

Heritage Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Name	Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC)	Meeting No.	D-20-133241
Meeting Date	Tuesday 3 November 2020		
Meeting Time	9.30am-10.30am		
Meeting Location	Walkaway Station Museum, Padbury Road, Walkaway		
Attendees	Cr. Natasha Colliver (NC) (Chair) Cr. Jerry Clune (JC) (Deputy Chair) Cr. Sally Elphick (SE) Phil Melling (PM) Leigh O'Brien (LO) Tanya Henkel (TH) Trudi Cornish (TC) Marilyn McLeod (MM) Lorin Cox (LC) Karrie Elder (KE) Rose Ann Jupp (RJ) Gary Martin (GM) Annette Burton (AB) (Minutes)	By Invitation	
		Apologies	Cr. Tarleah Thomas (TT) Cr. Victor Tanti (VT) Gary Warner (GW) Rita Stinson (RS)
		Distribution	Karl Haynes (NTWA)

1. Welcome and Apologies

NC opening the meeting and welcomed those present. The apologies from those unable to attend the meeting were accepted.

2. Previous Minutes and Action Log

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 July 2020.

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting held on 7 July 2020 as previously circulated, be adopted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Moved: JC **Seconded:** NC CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

Action Log – All items on the Action Log as circulated with the Tabled Documents have been completed.

3. Agenda Items

3.1 Old Public Hall, Walkaway – Updates (PM)

PM advised that due to community concern the City of Greater Geraldton have commenced work on the Old Public Hall, Walkaway. They are working on the kitchen and other older areas

and looking into replacing the toilets. The Pigeons remain a problem and they are looking at how to best address this issue.

Once the works have been completed the hall will be made available to the community to use and are in negotiations with the community at the moment. The size of the hall makes it more suitable for smaller community groups than for example the larger recreation centre. Feedback from the community has been positive so far.

JC advised that some people had considered it was suitable for their organisations and groups and are looking forward to the completion of the work.

3.2 Greenough Pioneer Cemetery – Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Burials and NAIDOC Week (TC)

TC advised that there will be a Tree Planting ceremony to be held Saturday 14 November, 10-11am at Greenough Pioneer Cemetery. The Library has been liaising with Yamaji Art to deliver this event as a part of NAIDOC Week activities. A quiet, simple and respectful morning where people will be invited to register for a tree before the event, simple morning tea of damper/scones provided at site.

3.3 Centenary of Royal Australian Air Force (TC)

The City of Greater Geraldton has a very significant place in the history of Air Force, In particular those that served with the Air Force in Western Australia. The role played by the City in the training of Multi-Engine Pilots for the Empire Training Scheme as well as the Radar Surveillance Unit and Flying boat base that operated throughout the second world war have cemented an enduring relationship between the Air Force and the City that continues today.

The nominated date of Thursday 20 May 2021 has been earmarked for a possible event though no plans have been formalised as of yet. We could look at creating a War Years Drive Trail booklet.

3.4 Centenary – Air Mail Services in Australia (TC)

The centenary of the Air Mail Services in Australian will be in December 2021. We have contacted people previously interested in forming a group to co-ordinate the centenary celebrations but it looks like a formal committee won't be formed at this stage.

The library Heritage Services will create a Commemorative Booklet based on the history of the air services in Geraldton over the last 100 years. We also plan to create a banner series for the Mall. We could also apply to the RAAF for a flyover.

Previously we thought that we could hold events in Northampton and Kalbarri for the Centenary as well but as there now isn't a formal committee this may not happen. TC has been in contact with the other Shires and they may wish to organise something themselves.

LO advised that the Museum of Geraldton may be available if a venue was needed for an event for the centenary celebrations.

3.5 New Interpretive Signage at Gallery and Original Railway Station (LC)

LC advised that signage has been installed approximately six weeks ago at the Geraldton Regional Art Gallery and Original Railway station in preparation of the co-location of the Art

Gallery and Visitor Centre as a means of promoting the City's wayfinding signage, whilst also playing historic tribute to the former uses of both buildings.

3.6 Mullewa 125 Years Celebrations (TC)

TC has a site meeting on Thursday 5 November 2020 in Mullewa to discuss the rammed earth wall as it will now have a list of all known burials at Mullewa, not just those with marked graves. This will allow a place for families to visit and see the names of their loved ones. Those with graves the wall have a location key so the graves will be easier to find. The list will also be available online.

PM advised that some research has gone into tenure of the cemetery site and it was found that we will not have obtain a management order because the site is still classed as an active cemetery site even though it is not used for new burials.

TC advised that on the 7 October 2020 locals in Mullewa recently gathered for a special art exhibition orchestrated by Mullewa Arts Development (MAD) to celebrate and acknowledge the town's 125 years. Mullewa in Print is a fitting name for the collection of black and white linocuts featuring the historic buildings and iconic surrounds.

The collection of linocuts have also been reproduced in merchandise of a 2021 calendar, linen tea towels and cards capturing this significant milestone for Mullewa. Project Coordinator Eliza Thomas was responsible for photographing the historic buildings and landscapes for participants to transfer onto lino as well as the curation of the exhibition and production of promotional materials.

Celebrated printmakers Helen Clarke and Rick McCracken facilitated a print making workshop with community members to produce the black and white designs.

The launch of Mullewa in Print was celebrated at the Pop Up Shop coordinated by local artist Helen Ansell at the Mullewa Lesser Hall on Saturday 19 September. It was a sell-out event.

Mullewa in Print merchandise will be available for sale at the Mullewa CRC. The collection of prints will be exhibited for the 125 year celebrations planned for 2021.

The 125 year celebrations are planned for April 2021.

GM advised that St Andrews will also be celebrating 100 years next year.

4. General Business

4.1 Bill Sewell Complex Renaming (TC)

TC advised that there was a community meeting on 14 October 2020 with about 50 people in attendance, including tenants from the old Goal and members of the Sewell family.

Many people were quite vocal, particularly with regard to the use of the word "Depot". There also seemed to be a general lack of understanding in the room regarding the concept of dual naming.

Three naming alternatives were proposed and voted on by a show of hands.

- Victoria District Heritage Precinct : Ngurra Barlunggu
- Geraldton Heritage Precinct : Ngurra Barlunggu
- Bill Sewell Centre : Ngurra Barlunggu

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The choice of those in attendance by majority vote was the Geraldton Heritage Precinct : Ngurra Barlunggu

Bill Sewell would be honoured on the main entry signage to the complex, and also should a new building be constructed on the site, it would be named after him.

PM advised that the National Trust has met with the Mayor Van Styn and it has been acknowledged the process regarding the renaming is an ongoing process. Old names will be kept on site regarding the Victoria District Hospital and the Old Goal.

LO advised that the site is owned by the National Trust and they have a policy to change site names to dual naming for all of their sites, as part of the reconciliation process.

GM asked if there could be plans in place regarding the dual naming of the Central Greenough Museum. NC asked TC to find out about this to add this to the action list.

4.2 Collections WA (LO)

LO Collections WA is a free searchable platform that brings together many collections from Libraries, galleries, museums, archives etc.

On the 21 October we attended a course on how to learn to upload your priority items onto the platform.

Ros Lipscombe, Samille Mitchell and Beau Wong visited thirty organisations throughout Northern WA and took 3-5 photos of items of significance at each place. These photos and information about the items will be added to the digital collection. There are plans in place to take photos of items of significance in Southern WA as well.

Everyone is encouraged to add to the digital collection and funding is in place for this collection until June next year.

The website is www.collections.net.au

4.3 Update from Coordinator Heritage Services (LC)

LC advised that Department of Lands Planning and Heritage presented a workshop last week on the following topics:

- New Heritage Act
- New Legislation coming in review of Aboriginal Heritage Act. Pushing decision making back into communities rather than centralisation decision making coming from Perth.
- Yamatji Nation Indigenous Land Use Agreement: encourages more consultation with traditional owners. Specific section relating to Heritage and Culture.
- Aboriginal Heritage Information System: Map viewable online and available to search
- InHerit Demo
- WALGA Rep: presented on the importance of RAPs
- LC presented on CGG Rap and how Heritage Services are assisting in meeting targets. Of particular interest was the Greenough Pioneer Cemetery project
- TC presented on the Rocks Laneway project and provided a tour. TC elaborated on the Greenough Pioneer Cemetery project and showcased Resting on the Greenough

The workshop was beneficial and was a fantastic opportunity to present our Heritage Services achievements to external parties and to hear about what is going in other parts of Western Australia

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NAIDOC Symbolic Tree Planting ceremony will be held on Saturday 14 November and families are invited to register to plant a tree.

Red Fred Book Launch will be held on Tuesday 24 November.

Seniors Week Local History Quiz will close on 16 November.

NAIDOC Resource Challenge which is encouraging Patrons to borrow local history books. The Challenge closes on 21 December.

4.4 Update from Community Museums

4.4.1. Bluff Point Lighthouse Keepers Cottage (RS)

No representative present at the meeting and no report presented

4.4.2. Greenough Museum and Gardens (GM)

Although have been very busy, especially over the school holidays, Admissions down 400 on this time last year. We are now closed Mondays and Fridays and this allows us time to change displays, cleaning, maintenance and the myriad of other jobs involved in managing a museum. New volunteers Di helping three mornings a week in the garden and Peta assisting with cleaning one day/week. MEEDAC commenced working on the grounds 28 October 2020.

In partnership with the Library, hosted "Poetry on the Green" night as part of the Big Sky Festival 3 October 2020

The North Midlands Project donated an Act-Belong-Commit panel with information about the bushranger Frank Thomas who was born at Greenough and Geoff & Marjolein Towler donated a CZur book scanner.

Through Lotterywest funding we purchased a laptop and big screen

Met with Ian Turner on 15 September at the CGG depot to look at Gould Cottage stone and Convict Bridge timbers, with the possibility of using those materials for reconstructions at the museum.

Two members attended the Collections WA training session at the Museum of Geraldton on 21 October. We now have an entry on the Collections WA webpage.

Curatorial funding from CGG enabled us to put on two in-house exhibitions in this period "The Home Gardener" in October and "Summer at Greenough" 1 November until the end of summer.

We were successful in receiving funding from the National Library Community Heritage And with the grant we purchased archival boxes and completed an archival program.

Funding from Meerilinga Young Children's Foundation enabled us to hold a very successful Children's Day at the museum on 31 October.

JC said it was disappointing regarding numbers. GM advised that they are still not get the local visitors and though numbers were down by 400 this was mainly due to being closed earlier in the year due to Covid restrictions. That in October they had the highest numbers of visitors in over four years.

4.4.3. Walkaway Station Museum (RJ)

NC acknowledged and thanked RM for all his great work and input to the Heritage Advisory Committee over the years.

NC welcomed RJ to the Heritage Advisory Committee

RJ - It was very sad that our Curator Helen Clarke and our Chairman Ric McCracken resigned at our meeting on the 8th September 2020 leaving the Assistant Curator Patricia Shaw taking over Helen's position and myself Assistant Chairperson stepping into Ric's position. They have been missed, along with their extensive knowledge.

You may or may not know that my sister Patricia Shaw and I have been helping Helen with the huge job of keeping the museum going and clean. Helen had not been well health wise and the job became daunting for her so we stepped up to help her.

At the moment the museum is open Tuesdays 10am to 4pm, Wednesdays 10am to 4pm, Thursdays 10am to 1pm, Fridays 10am to 4pm, Saturdays 10am to 4pm and Sundays 10am to 4pm. Which is many more hours than it had been open. Monday is the only day that we are closed.

We have a lady by the name of Mary Bligh who is our cleaner and she has the Museum in a very clean state now.

We have a very pro-active committee who do many handy jobs and repairs to keep the Museum in great working order.

Some of the jobs that have been done recently are:- attaching Perspex to the existing wire to save the 100 + year old floorboards from damage, placing plastic strips to keep the birds from nesting in the same area, erection of an owl which is a small bird deterrent, the three rooms upstairs have been rearranged to encourage visitors to enjoy the displays., the aged saddles are being looked after by a 91 year old lady who has always been with horse's and their equipment, the Inspectors carriage in the Loco shed had been vandalised about 4 weeks ago but has now been thoroughly cleaned.

The next project is to make the southern end of the waiting verandah, a memorial to the soldiers all over WA, who would have left from an area like this to enlist in the war. We will have display cabinets with photos of many men who became soldiers and some who never returned. We have got permission to turn this area into a memorial and hang the flags from the wire where the Perspex is attached.

The old steam train is in need of a wash and we will try to get the bushfire brigade to help with this job

The markets have been very successful again and we still have one to come in December.

This has been a very disruptive but successful year all up.

PM advised that the CGG has been meeting with the Walkaway Museum on what works need to be done and forward planning for future works.

RJ said that they are very happy with the support from the CGG and thank you PM you have done a good job.

RJ also would like to thank TH for her help and support and for always calling in to visit and check how they are going.

4.5 WA Museum Boola Bardip

LO advised that the new museum will be opening on 21 November 2020.

The museum released 250000 tickets via ballet but the museum will be open for free to the public from 30 November for at least 18 months.

There are some Midwest stories featured at the museum such as Randolph Stow, The Midwest Crayfishing Industry, the Square Kilometre Array as well as the Abrolhos.

4.6 Traffic Bypass

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MM asked if we could prepare a list for any places or buildings of significance that may be impacted by the traffic bypass.

PM and JC both advised that the CGG are in discussion with Main Roads and are very aware of the community anguish regarding the proposed Traffic Bypass.

This will be added to the Action List - PM and KE will look into creating a list

4.7 Grab and Go Sheet

SE wanted to acknowledge the great work that Trish had done in creating the Tourism Grab and Go Sheets. They are a fantastic item to be made available to the public.

TC advised that some of the sheets can be made available to the museums if they would like them

4.8 Museum of Geraldton

LO advised that they have a very busy October School Holiday period with over 4400 visitors during the holiday two week period. July School holidays had 4000 visitors. This is slightly higher than last year but what is significant was that in previous years 50% of the visitors were international visitors.

It is quiet at the moment but this the norm and that they are look forward to a busy next school holiday period especially now that the borders look like opening soon.

5. Proposed Meeting Dates for 2021

Proposed date of the next meeting is Tuesday 23 February 2021. Calendar invitation to be circulated.

6. Close

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.29am

Signed (Chair – Cr. Natasha Colliver)

Date