focus on YAG events and the other focus on youth issues and culture within Alice Springs.

YAG MEETING – 27 SEPTEMBER 2019
6.1 Round Table Discussion Regarding Youth Priorities
The Youth Services Officer asked if any members had anything they would like to discuss. Hannah questioned how important the YAG was in decision making as the committee is made up of youth. Georgia highlighted that there should be feedback provided by YAMfest attendees on what they thought about the event. Discussion ensued.
6.2 Discussion of YAG Charter
The Youth Services Officer discussed the importance of having a YAG charter and asked the YAG what they thought about the current draft, which led to a broader discussion of the YAG. Hannah commented that Elected Member attendance is unpredictable and she feels like they don’t care enough about the YAG, but Council expects the YAG to abide by all the formalities of a committee meeting. Hannah highlighted that there should be two youth groups with Council: one focussing on events and another focussing on issues. Hannah also highlighted that there should be two meetings a month rather than one. Chelsea and Georgia said that meetings should be longer as there is always a lot to cover in the YAG meetings. As the YAG questioned many points in the charter, the YAG decided to further discuss it in the next meeting.
**ACTION:** Community Development Officer to clarify with the young person surveyed who has accessibility needs and confirm if Council providing transport could assist with Youth Action Group meeting attendance.

**ACTION:** Youth Services Officer to collect more data from young people who attend the Gap Youth Centre.

5. **DEPUTATIONS**
   - Nil

6. **OTHER BUSINESS**

   6.1 **Workshops**
   Youth Services Officer reported on the free Youth Action Group workshops that are occurring in July. Attendees were encouraged to RSVP if they were interested.
   - ‘Making Tracks’ music workshop with Harvey Sutherland
   - ‘Phoney Film’ workshop with Mikey Boyce

   6.2 **NAIDOC week stall**
   Youth Services Officer informed attendees that the Youth Action Group will be having a stall at the NAIDOC week community event Friday 12 July on the Council lawns.

   6.3 **Round table discussion**
   Youth Services Officer informed attendees of some small changes that had to be made to the Youth Action Group’s merchandise design after feedback from Council’s Media and Communications team.

Community Development Officer reported that the Youth Service Officer position has now be allocated 20 hours per week beginning 2019/2020 financial year.

Deputy Mayor Paterson informed the group that the after-hours basketball program will also begin 2019/2020 financial year.

Youth Services Officer gave a summary of the success of the first Youth Market Stall held on 6 June 2019. The Youth Market stall will continue at the next Night Market, 29 August 2019.

Community Development Officer asked Deputy Mayor Paterson if there was any follow up on getting the Youth Action Group a spot in the Advocate every week. Deputy Mayor Paterson took the question on notice.

**ACTION:** The Youth Market Stall will continue to run during the 2019 Night Markets.

7. **NEXT MEETING:** 31 July 2019

8. **CLOSE:** Meeting closed at 6:25pm